

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS



PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Appointments to the Texas State Advisory Committee

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has announced the appointment of 14 Texas citizens to its Texas State Advisory Committee. The Commission appointed Merrill Matthews of Coppel; Charles Z. Burchett of Kirby; Bill Calhoun, Cathy M. McConn, and Martha Orozco of Houston; Frances A. Carnot of San Antonio; Jason P. Casellas and Norval D. Glenn of Austin; Russell B. Casey of Hurst; Cecilia R. Castillo of San Marcos; Glenn O. Lewis of Fort Worth; Harriet Miller of Dallas; Charles E. Stolfus of Denton; and Barbara J. Walters of Plano. The Commission appointed Merrill Matthews of Coppel as Chairman. The appointments are for two years.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish state advisory committees (SACs) in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to study issues and forward advisory reports to the Commission on matters within the agency's jurisdiction that reflect the views of the majority of SAC members producing the report.

The SACs' reports to the Commission are wholly independent, and reviewed by Commission staff only for legal and procedural compliance with Commission policies and procedures. SAC reports are not subject to Commission approval, fact-checking or policy changes.

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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, and Commissioners Todd F. Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfeler is the staff director. Commission meetings are open to the general public and the media. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.

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