



# Ten-Year Check-Up: Have Federal Agencies Responded to Civil Rights Recommendations?

Volume II: An Evaluation of the Departments of Justice, Labor,  
and Transportation

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights  
September 2002

## **U.S. Commission on Civil Rights**

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency established by Congress in 1957. It is directed to:

- Investigate complaints alleging that citizens are being deprived of their right to vote by reason of their race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or by reason of fraudulent practices.
- Study and collect information relating to discrimination or a denial of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution because of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or in the administration of justice.
- Appraise Federal laws and policies with respect to discrimination or denial of equal protection of the laws because of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or in the administration of justice.
- Serve as a national clearinghouse for information in respect to discrimination or denial of equal protection of the laws because of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin.
- Submit reports, findings, and recommendations to the President and Congress.
- Issue public service announcements to discourage discrimination or denial of equal protection of the laws.

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## Letter of Transmittal

The President

The President of the Senate

The Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs:

Pursuant to Public Law 103-419, the United States Commission on Civil Rights transmits this report, *Ten-Year Check-Up: Have Federal Agencies Responded to Civil Rights Recommendations? Volume II: An Evaluation of the Departments of Justice, Labor, and Transportation*. This volume, the second in a series, evaluates the extent to which the Departments of Justice, Labor, and Transportation have responded to Commission recommendations directed to them during the 1990s. The volume focuses on whether civil rights enforcement at the three departments has improved or changed as a result of previous findings and recommendations made by the Commission.

This study finds that the three departments implemented many of the Commission's recommendations and that improvements occurred in the areas of data collection and analysis, policy guidance, complaint processing, technical assistance, education and outreach, staff training, and community involvement. However, a paucity of resources significantly affected each department's ability to completely and thoroughly implement many of the recommendations. As a result, the Commission urges the executive and legislative branches of government to provide each department with the necessary resources to execute and strengthen their civil rights enforcement programs.

For the Commissioners,

Mary Frances Berry  
*Chairperson*