

NEWS RELEASE March 24, 2017 Media contact: David Mussatt Email: dmussatt@usccr.gov

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# The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces the Appointment of Advisory Committee Members for Four States

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights congratulates the following individuals on their appointments as members of our state Advisory Committees. The Committees play an important role in civil rights advocacy at state and local levels.

#### For the state of Florida:

Elizabeth Foley, Chair, resident of Key Largo; Laura Blundy, Orlando; Bradford Brown, Miami-Dade County; Laura Finley, Miami Shores; Jennifer Glass, Merritt Island; Wilhemina Lewis, Fort Pierce; Don Mizell, Fort Lauderdale; Joy Moore, Seminole; Matthew Oberly, Fort Lauderdale; Victor Romano, Biscayne Park; Nadine Smith, St. Petersburg; Fernanto Teson, Tallahassee; Lourdes Villanueva, Plant City; Toufic Zakharia, Miami.

#### Louisiana:

Robert Lancaster, Chair, Baton Rouge; Andrea Armstrong, New Orleans; James Baehr, New Orleans; Yakima Black, Baker; Randy Boudreaux, New Orleans; Marjorie Esman, New Orleans; George Fowler, New Orleans; Robert Garda, New Orleans; Michelle Ghetti, Baton Rouge; Enrique Hurtado, Baton Rouge; Saru Matambanadzo, New Orleans; H. Naci Mocan, Baton Rouge; Cyndi Nguyen, New Orleans; Robert Scott, Baton Rouge; Gina Womack, New Orleans.

# Nebraska:

Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Chair, Omaha; Dwayne Ball, Bellevue; Michaelle Baumert, Elkhorn; Janet Eckerson, Lincoln; Judi Gaiashkibos, Lincoln; Ted Hamann, Lincoln; Jason Hayes, Lincoln; Andrew Hollingsead, Papillion; Nikitah Imani, Omaha; Peter Longo, Kearney; Chad Richter, Omaha; Jose Soto, Lincoln; Peter Szto, Omaha; Kimberly Taylor-Riley, Omaha.

### Texas:

Mimi Marziani, Chair, Austin; Joni Baker, College Station; Josh Blackman, Houston; Charles Burchett, Kirbyville; Rogene Calvert, Houston; Frances Carnot, San Antonio; Jason Casellas, Houston; Cecilia Castillo, San Marcos; Bobby Lydia, Duncanville; Merrill Matthews, Coppell;

Feyi Obamehinti, Keller; Christina Sanders, Houston; Ronald Smeberg, San Antonio; Barbara Walters, Plano.

Advisory Committee members conduct reviews and produce reports and recommendations concerning local civil rights issues, including justice, voting, discrimination, housing, education, and other important themes. The Commission, by Congressional mandate, establishes Committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Appointees serve four-year terms and are unremunerated.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing an annual federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about the Commission and its Advisory Committees, please visit <a href="http://www.usccr.gov">http://www.usccr.gov</a> and follow us on Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/usccrgov">https://twitter.com/usccrgov</a>