



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

August 11, 2015

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Oklahoma Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Public Meeting: Civil Rights and the School to Prison Pipeline in Oklahoma

Oklahoma City, OK – The Oklahoma Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a series of public meetings during which they will hear testimony regarding the extent to which the application of school disciplinary and juvenile justice policies in the State of Oklahoma may have a discriminatory impact on students on the basis of race, color and/or sex.

The first meeting will take place Friday August 28th from 10:30am -12:00pm CDT via web conference. Committee members will hear testimony from national experts and federal officials. To listen to the online conference by phone (audio only):

- Dial: 888-364-3109
- Conference ID # 6261793

To join the conference online (audio/visual), please contact the Commission's Midwest Regional Office to request an access link at (312) 353-8311 or email mwojnaroski@usccr.gov. Online space is limited and will be provided on a first come, first served basis. Members of the public will be invited to speak at the conclusion of this conference.

The second meeting will take place on Friday, September 11th at the Oklahoma City University School of Law, Crowe & Dunlevy Commons, 800 N. Harvey Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK, 73102 from 8:00am to 5:00pm CDT. The Committee will hear testimony from community members, advocates, education and legal professionals, and government officials in the State. Members of the public will be invited to speak during the open forum session, scheduled to take place from 4:15 to 4:45pm. Committee Chair Vicki Limas said, "We look forward to a meaningful dialogue among all constituencies."

Both meetings are open to the public. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations should contact the Midwest Regional office 10 days prior to the meeting. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwojnaroski@usccr.gov by September 30, 2015. The Oklahoma Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

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 the reports and meetings of the Commission and its State Advisory Committees, visit <http://www.usccr.gov>.

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