

**WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2015 @ 10:00AM  
711 S. CAPITOL WAY, SUITE 402  
OLYMPIA, WA 98504**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Commissioners:** Steve Hunt, Chair; Clarence Henderson, Commissioner; Charlene Strong, Commissioner; Lenore Three Stars, Commissioner.

**Staff:** Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Cheryl Strobert, Asst. Director; Stacia Hollar, AAG; Colleen Melody, AAG; Laura Skinner, Commission Clerk; Laura Lindstrand, Policy Analyst.

**OPENING AND WELCOME**

Chair Hunt asked Commissioner Strong to chair the meeting since he was on as a conference call participant.

Commissioner Strong, Chair Pro Tem called the meeting to order at 10:06AM.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Three Stars abstains from voting on December minutes; was not present at the meeting.

Chair Hunt made motion to adopt December 18, 2014 meeting minutes; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

**CASE CLOSURES**

Director Ortiz went over some corrections or revisions to findings; no cases being pulled from the agenda.

Chair Hunt made motion to approve cases; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

**AAG UPDATES**

AAG Hollar introduced Colleen Melody, attorney for the Civil Rights Division at the AGO's office.

AAG Melody provided her background and experience to the Commissioner's; worked in WA DC at the US Civil Rights Division; originally from Washington; spent 10 years in Seattle; current AG office located in Seattle.

AAG Hollar provided update re: Arlene Flowers litigation; court ruled can bring under the consumer protection act; waiting ruling on religious grounds; will send copies to Commissioner's.

AAG Hollar spoke about the Bar Association and application issues; association will meet tomorrow to address and revise questions re: mental illness.

### **YOUTH PRESENTATION PROGRAM**

Commissioner Strong and Commissioner Henderson to finish putting together the presentation; several schools invited the Commission to present; will present to staff and other Commissioner's before the schools; target date next Commission meeting on February 26, 2015.

### **RULE MAKING**

Policy Analyst Lindstrand asked the Commissioner's about the date to complete the rule making process; March 25, 2015 is the date agreed upon; hold meeting here in Olympia, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room beginning at 6pm; will send out notice to stakeholders; have email set up for comment, [rulemakingcomments@hum.wa.gov](mailto:rulemakingcomments@hum.wa.gov).

Policy Analyst Lindstrand provided legislative updates:

HB1024, medical use of cannabis and non refusal of housing.

HB1376, religious beliefs in public accommodations, religious exemptions; conflict with federal law; testify on this bill.

HB1502, unfair practice for any employer who provides health insurance to employees as part of benefit package to not include contraceptive coverage.

SB 5374, judicial interpretation of law and other writings without deference to agency interpretation.

SB 5368, limiting the enforcement of administrative rules and policies.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:41AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Skinner  
Commission Clerk