From: Defaults < Thao@Granicus.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2010 10:06 AM
To: secretary < secretary @CFTC.gov>

**Subject:** Key Initiative: Incorporating Webcasting Into Your Open Government Plan

## Dear Michael,

With the White House directing Federal Agencies to **publish their Open Government Plans by April 7, 2010**, agencies are leveraging their Open Government websites to collect citizen feedback and finalize key initiatives. Overwhelmingly, one citizen request has risen to the top – **searchable live and archived webcasts of public meetings.** 

By webcasting your public meetings over the internet, citizens and staff are empowered to research and stay engaged in policy, deliberations, and decision-making processes.

Trust and accountability are fostered when citizens are a part of the process.

Granicus, Inc. is the leading provider of government solutions for improving transparency, citizen participation, and community awareness over the Web. Granicus hosts the world's largest government-exclusive webcasting network, streaming an average of 200,000 government webcasts on a daily basis. Granicus serves over 625 clients spanning across all 50 states and into Canada.

To assist agencies in incorporating webcasting of public meetings into their Open Government Plan, Granicus has created an <u>Open Government Plan Resource Page</u>. On this page you will find helpful links, including a <u>Webcasting Initiative Template</u>, that encompass over 10 years of experience, lessons learned, and best practices from the government webcasting community — a community that has leveraged streaming media to achieve their open government objectives.

Additionally, on **Thursday, March 25**<sup>th</sup> **at 11:00 am Eastern Time**, Granicus will host a <u>free webinar</u> on how your agency can integrate webcasting strategies into your Open Government plan. To register, click this link.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to speaking with you next week.

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