

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

October 14, 2010

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U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Appointments to the Wyoming State Advisory Committee

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has announced the appointment of 16 Wyoming citizens to its Wyoming State Advisory Committee. The Commission appointed Thomas L. Sansonetti, Sleeter C. Dover, Drake D. Hill, Magdaleno J. Ornelas, George Santini, and Jacquelyn L. Bridgeman of Cheyenne; Eric W. Nye, Francisco A. Rios and Anetra D.E. Parks of Laramie; Vicki Law Burger and Melvin R. Hamilton of Casper; Robert C. Byrd of Torrington, Becky M. Costantino of Douglas, Kerry D. Moon of Ft. Washakie, Gail J. Ridgely of Riverton, and Julian J. Vela of Sheridan. Commissioners reappointed Thomas L. Sansonetti as chairman. The appointments are for two years.

Congress has directed the Commission to establish state advisory committees (SACs) 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 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, and Commissioners Todd F. Gaziano, Gail Heriot, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr., and Michael Yaki. Martin Dannenfels is the staff director. Commission meetings are open to the general public and the media. The Commission's website is <http://www.usccr.gov>.

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