



JHRC COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, February 12, 2013
12:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present:	Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.	Sherry Murray
	William "Casey" Bulgin	Daniel "Dan" O'Connor
	Cristina "Tina" Comstock	Wilette M. Stanford
	Crystal Freed	Michael B. Stovall, Jr.
	Susan Harthill	Cindy Watson
	Kenneth "Ken" Middleton	Dottie Wilson
Commissioners Absent:	Leonardo del Rosario, MD	Michael Wachholz
	Dane Grey	Alvin G. White, Ph.D.
	Michele L. A. Rollins, Esq.	
Staff Present:	Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director	Wayne McGovern, EO/EA
	Linda Grant-Hunter, Assistant Director	Joan Dolbear, Executive Secretary
	Michael Wedner, Attorney IV	

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Walette Stanford, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Stanford called for a moment of silence and led the Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Parvez Ahmed to approve the summary of the Minutes from January 8, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Casey Bulgin and approved.

IV. Special Presentation

A. Human Trafficking

Commissioner Crystal Freed introduced two speakers who are involved with human trafficking in Jacksonville, Lt. Michael Eason, JSO and Todd Raleigh, Department of Children & Families (DCF).

Both presenters gave an overview on human trafficking from the perspective of law enforcement and child protective services. A person does not have to be transported for it to be human trafficking. The international trade is prevalent in Jacksonville. Juveniles who are forced into prostitution fall under the definition of human (sex) trafficking. There was a group running girls from construction site to construction site for the workers. There is also labor trafficking in Jacksonville. Victims of human trafficking are lured into it through promises of a better life; though many do not consider themselves to be victims. They live in deplorable conditions; however, it may not be deplorable to them. You will often find ten (10) people living in a one-room shack, which is better than sleeping on a dirt floor in their home country. The State of Florida is the third largest state in terms of human trafficking. The Jacksonville Sheriff's



Office has taken a proactive approach by providing training on human trafficking.

Florida just recently passed the Safe Harbor Act that went into effect on January 1, 2013. It allows law enforcement to make a judgment call on whether a teenager has been sexually exploited. If the officer feels this is the case, law enforcement can contact the Department of Children and Family (DCF) where the child may be placed in a short-term safe house if available. The Safe Harbor Act was not funded and there are only eleven (11) beds in Florida. More safe houses are needed. The safe house is a place where exploited children are provided with 24-hour staff supervision and will provide clothing, medical care, counseling by trained professionals and other crisis intervention services. The safe house can be operated by licensed foster or child care programs including runaway and homeless youth centers. A trust fund has been established, using the fines paid by the perpetrators, to pay for more safe house beds. Currently, the fine is \$500 but it was raised to \$5,000. DCF is working with law enforcement to provide training on how to identify and obtain services for exploited children. There are also other community awareness events being held to get the message.

V. New Business

Michael Wedner, Deputy Assistant General Counsel, stated for Commissioner to follow the Commission's Communications Policy. Rule 1-3 (13) (a)(b)(c)(d), when it comes to Bill 2013-86 - Reducing the Number of Commissioner and on all other matters pertaining to the Commission.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Community Relations

Commissioner Casey Bulgin, Committee Chair, stated the committee did not meet prior to this meeting. He stated there will be a Hate Crimes Working Group Panel Discussion on February 28, 2013. Registration is at 11:30 a.m. and the program runs from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, 921 N. Davis Street, Conference Center Bldg. E.

B. Employment Committee

In the absence of Commissioner Dane Grey, Committee Chair, Commissioner Susan Harthill, Committee Vice Chair, reported that the committee is looking at the City's Youth Summer Hire Program as an avenue to train the youth on the do's and don'ts of social media during its orientation and training program.

C. Executive Director & Staff Report

The housing staff attended a mandatory training given by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Charlotte, North Carolina. The training was on new guidelines for evaluating casework and updated the staff on things that are happening around the country that may impact local investigations.

This year the JHRC housing group will be going through a recertification from HUD.

Two externs with the JHRC from Florida Coastal School of Law, Shauncey Battle and Joshua Funk, introduced themselves to the Commission.

The City's Ombudsman Office is now sharing office space with the JHRC.



Ms. Hill introduced Mario Ernesto Decunto to the Commission. He has been appointed by the Mayor to be a Commissioner and is going through the City Council process for approval.

VII. Chair's Report

Commissioner Walette Stanford reminded the Commission of the exhibit at the MOSH.

VIII. Announcements

March 4, 2013 @ 3:00 a.m.Housing and Public Accommodation Committee Meeting
March 5, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.Employment Committee
March 6, 2013 @ 11:00 a.m. Community Relations Committee Meeting
March 12, 2013 @ 11:15 a.m.Executive Committee Meeting
March 12, 2013 @ 12:00 p.m. Commission Meeting

IX. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.



Upcoming Events

JHRC SPONSORED EVENTS		
Date/time/Location	Event	Contact
Saturday, April 6, 2013 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Location: Prime Osborn Convention Center	Fair Housing Symposium "Live Free: Removing Barriers"	Diane Ross 630-3419
JHRC SUPPORTED EVENTS		
Date/Time/Location	Event	Contact
Tuesday, April 18, 2013 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Location: UNF – University Center	Does Race (Still) Matter? – An Intergenerational Dialogue about Changing Perceptions on the Social Impact of Race	http://capricorn.anf.unf.edu/ticketing/racesymposium.asp Free e-tickets required for admission.
COMMUNITY EVENTS		
Date/Time/Location	Event	Contact
Thursday, March 14, 2013 7:00 p.m. University of North Florida Lazzara Performance Hall Free Event	Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Alphonse Fletcher University Professor at Harvard University and Director of the W.E.B Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research "Finding Your Roots"	E-tickets for this lecture are required and free to the public. To reserve tickets please call (904) 620-2117
Thursday, March 28, 2013 6:00 p.m. MOSH Bryan-Gooding Planetarium Free Event	Dr. Melissa Hargrove, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of North Florida "Through Our Eyes: Racing and Erasing Art"	Reservations are required. Visit www.themosh.org to register.
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 6:00 p.m. MOSH Bryan-Gooding Planetarium Free Event	Dr. Thomas Spelsberg, Geneticist, Mayo Clinic Rochester Geneticist and author of The Myth of Race "Racial Myths: What Does Our DNA Say?"	Reservations are required. Visit www.themosh.org to register