



PRESS RELEASE

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North Carolina Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Continues Study on Civil Rights and Equity of Legal Financial Obligations and Announces March 2022 Public Meeting

The North Carolina Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a public meeting – via webinar – examining civil rights and equity in legal financial obligations (LFOs). This will be a continuation of the study that was initiated by the advisory committee in 2020 and is part of a new series of briefings that began in February 2022 when the Advisory Committee heard from judicial system practitioners, including judges and a district attorney.

The scope of this project lies in examining the impact of LFOs on the basis of race, color and income and whether LFOs have a disparate impact on minority and indigent groups. The focus for this project will be post-conviction LFOs.

Chair Olga Morgan Wright said: “The North Carolina Advisory Committee looks forward to our continued examination with experts and practitioners as to whether Legal Final Obligations have a disparate impact on minority and indigent populations in North Carolina. The Committee will consider their testimony, for inclusion into our report, as our project develops. ***We welcome Public Comments and Written Testimony from All Interested and Affected North Carolinians to this public meeting.***”

EVENTS: North Carolina Advisory Committee Public Meeting

WHEN: Civil Rights and Equity in Legal Financial Obligations in North Carolina

Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET, via webinar

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/5y95te2k>

Webex Meeting Number: 276 144 375 96

Audio: (800) 360-9505

Meeting materials will be available after the event [here](#). Please contact Victoria Moreno (information above) for more details and regarding requests for accessibility.

Members of the public will be invited to speak during a public comment session and are encouraged, but not required, to register in advance at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BH86FD9>. The Committee will also accept written testimony from members of the public for thirty days following the meeting, until April 14, 2022. Please send written statements to lschiller@usccr.gov.

**North Carolina Advisory Committee
Civil Rights and Equity in Legal Financial
Obligations in North Carolina**

Web Hearing Agenda

Research & Practitioner Perspectives

March 15, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET

- Joe Coletti, North Carolina General Assembly House Majority Oversight Staff Director
- Jamie M. Markham, Thomas Willis Lambeth Distinguished Chair in Public Policy, University of North Carolina School of Government
- Judge Brian Ratledge, Wake County District Court

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 state and territorial Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For more information, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).