



NEWS RELEASE

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Human Rights Group to Hold Training Conference in Indianapolis

(Indianapolis, IN) - The Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies will hold its annual training conference August 22-25, 2017 at the Indianapolis Marriott East. The theme of the conference is **“Rebuilding and Sustaining Human and Civil Rights: Bringing Indiana Together through Education, Empowerment and Enforcement”**.

The conference will open on Wednesday, August 23. The opening session is entitled the “Indianapolis Civil Rights Movement: Where Do We Go from Here?” Conference presenters include: National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Indiana University McKinney School of Law, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Indiana Civil Liberties Union of Indiana, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana, Indian Affairs Commission, Indiana Civil Rights Commission, Indiana Latino Institute, Indiana Department of Transportation as well as consultants and state and local human and civil rights organizations.

On Thursday, August 24, civil rights activist Percy Green will be the keynote speaker at the dinner. Green has been involved in many civil rights cases including the landmark case *McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Green*. In 1968, Green filed suit against McDonnell-Douglas Corporation alleging that the McDonnell Douglas violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by refusing to accept Green for employment because of his involvement in civil rights activities and because he opposed practices that were unlawful under the law. The case was argued in front of the U.S District Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals, and in front of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court's decision was awarded to Green in a 9-0 vote.

The following individuals will also be recognized at the Annual Awards Dinner on August 24 at 7:00 PM.

- Alpha Blackburn will be awarded the Jonathan Comer Civil Rights Award
- Senator Greg Taylor will be awarded the Lugar/Bayh Human Rights Award
- Doris Carbins will be awarded the Frieda Dawkins Human Rights Award
- Amy Nelson will be awarded the President’s Award of Excellence

Dawn Cummings is immediate past president of the Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies. Cummings encourages civil rights practitioners, attorneys, social workers and community advocates to attend the conference in Indianapolis. “It is a critical time in civil rights enforcement. While there has been considerable progress, we cannot return to a time when civil rights was not a priority or extended to all people. This conference promises to be a candid conversation on the current state of civil and human rights in Indiana.”

Established in 1972, the Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies, is an organization of civil and human rights enforcement agencies from across the state. The group meets quarterly for training and to discuss statewide human rights policy issues. The association also holds a training conference annually. Currently there are 22 member organizations.

For more information send an email to Samantha.chenery@cityoffortwayne.org or visit online <http://annualindianaconsortium.eventbrite.com>. Registrations can be faxed to (260) 427-1126.

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