



U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Report Release & Conference Call

Collateral Consequences: The Crossroads of Punishment, Redemption and the Effects on Communities

Thursday, June 13, 2019, 10:45 am EDT

On June 13, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Chair Catherine E. Lhamon and Commissioner David Kladney will hold a public conference call to discuss the Commission's forthcoming report, *Collateral Consequences: The Crossroads of Punishment, Redemption and the Effects on Communities*.

This report provides an overview of the relevant data and arguments for and against the imposition of collateral consequences on people with felony convictions. Each year, federal and state prisons release more than 620,000 people to return to their communities. While these individuals have often completely exited criminal supervision (for example, through a prison sentence or probation), those with convictions still face potentially thousands of collateral consequences upon reentering society. These consequences include sanctions, restrictions, or disqualifications that attach to a person based on a former felony conviction. For example, individuals can face barriers to voting, jury service, holding public office, securing employment, obtaining housing, receiving public assistance, owning a firearm, getting a driver's license, qualifying for college admission and financial aid, qualifying for military service, and maintaining legal status as an immigrant. The impact of each consequence extends past people with felony convictions to affect families and communities.

Collateral Consequences, based on expert and public input, and extensive research and analysis, will offer actionable recommendations to the President, Congress, and federal agencies. The Commission held a [public briefing](#) on the subject in May 2017; we invite you to view panelists' [written testimony](#) and the session [transcript](#).

We will provide additional details prior to the call. Please stay abreast of updates at www.usccr.gov and on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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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 www.usccr.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).