

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY VOTER INTIMIDATION INVESTIGATION

Washington, DC – The United States Commission on Civil Rights announces that it will hold a public hearing on February 12, 2010. This meeting is open to the public and the media.

DATE AND TIME: Friday, February 12, 2010; 9:30 a.m. EST

PLACE: 624 9th St., N.W.
Room 540
Washington, DC 20425

The Commission will hold a hearing regarding the incident on Election Day 2008 at a Philadelphia polling place involving members of the New Black Panther Party. The hearing will collect facts related to civil charges brought by the Department of Justice and examine its actions in the case. Eyewitnesses will provide testimony and video evidence will be shown.

The Commission is authorized to hold hearings and to issue subpoenas for the production of documents and the attendance of witnesses pursuant to 45 CFR Sec. 701.2. The Commission has broad authority to investigate allegations of voting irregularities, including voter intimidation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Lenore Ostrowsky, Acting Chief, Public Affairs Unit (202) 376-8591. TDD: (202) 376-8116.

Persons with a disability requiring special services, such as an interpreter for the hearing impaired, should contact Pamela Dunston at least seven days prior to the meeting at 202-376-8105. TDD: (202) 376-8116.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Members include Chairman Gerald A. Reynolds, Vice Chair Abigail Thernstrom, Commissioners Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfelser is the Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the general public. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.