

# THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: MANUEL ALBA

202/376-7700

### CONGRESS APPOINTS GAIL HERIOT TO U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, DC – Professor Gail Heriot of the University of San Diego School of Law was appointed to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on by Senate President Pro Tempore Robert C. Byrd at the recommendation of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. Professor Heriot has been a member of the University of San Diego School of Law faculty since 1989 and is the author of several scholarly articles. Additionally, she serves as Chair of the California Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Before assuming her position at the University of San Diego School of Law, she practiced law at Hogan & Hartson, Washington, D.C., and Mayer, Brown & Platt, Chicago. Professor Heriot also spent a year as judicial clerk to the Justice Seymour Simon of the Illinois Supreme Court. Professor Heriot is a graduate of Northwestern University, 1978, and earned her J.D. at the University of Chicago Law School, 1981, serving as an associate editor of the law review.

The Commission is comprised of four presidential appointees and four members appointed by Congress. Commissioners serve six-year terms. The Commission vacancy being filled by professor Heriot resulted from the departure of Commissioner Russell G. Redenbaugh. Gerald A. Reynolds, Chairman of the Commission said: "Gail Heriot is a very distinguished scholar of civil rights law and I am confident that she will make an excellent Commissioner."

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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 Chairman Abigail Thernstrom, and Commissioners Jennifer C. Braceras, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan D. Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, Jr. and Michael Yaki. Kenneth L. Marcus is Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the media and general public.

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