

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of Panel A
June 3, 2026
10:30 a.m.

Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 North LaSalle Street, Suite N-1000
Chicago, Illinois 60601

and

Jefferson Terrace
300 West Jefferson Street, Suite 108
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Via Webex

MINUTES

PRESENT

Commissioners:

Panel – Gregory E. Vaci (Panel Chair)
Demoya R. Gordon
Mony Ruiz-Velasco

Also Attending – Selma D'Souza (Commission Chair)
Jacqueline Y. Collins

Staff:

David R. Larson, Interim Executive Director and General Counsel
Claudia Ortega, Chief Financial and Human Resources Officer
Bonnie Kim, Deputy General Counsel
Emily Curosh, Assistant General Counsel
Jaz Park, Assistant General Counsel
Shantelle Baker, Administrative Assistant I
Bricia Herrera, Administrative Assistant I
Christine Welninski, Administrative Assistant I
Michelle Crayton, Private Secretary
Ceclia Torres, Office Coordinator
Brenna Colihan, Coles Fellow
Courtney Thomas, Coles Fellow
Sara Schecht, Coles Fellow

Members of the Public:

Oral Bennett
Michael Vernon
Tomas Ramirez
David Rothal
Deena Sanceda
Audrey Walling
Jerry Bauer

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

Panel A Minutes – June 3, 2026
Page 2 of 5

TG
Dr. Oluremi Ajala
Call-In User

I. Call to Order

A meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission Panel A was called to order on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. by Panel Chair Vaci.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*, it was determined that:

All three Commissioners were physically present at the meeting.

II. Minutes – May 6, 2026

Panel A adopted the minutes as submitted by staff. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

III. Requests for Review

- A. *Delphine Moss vs. Travelers Insurance Company*
Charge No.: 2023CA2952 ALS No.: 25-0228

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of Counts A, B, C, D, F, G, and H of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence and vacating the dismissal of Counts E, I, J, K, L, and M for further investigation. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- B. *Beverly Cantazaro vs. Vance Industries, Inc.*
Charge No.: 2024CF3232 ALS No.: 26-0118

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- C. *Beverly Cantazaro vs. Renee Lanam*
Charge No.: 2024CN3234 ALS No.: 26-0122

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

Panel A Minutes – June 3, 2026
Page 3 of 5

- D. *Derrick Coleman vs. Grundy County Special Education Cooperative*
Charge No.: 2025CF2088 ALS No.: 26-0124

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of Counts A, B, C, D, E, H, I, and J of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence and vacating the dismissal of Counts F and G and remanding the counts for a finding of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 2-1-0; Commissioner Vaci opposed.

- E. *David Odzer vs. Abbott Molecular Inc., and Abbott Laboratories International, LLC*
Charge No.: 2025CA1116 ALS No.: 26-0144

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of Count A of the Petitioner's charge for lack of jurisdiction and sustaining the dismissal of Counts B and C for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- F. *Beverly Cantazaro vs. Stephanie Rapp*
Charge No.: 2024CN3233 ALS No.: 26-0145

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

IV. Contested Matter

- A. *Michael Franklin vs. Panda Express*
Charge No.: 2023CP2311 ALS No.: 25-0118

Panel A considered the contested matter. Motion to decline review of the ROD made by Commissioner Vaci; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion failed 1-2-0, Commissioners Ruiz-Velasco and Gordon opposed. Motion to reverse the ROD and remand the matter to the same ALJ for damages hearing made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 2-1-0; Commissioner Vaci opposed. Motion to deny the Complainant's motion for a new judge made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

V. Motions

- A. Motion for Voluntary Dismissal
Crystal Thomas vs. Home Depot U.S.A., Inc.
Charge No.: 2024SP0889 ALS No.: 25-0427

Panel A granted the motion for voluntary dismissal, dismissing the case with prejudice. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

Panel A Minutes – June 3, 2026
Page 4 of 5

- B. Motion to Stay
Israel Montemayor vs. Lake Villa Library, Notary Service
Charge No: 2024CP3411 ALS No.: 26-0046

Panel A denied the motion. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- C. Amended Motion to File Additional Pages
Oluremi Ajala vs. Alex Auseon
Charge No: 2024CN2844 ALS No.: 26-0149

Panel A denied the motion. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- D. Amended Motion to File Additional Pages
Oluremi Ajala vs. Alex Auseon
Charge No: 2024CF2843 ALS No.: 26-051

Panel A denied the motion. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

VI. Settlements

- A. *Michelle Rizanovic vs. PMD Properties LLC, Annita L. Jackson, and Daniel A. Jackson*
Charge No.: 2026CH1372 ALS No.: 26-0211

Panel A approved the settlement agreement, and the Commission retains jurisdiction for the purposes of enforcement. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- B. *Heidi Vella vs. The Sanctuary of Lake Villa, GDB, LLC*
Charge No.: 2026CH1249 ALS No.: 26-0212

Panel A approved the settlement agreement, and the Commission retains jurisdiction for the purposes of enforcement. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- C. *Dorothy Fischer vs. Anthony James Minucci and Hannah Minucci*
Charge No.: 2026CH0468 ALS No.: 26-0217

Panel A approved the settlement agreement, and the Commission retains jurisdiction for the purposes of enforcement. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

VII. Public Comments

None.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

Panel A Minutes – June 3, 2026
Page 5 of 5

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Curosh
Assistant General Counsel
Illinois Human Rights Commission