

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:

Ivy Davis
Director, Eastern Regional Office
202-376-7533

U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Appoints West Virginia State Advisory Committee Members

WASHINGTON, DC – Marlene Sallo, Staff Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, announces the appointment of 14 West Virginia citizens to the West Virginia State Advisory Committee.

The Commission appointed Sheli Bernstein-Goff of Wheeling, Phyllis H. Carter of Institute, Debra J. Hart of Cross Lanes, Richard L. James of Charleston, Luke A. Lafferre of Huntington, Jan Lilly-Stewart of Charleston, Tara N. Martinez of Charleston, Larry K. Matheney of Charleston, Pauline Mejia of Charles Town, James F. Shaffer of Morgantown, Charles E. Smith of Charleston, Ethel Morgan Smith of Morgantown, Patty V. Tompkins of Charleston and Lisa K. Younis of Shepherdstown to the West Virginia State Advisory Committee. The Commission appointed Phyllis Carter as Chair. Appointed members serve without compensation for a two year term.

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 may rely on studies and data generated by third parties and are not subject to an independent review by Commission staff. The views expressed in reports are those of a majority of the State Advisory Committee members and do not necessarily represent the views of the Commission or its individual members, nor do they represent the policies of the U.S. government.

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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 Martin R. Castro, Vice Chair Abigail Thernstrom, Commissioners Roberta Achtenberg, Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, David Kladney and Michael Yaki. Commission meetings are open to the general public. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.