



Reminder: Changes to Open Meeting Law scheduled to take effect July 1, 2010

In November, 2009, we sent out a client advisory regarding changes to the Open Meeting Law (to view this advisory, please go to www.mhtl.com). Those changes are scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2010, and will have a significant effect on how all “public bodies” covered by the law conduct their meetings. Among other things, the changes will directly affect:

- Notice and posting requirements
- Recording and release of meeting minutes
- Public access to documents used at a meeting
- Procedures for entering executive session
- Responsibilities of the Chairperson
- Enforcement of the law

The new law will almost certainly require real changes to the procedures currently followed by public bodies covered by the law, so it is important that you understand the changes and be prepared to adjust your traditional meeting procedures accordingly. This may also be an opportune time for a general review of the Open Meeting Law’s requirements, including those provisions not changed by the new law.

To help facilitate this, Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP, is prepared to assist you by providing training sessions on the Open Meeting Law, at your request. For more information or to schedule a training session, please contact Kevin Bresnahan or Brandon Moss directly at (617) 479-5000 or via email at kbresnahan@mhtl.com or bmos@mhtl.com.

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