



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
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**U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Public Briefing:  
*Are Rights a Reality? Evaluating Federal Civil Rights Enforcement***

**Friday, November 2, 2018, Washington, DC**

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public briefing to evaluate federal civil rights enforcement. Broadly, the Commission will delve into the question: is the federal government satisfying its obligation to the American people to protect and vindicate their civil rights across the justice system and other issue areas, such as immigration, healthcare, employment, education, and housing?

The Commission will hear from current and former federal officials, academic and legal experts, and advocates. The public will be able to address the Commission in an open comment session. In fall 2019, the Commission will issue a report from this investigation. Confirmed panelists include:

- **Robert Driscoll**, former Deputy Assistant Attorney General and Chief of Staff, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice
- **Arne Duncan**, former Secretary, Department of Education
- **Fatima Goss Graves**, President and CEO, National Women's Law Center
- **Bryan Greene**, General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- **Vanita Gupta**, President and CEO, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
- **Leon Rodriguez**, former Director, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Health and Human Services
- **Joshua Thompson**, Pacific Legal Foundation
- **Veronica Venture**, Deputy Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security

**DATE:** Friday, November 2, 2018  
**LOCATION:** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1331 Pennsylvania Av. NW,  
Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425  
*Also [live-streaming](#)*  
**AGENDA:** Invited Panelists: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm ET  
Open Comment Session (Public Testimony): 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Chair Catherine E. Lhamon will be available for press interviews.

*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 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit [www.usccr.gov](http://www.usccr.gov) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).*