



NEWS RELEASE

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

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights announced today the appointment of 17 members to the Vermont State Advisory Committee, charging them to evaluate and report on civil rights concerns in the state.

The Commission appointed:

- Diane B. Snelling of Hinesburg (chair)
- John H. Bloomer of Rutland
- Luther M. Brown of Rutland
- Natasha V. Chang of Addison
- Ellen Mercer Fallon of Middlebury
- Wanda R. Heading-Grant of Colchester
- Leslie A. Holman of Burlington
- Cassandra C. LaRae-Perez of Montpelier
- Thomas A. Little of Shelburne
- Phayvanh Luekhamhan of Montpelier
- Terrance D. Martin of Brattleboro
- Marion C. Milne of Washington
- Tuipate F. Mubiay of Essex Junction
- Curtiss Reed Jr. of Brattleboro
- Eric D. Sakai of Randolph
- Rubi O. Simon of Burlington
- Rosario M. de Swanson of Marlboro

“Vermont is a state that historically has been proactive in addressing civil rights issues and I am confident this committee will continue to make significant contributions.” Commission Staff Director Marlene Sallo said.

State advisory committee members conduct reviews and produce reports and recommendations concerning local civil rights issues, including justice, voting, discrimination, housing and education. Congress mandates that the federal Commission establish advisory committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Appointees to State Advisory Committees serve two-year terms.

“I am proud of the work of this advisory committee, which has positively impacted state policies and practices. I look forward to continuing this work.” Chair Diane Snelling said.

Past Vermont State Advisory Committee reports addressed racial harassment in public school, racial profiling, and disparities in the justice system. The committee will meet for the first time in July to consider its plans and priorities.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with studying and advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing a federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about reports and meetings of the Commission and its State Advisory Committee, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov>.