

OCT 17 1994

The White House  
Washington

FAX COVER SHEET

OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

Washington, D.C. 20500

TO: Carol Rasco

FAX NO: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: SCW DARNATH PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES: \_\_\_\_\_ COMMENT(S): \_\_\_\_\_

FYE - re: Civil Rights Working Group

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

17-Oct-1994 01:59pm

TO: Christopher F. Edley, Jr

FROM: Adrien L. Silas  
Office of Mgmt and Budget, TCJ

CC: Margaret R. Shaw  
Lori L. Victor  
Kenneth L. Schwartz  
Bradley W. Kyser

SUBJECT: Status of Civil Rights Working Group

Although we had not scheduled a working group meeting (pending reaction to the draft organizational memorandum), we can set one up now. I think that the organizational memorandum needs to be redrafted to reflect Deval Patrick's concerns.

We are more than a little under the gun this afternoon, as we are meeting with Ken Schwartz tomorrow afternoon for an initial review of the Director's materials. Would it be possible for me to redraft the memorandum and schedule the meeting immediately following the Schwartz review?

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

17-Oct-1994 03:00pm

TO: (See Below)

FROM: Christopher F. Edley, Jr  
Office of Mgmt and Budget, EG

SUBJECT: Civil Rights Schedule

Lori -- please start work on a meeting of the Civil Rights Working Group -- a principals' meeting.

Try to line up a date that works for Rivlin, Rasco and Reno. Silas can then circulate details to other participants. We want something in last week of October, or first week of November, if at all possible. Thanks.

## Distribution:

TO: Lori L. Victor

CC: Adrien L. Silas  
CC: Kenneth L. Schwartz  
CC: Bradley W. Kyser  
CC: Margaret R. Shaw  
CC: Stephen C. Warnath

10/27/94 15:42  
SENT BY:

10- 3-94 12:02PM :

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

**DRAFT**

*DRAFT*

*CAROL - AS FAR AS I KNOW THIS HAS NOT BEEN FINALIZE TO FORWARD TO YOU. BUT JUST SO YOU KNOW FOR YOUR MEETING W/ DEVAL, THIS IS THE DRAFT THAT HE + I SAW TO COMMENT UPON.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
CAROL RASCO

THROUGH: Alice M. Rivlin

FROM: Christopher Edley, Jr., Assoc. Dir., General Government & Finance DEVAL,  
Adrien Silas, Commerce-Justice Branch

SUBJECT: Proposed Organization of Civil Rights Enforcement Working Group

This is a proposal for the organization of the Civil Rights Enforcement Working Group, drawing upon discussions with Deval Patrick (DOJ) and Stephen Warnath (DPC). Please convey your reactions to Alice Rivlin or, through staff, to us.

**Issue Agenda and Structure**

The working group should begin its work by receiving a general briefing on enforcement issues and the agenda of the Civil Rights Division. The Civil Rights Division is finalizing its strategic plan, which will contain recommendations that will help the working group identify matters it might address.

Provisionally, we propose that the group initially address these issues by forming subcommittees composed of subcabinet appointees:

- **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964:** Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination by any program or activity receiving Federal assistance. Implementing regulations require each State and locality receiving Federal funds to certify that it is in compliance with all civil rights laws. The subcommittee, lead by the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, would explore strategies to improve compliance with the law.
- **Education from kindergarten through grade 12:** This subcommittee, led by the Education Department, would receive a briefing from the Civil Rights Division's section chief for education-related matters. The group would examine enforcement needs and strategies, especially those pertaining to equitable funding of public schools (K-12) and metropolitan school districts.

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These two subcommittees can be formed immediately. The working group would create new subcommittees as the need for them became apparent.

In addition to addressing Title VI and education-related civil rights matters the Working Group should work with existing inter-agency committees to further work on fair lending and youth employment discrimination. (The youth employment group is a few weeks away from a draft report.) It should also support the work of the White House group on access to capital issues. We also envision a role for the working group in helping address civil rights issues in conjunction with the inter-agency immigration working group. The working group as a whole would receive appropriate briefings and discuss the work of existing inter-agency civil rights committees, such as the working group on Housing Discrimination, chaired by HUD.

The assignment of appropriate agency representatives to the subcommittees will begin as soon as we receive your "go-ahead" and prior to the first meeting of the working group in its entirety.

## Initial Meeting

An initial meeting of the Working Group principals should be held by the end of October, if at all possible. The agenda for the initial meeting would include a general briefing on enforcement issues and on the Civil Rights Division.

