



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces the Appointment of Advisory Committee Members for Two States**

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights congratulates the following individuals on their appointments as members of two of our state Advisory Committees.

Chair Catherine E. Lhamon said, "The Commission's Committees advise us on the status of civil rights in their respective states. We thank them for their service and look forward to the work they will do to lift up critical civil rights issues across the country."

### ***For the state of Maryland:***

Kendra Brown, Chair, resident of Bowie; Teresa Chaurand, Derwood; Tamara Chrisler, Upper Marlboro; Sheryl Cozart, Waldorf; Candace Dodson-Reed, Ellicott City; David Kim, Bethesda; Sara Love, Bethesda; Melinda Maddox, Silver Spring; Marie Meszaros, Hyattsville; Jennifer Matthis, Takoma Park, Michelle Minton, Cheverly; Walter Olson, New Market; Joseline Pena-Melnyk, College Park; Genevieve Segura, Annapolis; Elizabeth Slattery, Silver Spring.

### ***For the state of West Virginia:***

Lisa K. Younis, Chair, resident of Shepherdstown; Katherine (Kitty) Dooley, Charleston; I. Franklin Hartman, Charleston; Jeri Kirby, Morgantown; Anne Marie Lofaso, Morgantown; Tara N. Martinez, Charleston; Lydia C. Milnes, Morgantown; Fanica Payne, Morgantown; William (Will) Rhee, Morgantown; Isabel Simon, Harpers Ferry; Merideth D. Smith, Charleston; Sean Thomas, Charleston; Stephanie Thornton, Ravenswood; Jeremiah Underhill, St. Albans; Ronald Neal Walters, Charleston; Joshua Weishart, Morgantown.

Advisory Committees have recently examined voting rights, civil rights impacts of education funding, seclusion and restraint of students with disabilities, women's prisons, civil asset forfeiture, immigration issues, policing practices, human trafficking, fair housing, payday lending, solitary confinement policies in prisons, and disparate incarceration rates. In addition to advising the Commission, Advisory Committee reports may lead to policy changes at the national, state and/or local levels. Please see our August [press release](#) that announced the appointments to nine additional Committees earlier in 2019. More information about the Commission's Advisory Committees can be found [here](#).

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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. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).*