

Notice of Briefing February 19, 2020 Contact: David Barreras (312) 353-8311 <u>dbarreras@usccr.gov</u>

Indiana Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces a Public Briefing: *Lead Exposure in Indiana*

Indianapolis, IN –The Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a public briefing to discuss the status of lead exposure in Indiana. This meeting is intended to examine current challenges facing diverse communities and their possible disproportionate exposure to toxic lead in Indiana. The Committee will hear testimony from community members, advocates, academics, legal professionals, and government officials.

Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment period at all meetings. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to <u>dbarreras@usccr.gov</u> by Monday March 27, 2020. The briefing will take place:

Thursday, February 27, 2020 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EST Ivy Tech Community College, Conference Center

2820 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46208.

The Committee will examine concerns regarding the possible civil rights implications of the disproportionate amount of exposure to toxic lead by certain communities. Committee Chair, Diane Clements-Boyd said, "The objective of the briefing is to hear testimony on the problem of lead poisoning in Indiana as well as interventions and enforcement guidance to reduce exposure. The Indiana Advisory Committee is committed to studying the impact of this environmental justice issue as well as exploring policy recommendations to protect Indiana's most vulnerable children and adults."

The Indiana Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

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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 <u>http://www.usccr.gov</u> and follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.