



502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
[www.ipib.iowa.gov](http://www.ipib.iowa.gov)

Margaret Johnson, JD  
Executive Director  
(515) 725-1783  
[margaret.johnson@iowa.gov](mailto:margaret.johnson@iowa.gov)

## **IPIB Monthly Column**

July 6, 2021

### **From the Iowa Public Information Board**

By Margaret E. Johnson, Executive Director

**Question:** Is there a time requirement for filing a complaint with the Iowa Public Information Board?

**Answer:** Yes, under Iowa Code section 23.7, the complaining party must file a formal complaint with the IPIB within 60 days from the time the alleged violation occurred or the complainant could have become aware of the violation with reasonable diligence.

**Did You Know** that the Iowa Public Information Board staff is available to assist you with questions or problems involving open meetings and public records in Iowa? During the month of June 2021, 71 contacts were made with the Iowa Public Information Board office.

TYPE	June 2021
Formal complaints	15
Advisory opinions	0
Declaratory orders	0
Informal complaints	10
Informal requests	40
Miscellaneous	6
TOTAL:	71

**Who can contact the IPIB and how long does it take?** Any person can contact the IPIB for assistance by telephone (515-725-1781), by email, or on the IPIB website. So far in 2021, 374 identifiable people have contacted the IPIB. Of these, 191 were private citizens, 139 were government officials or employees, and 44 were members of the media. In 2021, 71% of the incoming contacts were resolved the first day, 13% were resolved in one to five days, and 16% were resolved in six or more days. Opinions, rulings, FAQs, reports, and training documents are available on the IPIB website – [www.ipib.iowa.gov](http://www.ipib.iowa.gov).

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