General Counsel’s Certification
Regarding the Partial Closure of the
Commission’s Business Meeting on May 16, 2014

On May 16, 2014, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (“the Commission”) held its regularly scheduled business meeting. The meeting agenda included the approval of the agenda, program planning, the Staff Director’s Report, and appointments to several State Advisory Committees (“SACs”).

A portion of the Commission’s business meeting was closed to discuss particular individual appointments to two SACs. It was unknown prior to the meeting that a discussion would be had to discuss particular individuals for appointment to the two SACs, rather than just an approval or disapproval of the entire SAC slate. The discussion involved personal information regarding two prospective SAC members.

I hereby certify that, in my opinion, the partial closing of the Commission business meeting on May 16, 2014, was authorized under the relevant portions of the Government in Sunshine Act (“the Sunshine Act”), 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(2) and (6) and the Commission’s regulations, 45 C.F.R. § 702.53(a)(2) and (6), as follows:

Exemption 2, when a meeting is likely to disclose information relating solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Commission; and

Exemption 6, when a meeting is likely to disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

[Signature]
Rorey Smith
General Counsel

Dated: May 19, 2014