



F06-06-MS Privacy & Accuracy: The Book of Names and Addresses

A man who went to a public meeting organized by a municipality was surprised to see another citizen pick up the book listing speakers and begin writing down their names and addresses. He complained to the municipality about the apparent lack of security for people's personal information and found the response unsatisfactory.

The municipality told us its practice of asking all speakers at public hearings to put their names and addresses in the book was simply to ensure that the meeting secretary could accurately record them in the meeting minutes. As a result of our investigation, the municipality instituted a new policy of not collecting personal information for speakers' lists for public meetings. This satisfied the complainant and we closed the file.