STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Meeting of Panel A
September 2, 2026
9:00 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
Janice M. Glenn
Stephen A. Kouri II

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

Members of the Public:
Oral Bennett
Michael Vernon
Jerry Bauer
Deena Sanceda
Audrey Walling
Reivis Barileau
Deanne Medina
Alexandra Bruns-Smith
Armando Mojica

I. Call to Order

A meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission Panel A was called to order on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 9:00 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 – August 5, 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. *Olasupo Oladipo vs. Service Quick, Inc.*
Charge No.: 2025CF2028 ALS No.: 26-0209

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.

B. *Eric Dowdell vs. Vicostone USA d/b/a Stylequaza, LLC*
Charge No.: 2024CF3229 ALS No.: 26-0232

Panel A adopted the proposed order sustaining the dismissal of Counts C and D 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. *Heather Gossett vs. Vestpro, LLC*
Charge No.: 2026SH0424 ALS No.: 26-0242

Panel A adopted the proposed order vacating the dismissal of the Petitioner's charge and remanding the charge for further investigation. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

D. *Pamela Jones vs. Chicago Police*
Charge No.: 2024CF3676 ALS No.: 26-0243

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.

E. *Pamela Jones vs. Lewis Darling, Jr.*
Charge No.: 2024CN3677 ALS No.: 26-0249

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.

F. *Mike Cady vs. HOA Hotels LLC d/b/a Holiday Inn & Suites – East Peoria*
Charge No.: 2025SF3194 ALS No.: 26-0261

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

G. *Phyliss King vs. Knox County Health Department*
Charge No.: 2025CP2986 ALS No.: 26-0266

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.

H. *Deondra Alston vs. Genpro Energy Solutions, LLC*
Charge No.: 2025CF1990 ALS No.: 26-0270

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.

I. *Victoria Guzman vs. Steel Guard Safety Products*
Charge No.: 2025CA2079 ALS No.: 26-0284

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.

J. *Willie B. Thomas vs. City of O'Fallon*
Charge No.: 2024SP3621 ALS No.: 26-0289

Motion to add language that the claims are beyond the scope of the Act failed. 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 2-1-0; Commissioner Vaci dissented.

IV. Motion

A. Motion for Extension of Time to File Request for Review
Julia Selvie vs. Dream Town Realty and Mariusz Karnas
Charge No: 2025CH1126 ALS No.: 26-0380

Panel A granted the motion. The Petitioner is to file a request for review by October 1, 2026. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco. Motion carried 3-0-0.

V. Public Comments

None.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Ruiz-Velasco; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Curosh
Assistant General Counsel
Illinois Human Rights Commission