



PRESS RELEASE
May 9, 2018

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U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Public Briefing:

***In the Name of Hate: Examining the Federal Government's
Role in Responding to Hate Crimes***

Friday, May 11, 2018

1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425

Expert Panels: 9:00 a.m. – 3:50 p.m. ET

Open Public Comment Session: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. ET

Washington, DC – On Friday, May 11, in Washington, DC, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public briefing on hate crimes and bias-related incidents in our local communities and schools. The Commission will [hear](#) from law enforcement experts, state and federal policy makers, and the public about the federal and local responses to these heinous acts. The briefing will focus on three key areas: reporting practices, investigations and prosecutions, and prevention efforts.

The public will have an opportunity to address the Commission during an open comment session – please see full details [here](#). The briefing will also be [live-streamed](#). We will also accept written materials for consideration; please submit to HateCrimes@usccr.gov no later than June 11, 2018.

Subsequent to the briefing, the Commission will issue a report that will discuss effective responsive and preventive actions and offer recommendations for improved practices.

In a unanimous Commission [statement](#) last year in response to the attacks in Charlottesville, Virginia, Chair Catherine E. Lhamon stated that “every American deserves to live confident in the expectation that his or her equal dignity will be respected and receive protection from government agencies.” The Chair also noted that violence and hate driven by animus against anyone for who they are – whether on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, or national origin – “degrades our nation.”

BRIEFING AGENDA
May 11, 2018

Introductory Remarks: Chair Catherine E. Lhamon: 9:00 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.

Panel One: Local Law Enforcement: 9:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

- **Chief Marc Garth Green**, Seattle, WA Police Department
- **Sgt. Detective Carmen Curry**, Boston, MA Police Department
- **Chief Will Johnson**, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); Arlington (TX) Police Department
- **Robert Moossy**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Section, U.S. Department of Justice
- **Robby Soave**, Reason Magazine

Panel Two: Community Stakeholders: 10:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- **Suman Raghunathan**, South Asian Americans Leading Together
- **Melissa Garlick**, Anti-Defamation League
- **Nicole Jorwic**, The Arc
- **Katharine Prescott**, LGBTQ Parent Advocate, Board Member GLSEN
- **Micah David-Cole Fletcher**, Survivor of Portland MAX train stabbing
- **Susan Bro**, Heather Heyer Foundation

Panel Three: Policy and Legal Experts: 1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.

- **Shelby Chestnut**, Transgender Law Center
- **Kristen Clarke**, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- **Lena Masri**, Council on American-Islamic Relations
- **Aviva Vogelstein**, Brandeis Center
- **Andrea Senteno**, Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund

Panel Four: Current and Former Federal Officials: 2:30 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

- **Lynn Langton**, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice
- **Roy Austin**, Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP
- **Cynthia Deitle**, Matthew Shepard Foundation
- **Debbie Osgood**, Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose
- **Olabisi Okubadejo**, Ballard Spahr

Break: 3:50 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Open Public Comment Session: 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Detailed public comment session information can be found [here](#).

The briefing will also [live-stream](#). Stay abreast of updates at www.usccr.gov.

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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](#).