

2008 FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

The Cincinnati Enquirer

"Sunshine Week: Your Right to Know"

The Enquirer's innovative educational campaign dramatically shows how readers – and all of society – could be affected by restricted access to public information. The stories are short and to the point and the redacted pages are stark visual exclamation points on the topic.

There are few better ways to demonstrate to readers the importance of journalists being able to function in their watchdog role than this series.

I loved it. It not only demonstrates the importance of the sunshine laws but illustrates for readers how critical it is to have professional journalists who know how to apply those laws to inform the public.

This entry used many clever and appealing ways to educate the public on the importance of a free press.

The Enquirer package on Sunshine Week and public records did what all good stories should do – presented information in simple, clear, compelling terms. The visual device to redact public info is brilliant. Accompanying stories were well done. Nice job.