



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
November 21, 2014

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

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

The Commission appointed:

- Mr. Sleeter C. Dover of Cheyenne, Chair
- Ms. Jacquelyn L Bridgeman of Laramie
- Ms. Vicki Law Burger of Casper
- Mr. Robert C. Byrd of Sheridan
- Ms. Affie Ellis of Cheyenne
- Mr. Melvin R. Hamilton of Casper
- Mr. Drake D. Hill of Cheyenne
- Dr. Eric W. Nye of Laramie
- Mr. Magdaleno J. Ornelas of Cheyenne
- Ms. Anetra D. E. Parks of Laramie
- Mr. Gail J. Ridgely of Riverton
- Ms. Sara R. Robinson of Lander
- Mr. George Santini of Cheyenne
- Mr. Julian J. Vela of Sheridan
- Ms. Melanie A. Vigil of Laramie

"Wyoming played a special role in the establishment of equal rights for women. Wyoming women were the first in the nation to vote, serve on juries and hold public office. Throughout the years Wyoming has continued to contribute to the development of the civil rights movement and in Wyoming and beyond," 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 Wyoming State Advisory Committee are pleased to participate in this process of promoting these principles for all people in the State of Wyoming," Chair Sleeter Dover said.

Past Wyoming 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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