

PRESS RELEASE June 25, 2025 **CONTACT:**

Ana Victoria Fortes, afortes@usccr.gov

Colorado Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Invites the Public to Participate in a Series of Virtual Panels Examining Allegations of Antisemitism on the Auraria Campus at Three Colleges and Universities

The Colorado Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a series of public online briefings and a community forum. The purpose of these events is to hear testimony examining the presence and/or absence of antisemitism at Colorado universities and colleges, specifically at the Auraria Campus in Denver that hosts the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver. Panelists include experts examining First Amendment Rights and campus protests; advocacy organizations, and administrators representing the universities and colleges at the center of the Committee's inquiry.

Briefing 1: Researchers and Academics

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 2:00 - 4:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://tinyurl.com/2hctd4a8

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 160 700 7541#

Briefing 2: College and University Administrators

Date and Time: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 2:00 - 4:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://tinyurl.com/2vwudm

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 160 768 4758#

Community Forum

Date and Time: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 4:00 - 5:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://tinyurl.com/2vwudm

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 160 768 4758 #

A third briefing is forthcoming.

The Committee invites members of the public to sign up to share a public comment at any of the two meetings: https://tinyurl.com/COPublicCommentSignUp. Additionally, members of the public are welcome to submit written comments to ebohor@usccr.gov or through an online form https://tinyurl.com/COWrittenTestimony. Meeting materials will be available here: https://usccr.app.box.com/s/aq52obvbs8uhkx2a0198po94elwbf2vl/folder/316081554716.

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 Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at the state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit us at www.usccr.gov and follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Committee Chair Alvina Earnhart said, "We are committed to ensuring that our institutions of higher learning are places where all students feel safe, respected, and free to fully participate in academic life. Our Committee's investigation into allegations of antisemitism at the Auraria Campus in Denver, which hosts the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver, is not only timely, but essential. We must distinguish between protected speech and conduct that violates civil rights, and we must hold our public institutions accountable when they fall short. This project reflects our deep commitment to safeguarding both civil rights and freedom of expression. We aim to bring forward the voices of those impacted, examine the role of campus policies and leadership, and offer thoughtful, actionable recommendations that uphold the core principles of equality, safety, and constitutional freedoms."

Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact <u>ebohor@usccr.gov</u> at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

#####