



# Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

**July Commission Meeting**  
**July 10, 2023 | 12:00 PM**  
**Metro Conference Room**  
**2310 Parnell Avenue Fort Wayne, IN 46805**

**Meeting called by:**

Statutory Monthly Meeting

**Type of meeting:**

Commission Meeting on the first Monday of each month.

**Note taker:**

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director

**Metro Commissioners:**

Aisha Arrington, Chair; Tabitha Ervin, Vice Chair; Dorian Maples; Lana Keesling; Larry Wardlaw; Dr. David Lombard; and Tony Burrus

**Agenda:**

Call to Order  
Roll Call of Commissioners  
Reading of Minutes  
Office Report  
Old Business  
New Business  
Concerns/Comments from the Public  
Adjournment

**Call to Order/Roll Call:**

12:00 P.M.

**Commissioners Present:**

Arrington (in-person)  
Ervin (in-person)  
Keesling (virtual)  
Burrus (in-person)  
Wardlaw (in-person)

**Other Persons Present:**

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director  
Jenny Gosheff, Staff Attorney

- June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

## Office Report

### EEOC

#### Employment Case Processing (10/1/22 – 9/30/23)

**Intakes (by 9/30/23): 130 (contract number) 85 (current status)**

**Contract number of case closures by 9/30/23: 230**

- 129 No Probable Cause Cases
- 28 Settlements (\$103,374.12)
- 7 Withdrawals
- 1 Lack of Jurisdiction
- 6 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

### HUD

#### Housing Case Processing (7/1/22 - 6/30/23):

**71 Cases closed for Contract**

- 8 HUD Settlement
- 7 Lack of Jurisdiction/Withdraw/Admin
- 53 No Reasonable Cause
- 0 Withdraw after Resolution
- 1 Reasonable Cause
- 2 Judicial Closures

**13 Pending (Open being investigated)**

#### **Attended Events/Outreach:**

June 1, 2023: Director Quintana attended the monthly Mayor’s Commission on Domestic Violence, Rape, and Sexual Harassment meeting.

June 1, 2023: Senior Investigator Sorg and Director Quintana attended a meeting with City Utilities to discuss their Lead Service Line Replacement Program.

June 2, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart met with Racial Justice, Coordinator of the YWCA, to discuss possible collaboration in the future.

June 6, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart attended the GoToWebinar: Fair Housing Act- Common Violations and Solutions training.

June 7, 2023: Director Quintana presented the Equity for All Study to the Diversity, Inclusion, and Global YMCA committee.

June 13, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart and Staff Attorney Gosheff conducted a public accommodation training per a settlement agreement.

June 14, 2023: Senior Investigator Sorg, Staff Attorney Gosheff, and Director Quintana attended the HUD 2023 FHAP Funding Guidance meeting.

June 15, 2023: Director Quintana attended the Why are Black Mothers and Infants Dying presentation at the University of Saint Francis.

June 16, 2023: Senior Investigator Sorg attended the Work to Include monthly meeting.

June 16, 2023: Director Quintana presented on the Equity for All Study at the YMCA Emerging Leaders Experience. Investigators Benson and Kinchen also attended this conference.

June 20, 2023: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted fair housing training for new realtors at Upstar Upstate Alliance of Realtors.

June 20-21, 2023: Staff Attorney Gosheff and Director Quintana attended portions of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission annual conference.

June 21, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart and Staff Attorney Gosheff conducted anti-discrimination training per a settlement agreement.

June 27, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart attended the GoToWebinar: Fair Housing Act- Public and Common Use Spaces training.

June 27, 2023: Senior Investigator Barnhart conducted an anti-discrimination training per a settlement agreement.

June 28, 2023: All staff attended the annual staff meeting and team building event.

June 29, 2023: Investigator Kelsaw attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana webinar training on disability discrimination.

June 30, 2023: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted anti-harassment training at the Allen County Public Library.

#### **Personnel Issues:**

We currently have an open investigator position and are receiving applications.

#### **Budget/Calendar of Events:**

Director Quintana reviewed current budget status and went over calendar of events.

#### **Legal Update/Matters:**

**Mediations:** The Commission conducted one conciliation this month. This conciliation was successful.

#### **New Business:**

- **Fiesta Fort Wayne**  
\$250 – Information table  
Motion to approve: Commissioner Wardlaw  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Commission Vice Chair Ervin  
Approved unanimously.
- **Special meeting for budget approval**  
Director Quintana asked Commissioners for their availability in the month of July to be able to hold a meeting to approve the 2024 budget. Commissioners and Director Quintana discussed their availability and Director Quintana stated she can speak to Controller's office to see if we're able to approve the budget in our August meeting.
- **Current Case Age: 129.73**

#### **Old Business:**

#### **Concerns From the Public:**

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:35 pm**