



## ***Senior Agency Official for Records Management 2021 Annual Report***

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requires Senior Agency Officials for Records Management (SAORM) to provide an annual report demonstrating how agencies are handling important records management initiatives as identified by NARA.

NARA uses the reports to determine the overall progress of the federal government in managing its records and the transition away from paper to digital formats, and to identify best practices and model solutions within federal agencies.

On June 28, 2019, the Office of Management and Budget and the National Archives issued a memorandum: *Transition to Electronic Records* (M-19-21) to ensure that all federal records are created, retained, and managed in electronic formats by December 31, 2022. On January 1, 2021, Congress enacted the Preservation of Electronic Messages and Other Records Act, amending 44 U.S.C. Chapter 29, that requires the electronic capture, management, and preservation of such electronic records in accordance with the records disposition requirements of 44 U.S.C. Chapter 33. This year's SAORM report provides an opportunity for agencies to report on plans and progress towards electronic records keeping and preservation under both these requirements, as well as other important records management initiatives.

**The reporting period begins on January 10, 2022, and reports are due back to NARA no later than March 11, 2022.**

NARA plans to post your 2021 SAORM report on the NARA website upon receipt. Please ensure that your agency's report is a publicly releasable version. This action is in the interest of transparency in government and to promote collaboration and communication among agencies. NARA intends to list any non-responding agencies in a summary report and on the website.

### Instructions for Reporting:

- This template covers records management program developments towards the transition to electronic recordkeeping outlined in M-19-21 through December 31, 2021, and other aspects of agency records management programs.
- Please be brief and precise in your answers. Limit answers to each question to no more than 500 words.
- Please complete the questions/items below and send the report to [rmsselfassessment@nara.gov](mailto:rmsselfassessment@nara.gov). Include the words "SAORM 2021 Annual Report - [Agency Name]" in the subject line of the email.

- If you are responsible for records management in multiple agencies, components, or bureaus, please determine how you will submit reports to NARA. While NARA prefers a comprehensive report, you may submit separate reports for each component.

Provide the following information (required):

- Name of SAORM: Matt Cox
- Position Title: Director of Management Operations
- Address: 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209

**1. What agencies, bureaus, components, or offices are covered by this report and your position as SAORM and which will be reporting separately?**

*Please provide a list, and also indicate any that are new or have been changed due to reorganization or other circumstances.*

US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). USTDA is an independent agency with no bureaus or subcomponents.

**2. Has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted policies or practices related to records management at your agency?**

- Yes
- No X**
- Do not know

*Please explain your response (include details of specific challenges, if applicable):*

**3. Does your agency have an established information governance framework that integrates records management, data management, and other agency information lines of business? (This includes a relationship between CIO, CDO, SAORM, DRO/ARO, RM Staff, Security, Privacy Officers, and FOIA)**

- Yes X**
- No
- Do not know

*Please provide details. If 'Yes,' provide details on how your RM program is integrated into this framework. If 'No' or 'Do not know,' please explain your response.*

USTDA has a Data Governance Board that meets regularly. The SAORM is also the CDO and Chief FOIA Officer. The CIO, ARO, Security Officer, and Privacy Officer are all members of the Data Governance Board. Additionally, the SAORM is the supervisor of the CIO, Security Officer, Privacy Officer, and ARO.

**4. Will your agency meet the goal to manage and preserve all permanent records in an electronic format with appropriate metadata by December 31, 2022? (M-19-21, 1.2)**

- Yes X**
- No
- Do not know

*Please explain your response (include specific goals, example metrics, and/or challenges):*

In 2021 USTDA conducted an internal review, with the assistance of the IT Team and SharePoint staff, of the metadata captured with our electronic records and found that our electronic systems maintain appropriate metadata as directed by M-19-21, 1.2.

5. **Will your agency meet the goal to manage and preserve all temporary records in an electronic format by December 31, 2022? (M-19-21, 1.3)**

- Yes **X**  
 No  
 Do not know

*Please explain your response (include specific goals, example metrics, and/or challenges):*

6. **Does your agency have plans to submit to NARA a request for an exception to the M-19-21 requirements before December 31, 2022?**

- Yes  
 **No X**  
 Do not know

*Please explain your response. If 'Yes,' please include an estimate of when you plan to submit an exception and any relevant details. If 'No' or 'Do not know,' please explain your response.*

USTDA has taken the proper measures to have all permanent and temporary records digitized prior to the deadline of December 2022.

7. **Is your agency utilizing the General Services Administration's Special Item Number for Electronic Records Management ([518210 ERM](#)) 6 to procure solutions to assist in transitioning to an Electronic Environment?**

- Yes  
 **No X**  
 Do not know

*Please explain your response. If 'Yes,' please include specific examples and how this will support records management processes. If 'No' or 'Do not know,' please explain.*

USTDA is leveraging the tools and functionality within the SharePoint environment to manage records in an electronic environment. USTDA contracted with a Small Business Administration 8(a) Certified Minority Owned Small Disadvantaged Business to support the transition and implementation of the SharePoint environment.

8. **Has your agency developed plans to meet the requirements of M-19-21, 1.3 to store temporary records in commercial storage facilities by December 31, 2022?\***

- Yes

- No X**
- Do not know

*\*M-19-21, 1.3 includes closing of agency-operated storage facilities and no new transfers of paper records to the Federal Records Centers.*

*Please explain your response. If 'Yes,' provide details about the use of commercial storage and other changes related to storage. If 'No' or 'Do not know,' please explain.*

USTDA does not use agency-operated records centers and does not have the need to use commercial storage facilities. USTDA does have records being stored at Federal Records Center, Suitland, MD, and have plans in place that will alleviate that need by 2023 at the latest.

**9. Do you, as the SAORM, see challenges within your agency in meeting the goal of fully-electronic recordkeeping?**

- Yes X**
- No
- Do not know

*Please explain your response (include details of specific challenges, if applicable):*

The challenge we currently see pending guidance related to text messaging applications, such as whats app, and other instant messaging products.

**10. NARA is always working on ways we can make your role as the SAORM easier, improve how we interact with you and how you interact with each other. Do you have any suggestions?**

- Yes
- No X**
- Do not know

*Please explain your response (include any comments on previous NARA SAORM engagements, topics for future engagements, or other suggestions):*

Our NARA point of contact has been incredibly supportive and attentive to our requests for assistance. We are very grateful for the strong partnership NARA has provided our Agency in support of our records management programs.