



PRESS RELEASE
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**Arkansas Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Web-Based Hearing: *Civil Rights and Mass Incarceration***

On March 25, 2019, the Arkansas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will host a public hearing to gather testimony on the civil rights impact of mass incarceration. The Committee will examine the state's growing prison population, and the disproportionately high incarceration rate of individuals of color relative to the general population. The Committee will also consider state and local policies and practices which may contribute to these disparities, and seek testimony regarding alternative policies and practices with the demonstrated potential to address such concerns.

This briefing is open to the public. To join:

- (Audio) Dial: 855-719-5012; Conference ID: 7188884
- (Visual) Register at: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/vbzn4ya7txy2&eom>

Please use both the web link and the call-in number in order to fully participate. The agenda is as follows:

- Opening Remarks (2:00 pm CDT)
- Panelist Presentations (2:05 pm – 3:15 pm)
- Open Public Comment Session (3:15 pm – 3:30 pm)

Members of the public will be invited to speak during the open comment session scheduled to begin at 3:15 pm CDT. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwojnaroski@usccr.gov by April 30, 2019.

This is the second in a series of sessions the Committee is holding to gather testimony on this topic. The Committee heard initial testimony at a hearing in Little Rock in September 2018. For records of previous meetings or information regarding upcoming meetings please contact the Regional Programs Unit at 312-353-8311 or the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) [database](#). The Committee will its issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

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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 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 <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).