

The IRE Press Freedom committee had our first meeting on Sept. 9.

This group is interested in expanding the impact of IRE in several ways. First, we discussed a more prominent Press Freedom tab on the IRE homepage. This would make some of IRE's resources that already exist more obvious to members. This could more prominently feature FOIA and source-building tipsheets, resources like Delete Me, and links to law firms or organizations that might help journalists.

We also discussed using the website to host an ongoing blog.

The committee spent time discussing conference tracks, including having a greater presence at NICAR. Specifically, this group wants to see greater emphasis on using modern technology and tools to protect journalists and their sources from retaliation. We also discussed ideas for training for rural reporters who don't have a strong First Amendment coalition/legal support network. We also hope to explore ways to help journalists navigate the disappearance of federal government data.