

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Public Briefing

The Federal Role in Enforcing Religious Freedoms in Prison

May 17, 2024 | Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a briefing on, Friday, May 17, 2024, on whether prisoners' religious freedom rights are being protected and enforced in accordance with constitutional and statutory provisions. This is an update to the Commission's 2008 statutory enforcement report, [Enforcing Religious Freedom in Prison](#).

Specifically, the Commission will review the constitutional and federal statutory provisions of the First Amendment, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980 (CRIPA), the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1990 (RFRA), the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA), and the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA).

At this public briefing, the Commission will hear from subject matter experts such as government officials, religious leaders, academics, prisoners' rights advocates, religious liberty organizations, and legal experts. The Commission will accept written materials from the public for consideration as we prepare our report; submit to rfip@usccr.gov no later than Monday, June 17, 2024.

DATE:

Friday, May 17, 2024, 10 am – 5 pm ET*

LOCATION:

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 1150
Washington, DC 20425 (National Place Building F Street Entrance)

****The briefing will also be [live-streamed](#) on the Commission's YouTube page, virtual attendance is encouraged due to limited space.****

Open Comment Session (public testimony): Written comments submitted to rfip@usccr.gov by June 17, 2024.

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*Schedule subject to change

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