The Presidential memorandum calls for the working group to submit its first report to the President by February 4, 1995.

**MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

**SUBJECT: CIVIL RIGHTS WORKING GROUP**

I am writing to you about our responsibility to promote equal opportunity for all Americans. We have accomplished much in our pursuit of a society in which all our people can achieve their God-given potential. But we still have a long way to go.

Americans believe that, in spite of our differences of race and religion and national origin, there is in all of us a common core of humanity that obliges us to respect one another and to live in harmony and peace. We must build on this belief and give real meaning to civil rights by tearing down all remaining barriers to equal opportunity -- in education, employment, housing, and every area of American life.

Throughout the nation, each of us must bring new energy to our efforts to promote an open and inclusive society. Those of us who are public servants have a special obligation. At the federal level, we will do this by re-evaluating the civil rights missions, policies, and resources of every agency, so that they carry out their missions in a manner consistent with the Administration's commitment to equal opportunity. In reviewing our activities, we must seek not only to eliminate barriers to equal access and opportunity, but also to identify opportunities for innovation. No federal office should be exempt from the obligation to further the struggle for civil rights. And every state and local government should be encouraged to do the same.

On January 17, 1994, I issued an Executive order establishing a President's Fair Housing Council to be chaired by

the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Working across agencies and programs, this Council will bring new focus and leadership to the administration of the Federal Government's fair housing programs. On February 11, 1994, I issued an Executive order directing agencies to develop strategies to identify, analyze and address environmental inequities that are the result of federal policies. That order will increase public participation in the environmental decision-making process.

In addition to these efforts, I believe more can be done to exercise leadership for civil rights enforcement. That is why I hereby establish a Civil Rights Working Group, under the auspices of the Domestic Policy Council, to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of federal civil rights enforcement missions and policies. The Civil Rights Working Group will identify barriers to equal access, impediments to effective enforcement of the law, and effective strategies to promote tolerance and understanding in our communities and work places. Most important, I expect the Working Group to develop new approaches to address these concerns.

The principal focus of the Working Group will be our civil rights enforcement efforts. We must recognize, however, that public and private enforcement resources will never be fully adequate to the task, and all of the remaining obstacles to opportunity cannot be removed through litigation alone. Therefore, I direct the Working Group to identify innovative strategies that can leverage our limited resources to provide new

avenues for equal opportunity and equal rights. Among those potential strategies are new measures relying on civil education and voluntary efforts to engage citizens in overcoming the effects of past discrimination. These new strategies should be designed to complement our improved and reinvigorated enforcement efforts.

The Attorney General and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget will co-chair the Working Group. The following Administration officials will serve as members: the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of the Veterans Affairs, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the head of the National Economic Council, <sup>DPC</sup> I also have invited the Chair of the Commission on Civil Rights to participate in this crucial endeavor on an informal basis, respecting the independent and critical voice we expect of that Commission. Finally, this membership list is not exclusive. I invite and encourage all Cabinet officers and agency heads to participate in the Working Group.

The Working group will advise appropriate Administration officials and me on how we might modify federal laws and policies

to strengthen protection under the laws and on how to improve coordination of the vast array of federal programs that directly or indirectly affect civil rights. I direct the Working Group to provide the Cabinet and me with a brief progress report no less than every six months, and specifically to:

- (a) examine each federal agency with a significant civil rights mission and provide me with an evaluation of how well that mission is being implemented. These analyses should examine whether each agency uses the experience gained from enforcement activities of other agencies and other levels of government. Counterproductive and inconsistent practices should be identified and proposals for change recommended;
- (b) examine cross-cutting civil rights law enforcement challenges such as voting rights and equal access to government benefit programs and identify innovative means of coordinating and leveraging resources;
- (c) develop better measures of performance for federal civil rights enforcement programs, taking into account the real impact of programs on the daily lives of all Americans; and
- (d) support and advise all agencies as we reinvent our strategies for the promotion of an open and inclusive society.

With this interagency effort, I underscore the commitment of this Administration to bring new energy and imagination to the opportunity agenda. In departments and agencies throughout the Federal Government, this work is already well underway. The Working Group will provide a mechanism to expand and accelerate that vital work. Its work will be among our greatest contributions to the people we serve.

FILE

Lunch - Deval  
Patrick

10/19/94

12:30-1:30  
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## CIVIL RIGHTS Working Group

Update 10/18 per Steve

- Little action over past few months
- No meetings
- OMB working on memo to start process.  
Expect it soon!?! - End of month
- Note: Report due in February.