

**THE LOUISIANA STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE
U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS**

.....

PRESS RELEASE

March 22, 2012

Contact:

Farella E. Robinson, Regional Director
(913) 551-1400

Louisiana State Advisory Committee Announces a Planning/Briefing Meeting

WHAT: Planning and Briefing Meeting of the Louisiana State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

WHEN: Thursday, March 29, 2012
2:00 p.m. (CST)

WHERE: BERIA Bank
1101 East Admiral Doyle Drive
Suite 202
New Iberia, LA 70560

The meeting is also open to the public through the following toll-free call-in number 1 (866) 364-7584, conference call access code number 56366308.

The Louisiana State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a planning meeting to continue collecting preliminary information concerning potential racial disparities in the high incarceration of African-Americans in state operated prisons. The Committee will meet with and receive a briefing from representative of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission and the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana.

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 agency's jurisdiction that reflect the views of the majority of SAC members producing the report.

The SACs' reports to the Commission may rely on studies and data generated by third parties, which are not subject to an independent review by Commission staff. The views expressed in reports are those of a majority of the State Advisory Committee members and do not necessarily represent the views of the Commission or its individual members, nor do they represent the policies of the U.S. government.

Gregory Grimsal, Esq., of New Orleans is Chairman of the Louisiana Advisory Committee. Other members of the Committee are Lorna Bourg of New Iberia; Robert A. Garda, Neely S. Griffith, Esq., Nolan V. Rollins and James E. Viator of New Orleans; Jason M. DeCuir, Esq., Michelle W. Ghetti, Esq., Gwendolyn P. Hamilton, Nadia E. Nedzel, Esq. and Dr. James R. Stoner of Baton Rouge.

###

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Members include Chairman Martin Castro and Commissioners Roberta Achtenberg, Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter Kirsanow, David Kladney, Abigail Thernstrom, and Michael Yaki. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>