



NEWS RELEASE

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U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Appoints Montana State Advisory Committee Members

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights announced today the appointment of 15 members to the Montana State Advisory Committee.

The Commission appointed:

- Ms. Norma Bixby of Lame Deer, Chair
- Ms. Kiah M. Abbey of Bozeman
- Dr. John A. Baden of Gallatin Gateway
- Mr. Doug L. Betters of Whitefish
- Dr. Linda S. Frey of Missoula
- Dr. Joan Hoff of Big Sky
- Ms. Gwendolyn M. Kircher of Billings
- Ms. Nancy J. Knauff of Great Falls
- Ms. Marilyn M. Kramer of Billings
- Dr. David A. Lopez of Billings
- Mr. David Stanley Morales of Billings
- Rev. Denise L. Rogers of Bozeman
- Rabbi Edward S. Stafman of Bozeman
- Mr. Dennis M. Taylor of Helena
- Mr. Eran A. Thompson of Billings

"The civil rights of all citizens of the state are of great importance to the Committee. The work the Committee does is important and has made an impact in numerous ways," Commission Staff Director Marlene Sallo said.

State advisory committee members conduct reviews and produce reports and recommendations concerning local civil rights issues, including justice, voting, discrimination, housing and education. Congress mandates that the federal Commission appoint volunteer members to advisory committees in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Appointees to the federal State Advisory Committees serve two-year terms.

"The protection and preservation of our Civil Rights is as important today as it was 50 years ago, and as pertinent in preparing for the 50 years that lie ahead. We members of the Montana State Advisory Committee are pleased to participate in this process of promoting these principles for all people in the State of Montana," Chair Norma Bixby said.

Past Montana State Advisory Committee activity addressed discrimination in employment, law enforcement, and against Native Americans in border town communities. The committee will meet for the first time in January 2015 to consider its plans and priorities.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with studying and advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing a federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about Commission's reports and meetings, visit <http://www.usccr.gov>.

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