



PRESS RELEASE
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**Maine Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Public Web Briefing to Hear Testimony on Barriers to Fully Funding Maine’s
Public Defense Services**

The Maine Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is hosting a virtual, public briefing to hear testimony on barriers to fully funding Maine’s public defense services. The briefing will inform an addendum to their report: <https://www.usccr.gov/reports/2023/right-criminal-legal-defense-maine>

Thursday, December 14, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ET

Online registration (video and audio): <https://tinyurl.com/5yr4dsfy>

Telephone access (audio only): 1-833-435-1820 USA toll-free; Meeting ID: 161 655 9331#

Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment period toward the end of the briefing. A backup briefing date is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET at <https://tinyurl.com/5yr4dsfy> if needed.

Closed captions will be provided. Individuals requiring additional accommodations should contact Evelyn Bohor at least 10 business days prior to the meeting at ebohor@usccr.gov. The Committee will also accept written comments related to this study. Written statements should be emailed to mtrachtenberg@usccr.gov within 30 days of the briefing.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [X](#) and [Facebook](#).