

# Local Government Archives and You: Your Heritage, Your Rights, Your Community

## Why should I care about local government records?

- They protect your rights
- They prove individual identity
- They ensure efficient government
- They allow citizens to know what their officials have done
- They document our heritage and enhance education

## Why should I care now?

- So that the next disaster does not destroy the records you need most
- To halt the equally destructive effects of neglect
- To make sure that digital records survive

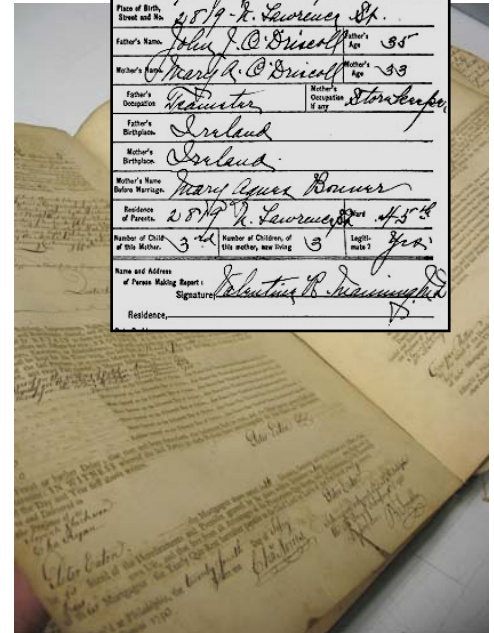
## Why do we need archival programs for local government records?

- To provide secure storage for the records that matter most
- To organize the records for use by officials and researchers
- To reduce the day-to-day burden in clerk's offices
- To help teachers use original public documents in the classroom
- To promote the community through its history/heritage

## What should local governments do?

- Make records a priority
- Implement best practices
- Follow legal requirements
- Provide training for those who care for records
- Develop an emergency preparedness plan

Division of Vital Statistics	Record of a Birth In Philadelphia.	Bureau of Health
Full Name of Child	Edward J. O'Driscoll	
Color	white	Sex Male
Date of Birth	1910 July 25 <sup>th</sup> 9 <sup>42</sup> A.M.	Place of Birth
Place of Birth, Street and No.	2819 N. Lawrence St.	
Father's Name	John J. O'Driscoll	Father's Age
Mother's Name	Mary K. O'Driscoll	Mother's Age
Father's Occupation	Traveller	Mother's Occupation
Father's Birthplace	Ireland	
Mother's Birthplace	Ireland	
Mother's Name Before Marriage	Mary Agnes Rouer	
Residence of Parents	2819 N. Lawrence St.	
Number of Child of this Mother	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Number of Children of this mother, now living
Name and Address of Person Making Report	Signature: Sebastian B. Cunningham	
Residence	D.	



COUNCIL OF STATE ARCHIVISTS  
 Task Force on Local Government Archives  
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