

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW• Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20425 www.usccr.gov

October 7, 2019

Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue Room 3300 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Senate Minority Leader Len Fasono Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue Room 3402 Hartford, CT 06106 House Majority Leader Matthew Ritter Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue Room 4106 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

House Minority Leader Themis Klarides Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Avenue Room 4200 Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senators Duff and Fasono and Representatives Ritter and Klarides:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Connecticut Advisory Committee's <u>Advisory Memorandum</u> on the prosecutorial appointment process and prosecutorial practices in the criminal justice system.

The Commission maintains 51 Advisory Committees - one for each state and the District of Columbia. The role of the Committees is to study civil rights issues in their communities and report findings and recommendations to the Commission. The Commission appreciates the Connecticut Advisory Committee's focused attention to the prosecutorial appointment process and prosecutorial practices and whether these practices contribute to racial disparities in the Connecticut criminal justice system.

In response to these recommendations, we advise that you take the steps necessary to protect civil rights in your jurisdiction. We have similarly asked Attorney General Tong to review the recommendations.

The Commission appreciates your consideration, in the hope of ensuring civil rights protections. We look forward to hearing from you on what actions you will take in response.

Sincerely,

Catherine E. Lhamon

Chair

cc: David McGuire, Chair, Connecticut Advisory Committee

Encl.

Connecticut Advisory Committee <u>Advisory Memorandum</u> (via email only)



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William Tong Attorney General State of Connecticut 55 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Attorney General Tong:

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is pleased to transmit to your offices our Connecticut Advisory Committee's <u>Advisory Memorandum</u> on the prosecutorial appointment process and prosecutorial practices in the criminal justice system.

The Commission maintains 51 Advisory Committees - one for each state and the District of Columbia. The role of the Committees is to study civil rights issues in their communities and report findings and recommendations to the Commission. The Commission appreciates the Connecticut Advisory Committee's focused attention to the prosecutorial appointment process and prosecutorial practices and whether these practices contribute to racial disparities in the Connecticut criminal justice system.

In response to these recommendations, we advise that you take the steps necessary to protect civil rights in your jurisdiction. We have similarly asked the state Legislature leadership to review the recommendations.

The Commission appreciates your consideration, in the hope of ensuring civil rights protections. We look forward to hearing from you on what actions you will take in response.

Sincerely,

Catherine E. Lhamon

Chair

cc: David McGuire, Chair, Connecticut Advisory Committee

Encl.

Connecticut Advisory Committee Advisory Memorandum (via email only)