

# THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Appoints District of Columbia State Advisory Committee Members**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has appointed 13 District of Columbia citizens to its District of Columbia State Advisory Committee.

Martin Dannenfelser, Staff Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, announced the appointment of Virginia Walden Ford, Sonia Gutierrez, Clyde Hart, Vernon Dexter Ingram, Winona Lake Scott, Daniel Lips, Alan Palmer, Laurence Pearl, Denyse Sabagh, James Sandman, Gregory Squires, Steven Wagner, and Kenneth Weinstein. The Commission appointed Daniel Lips as Chairman. The appointments are for two years.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish advisory committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to study issues and forward advisory reports to the Commission on matters within the agency's jurisdiction that reflect the views of the majority of SAC members producing the report.

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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*The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Members include Chairman Gerald A. Reynolds, Vice Chair Abigail Thernstrom, Commissioners Todd Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfelser is the Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the general public. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.*