During the brainstorming activity at our 10th Annual Electronic Discovery Symposium for Government Agencies, we asked, “If you could be granted one wish by your eDiscovery fairy godmother at your Federal department or agency, what it would be?”

Here are the top 10 items on your Discovery Wish List and suggestions for improvements and change.

**Proactive information governance/records management**
- Better data organization
- Centralized data management system to make search easier
- Proactive records management
- Automatic email inventory and archiving
- Mandatory records management that is user friendly and consistent
- Records storage and retention policies to support defensible deletion

**Designated Discovery unit**
- Consistent tool application across the agency
- Dedicated Discovery attorneys and support staff
- Shared services for technical services and data processing
- Technical expertise to bridge the gap between Legal and IT
- Centralized litigation support and discovery management to provide services across agency

**Cloud migration**
- Adequate resources to complete migration
- Additional storage space and ease of records retrieval
- Experienced cloud vendors who understand agency needs and expectations
- Strategic upfront planning

**More, more, more!**
- More funding and support
- More resources
- More certainty in the budget process
- More spending flexibility
- More authority and budget to hire fulltime personnel and contractors to accomplish mission as data explodes
Establish processes to meet Discovery requirements
• Agency-wide litigation hold processes that address various issues—when to lift, what to save/store
• Integrated litigation, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and congressional inquiry responses
• Better guidance on handling data

Effective eDiscovery training and education
• More hands-on training that is focused and concise
• IT bootcamp for lawyers
• Understanding of tool capabilities
• Better education on how Discovery tools and processes can help litigation and other information requests
• Updates on new legal developments and technical innovations

Right tool for the right job
• Tier 1 tools with Tier 1 resources
• Better upfront assessment of the right tools for agency needs
• Tools to collect and handle new data formats – texts, instant messaging (IM), social media
• Access to analytics and predictive coding

Effective agency-wide information request tracking system
• System to facilitate communication and notification when one arm of the agency responds to an information request on the same matter (litigation, FOIA, Congressional inquiry)

Interagency Discovery centralization throughout the federal government
• Compatible systems to share information, e.g., email and documents
• Shared services across the government for consistency and cost efficiency
• Government-shared Discovery cloud sandbox/solution
• Standardization of forms across federal landscape

One integrated platform that incorporates relevant data
• One system to search and pull records throughout agency and predictive coding

What’s your eDiscovery wish? Tell us at federaldiscovery@deloitte.com.

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