

## UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20425 www.usccr.gov

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

General Counsel's Certification Regarding the Partial Closure of the Commission's Business Meeting on August 15, 2014

On August 15, 2014, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights ("the Commission") held its regularly scheduled business meeting. The meeting agenda included the approval of the agenda, program planning, the Staff Director's Report, and appointments to several State Advisory Committees ("SACs").

A portion of the Commission's business meeting was closed to discuss a particular individual appointment to one of the SACs. It was unknown prior to the meeting that a discussion would be had to discuss this particular individual for appointment to the SAC, rather than just an approval or disapproval of the entire SAC slate. The discussion related to internal practices regarding SAC appointments and an inquiry as to why a particular individual was not reappointed.

I hereby certify that, in my opinion, the partial closing of the Commission business meeting on August 15, 2014, was authorized under the relevant portions of the Government in Sunshine Act ("the Sunshine Act"), 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(2) and (6) and the Commission's regulations, 45 C.F.R. § 702.53(a)(2) and (6), as follows:

Exemption 2, when a meeting is likely to disclose information relating solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Commission; and

Exemption 6, when a meeting is likely to disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Rorey Smith General Counsel

Dated: August 15, 2014