

624 9th Street, N.W. Suite 700 Washington, DC 20425
Ph: (202) 376-7700 Fx: (202) 376-7672

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release Contact: Lenore Ostrowsky
April 14, 2010 Acting Chief, Public Affairs Unit
(202) 376-8591
TDD: (202) 376-8116**

**U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES HEARING WITNESSES IN
NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY VOTER INTIMIDATION INVESTIGATION**

Washington, DC – The United States Commission on Civil Rights today released the names of witnesses who will appear at its public hearing on April 23, 2010 on the New Black Panther Party voter intimidation case and the Department of Justice’s handling of the matter.

DATE AND TIME: Friday, April 23, 2010; 9:30 a.m. ET

PLACE: 624 9th St., N.W.
Room 540
Washington, DC 20425

The hearing relates to the Commission’s investigation of an incident at a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania polling place on Election Day 2008 involving members of the New Black Panther Party. At the hearing, the Commission will collect facts related to civil charges brought by the Department of Justice and examine the Department’s actions in the case. Eyewitnesses will provide testimony, and the hearing will also include video evidence. Participants scheduled to appear include U.S. Congressman Frank Wolf; Philadelphia poll watchers Bartle Bull, Mike Mauro, and Chris Hill; and former Assistant Attorney General and Acting Associate Attorney General Gregory Katsas.

In case of inclement weather or cancellation for other cause, the hearing will be rescheduled for May 14, 2010 at the same time and location.

The Commission has broad authority to investigate allegations of voting irregularities, including voter intimidation, and is authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas for the production of documents and attendance of witnesses.

Persons with a disability requiring special services should contact Pamela Dunston at least seven days prior to the meeting at 202-376-8105.

###

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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>.

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

