

Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
Plain Writing Act Compliance Report
April 13, 2020¹

I. Senior Agency Official for Plain Writing:

Amanda Wood Laihow, Chief Counsel to Chairman James J. Sullivan, Jr.²

Plain Writing Contact:

John X. Cerveny, Executive Secretary

Contact Information:

plain@oshrc.gov

II. Explain what specific types of agency communications you have released by making them available in a format that is consistent with the Plain Writing guidelines.

Type of communications of document or posting. List how this is made available to the public	Who is the intended user and approximate number of potential users	What has changed by using Plain Writing
Guide to Review Commission Procedures Available on OSHRC Website	Employers who may or may not be represented by legal counsel	The documents are clearer and more self-explanatory
Employee Guide to Review Commission Procedures Available on OSHRC Website	Employees who wish to participate in a Commission proceeding or who are contesting a proposed abatement period	
Guide to Simplified Proceedings Available on OSHRC Website	Employers who may or may not be represented by legal counsel	
The Freedom of Information Act Reference Guide Available on OSHRC Website	Anyone who is interested in submitting a FOIA request to the Commission	
Press Releases Available on OSHRC Website	Anyone who is interested in Commission news and events	
Commission Briefing Notices Available on OSHRC Website	Anyone who is interested in the issues in cases at the Review Commission level	

¹ Report updated on April 13, 2021.

² Amanda Wood Laihow assumed the role of Commissioner on January 21, 2020

Type of communications of document or posting. List how this is made available to the public	Who is the intended user and approximate number of potential users	What has changed by using Plain Writing
Commission Subpoenas Issued as necessary by Commission Administrative Law Judges	Anyone who is requested to testify or provide evidence at Commission hearings	
E-File User Guide Available on OSHRC Website	Parties intending to file OSHRC case documents electronically	The documents are clearer and more self-explanatory
E-filer User Guide OSHA Area Offices Available on OSHRC Website	OSHA Area Offices intending to file OSHRC case documents electronically	
@OSHRC_Chairman Twitter account Available at: https://twitter.com/OSHRC_Chairman	Anyone who is interested in Commission news and events	
E-Alert Service Available by subscription through the OSHRC Website	Anyone who is interested in Commission news and events	

III. Inform agency staff of Plain Writing Act's requirements:

On June 24, 2011, the Senior Agency Official for Plain Writing informed all Commission personnel by e-mail of the Plain Writing Act and its requirements. The email included links to various plain writing resources, including material posted on the Commission's network.

IV. Training

Since the last Plain Writing Act Compliance Report was published on April 13, 2019, the Review Commission provided the following training:

Type of Training	Employees trained	Date
Webinars and online training provided by plainlanguage.gov and hosted on the Commission's network.	Available to all Commission employees	Ongoing
Legal Writing for Paralegals: Common Mistakes to Avoid	One employee	August 29, 2019
Legal Ethics of Email and Social Media	One employee	September 11, 2019
Effective Writing Workshop	One employee	September 24 and 25, 2019
Advanced Legal Writing and Editing	One employee	September 26, 2019

V. Ongoing compliance/sustaining change

The Commission will stay in compliance with the Act by incorporating plain language considerations in all documents that the Commission issues to the public.

VI. Agency's plain writing website

- a. Website address: <https://www.oshrc.gov/plain-writing/>
- b. Implementation of the Act:

The Commission will be using plain writing in any updates to documents most often read by the general public, such as our Guide to Review Commission Procedures, Guide to Simplified Proceedings, Employee Guide to Review Commission Procedures, The Freedom of Information Act Reference Guide, and Commission announcements and notices.

- c. Link to Compliance Reports: Compliance reports will be available on the Commission's Plain Writing website: (<https://www.oshrc.gov/plain-writing/>).
- d. More information on Plain Writing may be obtained at the Plain Language website (<http://www.plainlanguage.gov>).

VII. Customer Satisfaction Evaluation after Experiencing Plain Writing Communications

The Commission set up an e-mail address (plain@oshrc.gov) through which the public may contact us to let us know if they have trouble understanding our documents or the pages on our website. The Commission will monitor that e-mail address and will take appropriate action on all correspondence received.