

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

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Minnesota Advisory Committee to Hold Meeting Examining Resources Devoted to Civil Rights Enforcement in State

CHICAGO, IL – The Minnesota Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights will conduct a briefing meeting examining the topic, “Resources Devoted to Civil Rights Enforcement in Minnesota” on March 5, 2010. The meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites, 175 E. 10th St., St. Paul, MN from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. CST. An agenda is attached. Among those who will present statements at the meeting are Myron Orfield of the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota, representatives from the Minneapolis and St. Paul civil rights enforcement agencies, Velma Korbel of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Julie Schmid of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jaime Pedraza of the Fair Housing / Equal Opportunity Office of HUD, and Judge Donovan Frank of the U.S. District Court for the Minnesota District.

The U. S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan federal agency that conducts research and advises the President and Congress on civil rights issues. Its members, appointed by the President and Congress, are Chairman Gerald A. Reynolds, Vice Chair Abigail Thernstrom, and Commissioners Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfels is the staff director.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish advisory committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and their members serve without compensation. The SACs’ reports to the Commission are wholly independent, and are reviewed by Commission staff only for legal and procedural compliance with Commission policies and procedures. SAC reports are not subject to Commission approval, fact-checking or policy changes.

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Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfels is the Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the general public. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.