

Dear Senior Agency Official for Records Management,

As the new Archivist of the United States, I have been meeting with stakeholders and visiting NARA facilities all over the country. One thing has become abundantly clear: The National Archives cannot meet our mission to the nation without a strong and productive partnership with you and your teams.

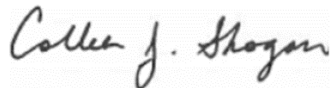
In your position as SAORM for your agency, you are a crucial partner in the ongoing conversation about how we can strengthen the federal records management community and accelerate the transition to a fully digital government for the 21st century. We look to you to provide strategic direction for your agency's records management program and compliance with records management statutes, regulations, NARA guidance, and OMB policy.

I am committed to strengthening NARA's ability to preserve and make accessible the historically valuable federal records we create and manage every day. I plan to use the position of Archivist to call greater attention to the importance of records management, as well as to archives, history, and civics in American society. I will also maintain NARA's leadership in government transparency and public engagement and promote the high standards we are all accountable to under the Federal Records Act.

I plan to convene a meeting with the entire SAORM community soon to discuss NARA's plans and your progress. In the meantime, I am available whenever you have ideas or concerns. You are always welcome to contact me at ArchivistoftheUnitedStates@nara.gov.

Thank you for your support of NARA and your leadership of records management at your agency. Together, I am confident we can make the National Archives stronger and better able to serve you, your colleagues, and the American people. I look forward to working with you as we move forward together.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen J. Shogan".

DR. COLLEEN J. SHOGAN
Archivist of the United States