

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

624 9th Street, N.W. Suite 700 Washington, DC 20425
Ph: (202) 376-7700 Fx: (202) 376-7672

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:

Lenore Ostrowsky
Acting Chief, Public Affairs Unit
202-376-8591

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Appoints Kansas State Advisory Committee Members

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has announced the appointment of 15 Kansas citizens to its Kansas State Advisory Committee. The Commission appointed Dr. Kimberly C. Shankman of Atchison; Michael J. Abrams of Overland Park; Dr. Laurie M. Bagby and Dr. Marsha Frey of Manhattan; Susan A. Berson and Melanie Caro of Leawood; Chiquita C. Coggs, Michelle T. Johnson and Dr. Ewa Unoke of Kansas City; Jennifer Kassebaum of Burdick; Robert Mandel and Kirk Perucca of Prairie Village; Sarah E. McIntosh of Wichita; Phyllis E. Nolan of Louisburg; and Charles S. Scott, Esq. of Shawnee. The Commission appointed Dr. Kimberly C. Shankman as Chair. The appointments are for two years.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish advisory committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to study issues and forward advisory reports to the Commission on matters within the agency's jurisdiction that reflect the views of the majority of SAC members producing the report.

The SACs' reports to the Commission are wholly independent, and are reviewed by Commission staff only for legal and procedural compliance with Commission policies and procedures. SAC reports are not subject to Commission approval, fact-checking or policy changes.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Members include Chairman Gerald A. Reynolds, Vice Chair Abigail Thernstrom, Commissioners Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfels is the Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the general public. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.