



PRESS RELEASE
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**Mississippi Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Web-based Briefing: *Civil Rights and Prosecutorial Discretion***

On April 19, 2019, the Mississippi Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will host a public briefing to gather testimony on the civil rights impact of prosecutorial discretion. The Committee will examine possible discrimination in the prosecutorial system based on a person's race, color, national origin, disability status, age, religion, or sex. The Committee specifically seeks to understand if, or how, prosecutorial discretion in the state of Mississippi has led to racial disproportionality in criminal prosecution, and subsequently, incarceration rates.

This meeting is open to the public. To join:

- (Audio) Dial: 1-877-260-1479; Conference ID: 5634835
- (Visual) Register at: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/q3qe2yfxgno4&eom>

Please use both the web link and the call-in number in order to fully participate.

The meeting agenda is as follows:

- Opening Remarks (1:30 pm)
- Panelist Presentations (1:35 pm — 2:25 pm)
- Committee Questions and Dialogue (2:25 pm — 2:45 pm)
- Open Public Comment Session (2:45 pm — 3:00 pm)

Members of the public will be invited to speak during the open comment session scheduled to begin at 2:45 pm. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwojnaroski@usccr.gov by May 31, 2019.

This is the first in a series of meetings the Committee will hold to gather testimony on this topic. The Committee will hear additional testimony at a hearing in Jackson, MS, on Thursday May 23, 2019. For information regarding upcoming meetings please contact the Regional Programs Unit at 312-353-8311. The Committee will issue its 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](#).