

County Executive

of

Howard County, Maryland

Executive Order: 2019-03
Dated: February 11, 2019
Subject: Creating the Office of
Human Rights Review
Committee

WHEREAS, after his election, Howard County Executive Calvin Ball formed a Transition Team made up of committees of experienced community members to assist and inform his administration’s transition into office; and

WHEREAS, members were tasked with making recommendations to County Executive Ball regarding the full scope of county government, divided into ten issue areas; and

WHEREAS, the Transition Team identified current strengths, as well as opportunities for growth and issued its report in January of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Transition Team suggested the creation of a short-term work committee to further review the Office of Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Human Rights is responsible for administering and enforcing provisions of the Howard County Human Rights Law, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Investigating complaints of discrimination to determine whether a violation of the Howard County Human Rights Law has occurred; and
- (b) Attempting to eliminate violations of the Human Rights Law by conference, conciliation and persuasion. *Howard County Code Section 12-205*; and

WHEREAS, the Transition Team noted that a work committee “should focus on examining the underlying code that governs this area, case sourcing and the investigation process, and make recommendations on how the office can function as a model Civil Rights agency.” *Transition Team Report at p. 5*; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive wishes to follow the direction of the Transition Team and create an “Office of Human Rights Review Committee” (the “Committee”).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, that the Office of Human Rights Review Committee is hereby established.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the following individuals are appointed as members of the Committee:

1. Brandon Barrett
2. Zainab Chaudry
3. Regina Clay
4. Candace Dodson-Reed
5. Ian Kennedy
6. Vivian Lawyer
7. Ying Matties
8. Gabe Moreno
9. Sangeetha Struck

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the duty of the Committee shall be to:

- (1) Examine County Code provisions that govern the Office of Human Rights as set forth in Title 12, Subtitle 2 of the Howard County Code;
- (2) Look at case sourcing and the investigation process in order to make a recommendation as to whether the current process is the most efficient process that yields the most just results;
- (3) Make recommendations on how the Office of Human Rights can function as a model Civil Rights agency; and
- (4) Issue a final report to the County Executive by March 15, 2019.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Candace Dodson-Reed shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Committee may meet as subcommittees from time to time, as needed.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Committee shall cease to exist on June 1, 2019 and the terms of the Committee members shall expire on June 1, 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 11th day of February, 2019.



Calvin Ball
County Executive