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INDIANA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 26, 2007 Meeting

Chair Alpha Blackburn called the regular monthly meeting of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission ("Commission" or "ICRC") to order. The meeting was held in Room A of the State Conference Center, Indiana Government Center South, Indianapolis, Indiana.

ATTENDEES:

The Commissioners present in person were: Alpha Blackburn, David C. Carter, Tehiji Crenshaw and Steven Ramos. Four Commissioners being present and constituting a majority of the commissioners, a quorum exists—being a number sufficient to conduct business and take final actions.

Commission Director Gregory Kellam Scott, and several staff members, were present in person.

A. AGENDA REQUEST:

No Agenda requests were received for this month.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved by Commissioner Ramos and seconded by Commissioner Carter to adopt the minutes for the Commission's August 17, 2007. The motion carried by unanimous vote of all Commissioners present.

"Morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

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C. NEW BUSINESS:

Judge Scott called on DaMica O'Bryant to give a report on the Commission's efforts to obtain additional funding from EEOC. DaMica O'Bryant reported the Indiana Civil Rights Commission was one of two agencies nationally to be selected to receive funding for a tester program. The program will be used as a pilot program with the possibility of being duplicated throughout the United States.

Director Scott reported the Federal Fiscal Year preliminary case results indicate we met our HUD contract goal of closing over 232 cases. The agency exceeded the number of housing cases; however, we fell short of the goal of 53% of the cases closed being age cases or non-age cases. In light of our effort, we have received congratulations from the HUD headquarters office.

Director Scott reported the Hon. Naomi Church Earp, Chair of the EEOC, paid an unprecedented visit to our agency, spending time with the staff and with Chair Blackburn and Commissioner Ramos during her visit. Chair Earp had very positive comments regarding the work of the Commission and the importance of the partnership between EEOC and the Commission.

Director Scott reported that Governor Daniels has appointed Clayton Graham as the new Chair of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Commission and reappointed Judge Pratt as a member. Chair Graham will be a very positive influence and will be of great assistance in having the King Commission meeting with a quorum.

D. OLD BUSINESS

Director Scott reported that the case <u>Sanchez vs. Schools</u>, <u>City of Hammond</u> the case had been issued with the executed signatues.

Director Scott reported that the agency Staff Retreat was postponed due to the planned visit from the Chair Naomi Earp, of the EEOC. The Chair enjoyed meeting Chairperson Blackburn and Commissioner Ramos and indicated she enjoyed her time with the staff.

Director Scott reported that the Emmet Till Unsolved Civil Rights Cases Act has passed the house and is now before the United States Senate.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Financial Report

The Commission's monthly financial report was prepared by Robin Degner, the Office Operations Manager. The Report was accepted without any questions.

F. CONSENT AGREEMENTS:

It was moved by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, that the Commission accept the consent agreement in the case of <u>Davis versus American Senior Communities d/b/a Riverwalk Commons</u>. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. FINDINGS OF FACT. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW. AND ORDERS:

It was moved by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Ramos, that the Commission accept the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order proposed in the case *Khan vs. Hellman*. The motion was approved unanimously.

H. REPORT FROM COMMISSIONERS ON COMPLAINANT APPEALS:

It was moved by Commissioner Crenshaw and seconded by Commissioner Ramos to accept the recommendation of Commissioner Carter to uphold the Director or the Deputy Director's finding of No Probable Cause in the case of *Lloyd Deckard vs. Bloomington Associates LP*. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Carter and seconded by Commissioner Ramos to accept the recommendation of Commissioner Crenshaw to uphold the Director or the Deputy Director's finding of No Probable Cause in the case of *Winkeke vs. Fort Wayne Housing Authority and Beacon Heights Apartments*. The motion was approved unanimously.

I. ASSIGNMENT OF APPEALS TO COMMISSIONERS:

Complainant Appeals were assigned to Commissioners as follows:

Commissioner Blackburn:

Wright v Gene B. Glick Management HOha07020073
Reed v General Motors Corporation EMha07040148
Gilbert o/b/o Schwartz v ST. Vincent New Hope, INC; PAsh07050255
/Vincent New Hope, INC HOsh07050254

Commissioner Carter:

Rogers v Kirkpatrick Management Company, Inc HOra07070323

Vandervort v Hilex Poly Co., LLC EMsh06100480

Abshire v Bell Industries EMse06090374

Ream v Sweet Traditions LLC dba Krispy Kreme Doughnuts,

EMha07040164

Commissioner Crenshaw:

Cartwright v Brinks U.S. EMrt06100448

J/*/s v Mishawaka Housing Authority HOha07060288

Gonzales v Securitas Security Services USA EMha06100473

Carter v Product Spectrum EMse06100451

Commissioner Ramos---

Brownfield v Patriot Engineering & Environmental, Inc Emse06090421 Covington v TR Property Management, LLC HOha07060299

J. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE:</u>

Deputy Director's Report

The Commission's Deputy Director, Christine Cde Baca, reported that the Commission's pending case inventory this month reflects 540 cases. During the month of September 50 cases were added to the caseload. Dispositons or case closings during that time were 113, reflecting continued reduction of the pending case load.

The Commission's Deputy Director, Christine Cde Baca stated the Education Steering Commission met on August 6, 2007 the meeting report was previously given to the commissioners. The next meeting will be December 12, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: K.

DaMica O'Bryant announced Professor Dr. Jim Lowen would be in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 11, 2007 to speak at IUPUI. Professor Lowen will be talking about Sundown Towns in Indiana, Truth and Reconciliation.

L. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Director

Dated: 12-14-07

Alpha Blackburn

Chair

Dated: 12/14/07

Deel P. Car Vicechair