U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

TELEPHONIC COMMISSION MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011

The Commission convened via teleconference at 11:30 a.m., Abigail Thernstrom, Vice Chair, presiding.

PRESENT:

ABIGAIL THERNSTROM, Vice Chair
ROBERTA ACHTENBERG, Commissioner
MARTY R. CASTRO, Commissioner
TODD F. GAZIANO, Commissioner
GAIL L. HERIOT, Commissioner
PETER N. KIRSANOW, Commissioner
DINA TITUS, Commissioner
CHRISTOPHER BYRNES, Delegated the Authority of the Staff Director

STAFF PRESENT:

IVY DAVIS
PAMELA A. DUNSTON, Chief, ASCD
LATRICE FOSHEE
TINA LOUISE MARTIN
PETER MINARIK, Acting Chief, RPCU
LENORE OSTROWSKY, Acting Chief, RPCU
JOHN RATCLIFFE, Chief, Budget and Finance
EILEEN RUDERT
KIMBERLY TOLHURST
AUDREY WRIGHT
COMMISSIONER ASSISTANTS PRESENT:

NICHOLAS COLTEN
ALEC DEULL
TIM FAY
DOMINIQUE LUDVIGSON
JOHN MARTIN
OPERATOR: Good morning. My name is Melissa, and I will be your conference operator today. At this time, I would like to welcome everyone to the Commission meeting for January 28th, 2011. All lines have been placed on mute to prevent any background noise.

After the speaker's remarks, there will be a question and answer session. If you would like to ask a question during this time, simply press star, then the number one on your telephone keypad. If you would like to withdraw your question, press the pound key. Thank you.

I would now like to turn the call over to Abigail Thernstrom. You may begin your conference.

VICE CHAIR TERNSTROM: Thanks very much, and good morning, everybody. I am Abigail Thernstrom, the Vice Chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and this is a meeting that was supposed to be held -- we're a little late -- at 11:30 Eastern Standard Time.
Time on January 28th, 2011.

We're having -- sorry, I have not
gotten my mic hooked up. We're having a
telephonic meeting with all Commissioners
participating from different locations. And I
will call the name of each Commissioner in
order to determine if there is a quorum to
hold a meeting. I am obviously here.
Commissioner Gaziano?

COMMISSIONER GAZIANO: Here, on
the phone.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM:

Commissioner Kirsanow?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Here.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM:

Commissioner Heriot?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: Here.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM:

Commissioner Titus?

COMMISSIONER TITUS: Here.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM:

Commissioner Achtenberg?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Here.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM:

Commissioner Castro?
COMMISSIONER CASTRO: Here.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: A quorum of the Commissioners is present. Is the person delegated the authority of the Staff Director present?

MR. BYRNES: I am.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: And is the court reporter on the line?

THE COURT REPORTER: Hi, this is the court reporter. I am on the line, and I'd like to remind everyone to please state your name before you make a comment, so that I can identify the speakers.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: Okay, folks. Some of you know, the internet is down at the Commission. And as a result, we have been unable to circulate important documents among the Commissioners on the phone today. Those of you who have been with me for quite some time know that I have continually objected to holding meetings in which there are votes on matters that I have not had the proper paperwork to contemplate, on the basis of which I can contemplate what is being proposed.
And therefore, after receiving input from several Commissioners on this point, I move that we postpone today's agenda until February 11th. Do I have a second to that motion?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Second.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: Who is speaking? Who has seconded it?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Commissioner Achtenberg.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: Any discussion?

COMMISSIONER HERIOT: This is Gail Heriot. Can I get a clarification on that? We're moving this, in addition to the other work that's already scheduled for the 11th?

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: That's correct. We will just add it to the February 11th.

COMMISSIONER GAZIANO: Vice Chair, this is Commissioner Gaziano speaking, by the way. Is it possible that we could at least take up the State Advisory Committee issues? I know that Senator Leahy and the Vermont SAC would probably prefer us to act on that, if we
can. If you think that that's unwise, that's fine.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: I think it's unwise. And we're talking about a two week wait here. We can wait for two weeks. And by the way, just for clarification, for Commissioner Heriot, we are adding it to the business meeting, obviously. Today's agenda, obviously, to the business meeting on the 11th, which is part of our agenda on the 11th.

So, any further discussion? Because I'm just going to call the vote if not. All in favor of the postponement?

COMMISSIONER KIRSANOW: Kirsanow, aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

MR. BYRNES: Could they please identify themselves?

COMMISSIONER TITUS: Titus, aye.

COMMISSIONER GAZIANO: Gaziano, aye.

COMMISSIONER CASTRO: Castro, aye.

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Achtenberg, aye.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: Am I
missing anybody here?

COMMISSIONER ACHTENBERG: Just you.

VICE CHAIR THERNSTROM: Well, I

obviously vote aye. Okay. With that vote,

our meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled

meeting was adjourned at 11:48 A.M.)
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202-234-4433
unable 5:17  
unwise 7:1,4  
U.S 1:1 3:22

V

Vermont 6:24  
Vice 1:8,10 3:20,22  
4:12,15,18,21,24  
5:2,7,14 6:7,11,17  
6:20 7:3,25 8:3  
vote 7:12 8:4,4  
votes 5:22

W

wait 7:5,5  
way 6:22 7:6  
week 7:5  
weeks 7:5  
welcome 3:6  
we're 3:24 4:2,3  
6:15 7:4  
withdraw 3:15  
work 6:16  
WRIGHT 1:21

1

11th 6:4,16,19 7:10  
7:10  
11:30 1:7 3:25  
11:43 3:2  
11:48 8:7

2

2011 1:5 3:7 4:1  
28 1:5  
28th 3:7 4:1
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In the matter of: Telephonic Commission Meeting

Before: US Commission Civil Rights

Date: 01-28-11

Place: Washington, DC

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[Signature]
Court Reporter

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