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# CIVIL RIGHTS NEWSLETTER

COLORADO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

312 State Services Building  
 Denver 3, Colorado

1525 Sherman Street

December, 1967

Area Code 303, 892-2621



## NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

At a recent meeting of the Commissioners of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, Mrs. Armando J. Sisneros assumed the Chairmanship of the Commission for the coming year. She succeeds Attorney Gerald M. Quiat who has served as Commission Chairman since September 1966.

Mrs. Sisneros was originally appointed to the Commission by Governor John A. Love in April 1963 and was re-appointed for another term in April 1967. She has been an active member of the Commission during her two terms.

A native of Walsenburg, Colorado, Mrs. Sisneros graduated from St. Mary's High School. She now resides in Denver with her husband and son Robbie.

Mrs. Sisneros has had considerable experience in the field of human relations, having served as a member of the Advisory Board of the Mayor's Commission on Community Relations and also served on the Lay Advisory Board of the Denver Public Schools.

### New Chairman Con't.

Besides serving as president for one of the largest Spanish-surnamed women's organizations in Colorado, The United Mother's Club, Mrs. Sisneros also served three terms as president of the Eagleton School P.T.A.

We are very pleased that Mrs. Sisneros has assumed the Chairmanship of the Commission. We know that under her guidance and leadership the Commission will make great strides in the area of human relations.



### NEW COMMISSIONER APPOINTED TO THE COLORADO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

On August 16, 1967, Governor John A. Love appointed Mr. Winford M. Griffin of Colorado Springs as Commissioner to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. Griffin fills the vacancy left by Larry Lee, who resigned as Commissioner due to his recent move to Hawaii.

Winford Griffin was reared in Iowa where he acquired his education and began his distinguished banking career. Through the years he has served with various government farm programs. He

was State Director of the Farm Security Administration (now Farm Home Administration) before organizing the Central Colorado Bank, and has been president of this organization since its inception in 1952.

Among his varied interests, Mr. Griffin includes memberships in the Garden of the Gods Club; Colorado Springs Country Club and the El Paso Club. He is a Director on the Board of St. Francis Hospital and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Benet Hill Academy. In addition, Mr. Griffin is active in the Urban League of Colorado Springs.

The staff and Commissioners of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission extend an enthusiastic welcome to Mr. Griffin and trust that our relationship will be a long and mutually rewarding one.

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### COLORADO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION OPENS BRANCH OFFICE

On September 11, 1967 the Colorado Civil Rights Commission opened its newest branch office. This office is located in the East Denver Action Center (the

Branch Office Con't.

old Glenarm YMCA Building) at 2800 Glenarm Place, Denver, Colorado 80205. Services offered by this office are taking and servicing complaints of racial discrimination in housing, public accommodations and employment, the three areas of Commission jurisdiction. Other services offered by this office are a counseling and referral service regarding violation of civil rights and problems of a legal nature. The office also functions as an employer-employee liaison center in employment referrals and announcements and job development.

The branch office is staffed with a secretary and the office manager, Clemith J. Houston, a Civil Rights Specialist.

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**NEW STAFF MEMBER  
JOINS COMMISSION**

Mr. Jim Nakayama joined the staff of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission as an Assistant Civil Rights Specialist on July 1, 1967.

Mr. Nakayama, retired Army Major, brings to the Commission staff a wealth of experience acquired in administrative positions while serving in the U. S. Army. Mr. Nakayama has also served in the employment of the Youth Opportunity Center and as a Supervisor of Education, with the Job Opportunity Center in Denver.



Jim was born in Washington State and completed his high school education in Sumner, Washington. He attended the University of Denver, 1946-47 and while serving in the armed forces attended San Antonio College and the University of Maryland. Mr. Nakayama received his BS degree from Denver University, and majored in Psychology and minored in Sociology. He also completed one year of graduate study at Denver University in 1963.

Mr. Nakayama is married to the former Chiz Kuga, has five children and resides at 12932 Elgin Place in Aurora, Colorado.

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**COMMISSIONERS ATTEND C.C.H.R. CONFERENCE**

All six Commissioners, the Director, the Assistant Attorney General and one staff member attended the 19th Annual Conference of Commissions for Human

Rights held in early July in Toronto, Canada.

The presence of such a large delegation from the Colorado Civil Rights Commission indicates a firm belief on the part of this Commission in the principals of C.C.H.R.

The Colorado delegation returned from Canada with commendable reports of the achievements of this conference.

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## HEARINGS

### Ogle vs. Denver Opportunity

On August 26, 1967, the Commission issued its order in the Ogle case dismissing the complaint following a hearing. Mrs. Ogle, a Negro, filed a complaint claiming she had been discharged from her job because of her race. As the hearing was expected to exceed one day, Lawrence J. Lee, a former Commissioner was appointed hearing examiner. A transcript of the hearing was submitted to Commissioners Piccoli, Quiat, Sisneros and Torres. They ruled that the complainant's allegations of discrimination had not been proved but that the staff of the Commission was to maintain a surveillance of the respondent to determine if there was a pattern or practice of discrimination.

### Pettigrew vs. Tyler

On September 28, 1967, the Commission held a hearing on a housing complaint filed by William Pettigrew, a Negro. Prior to the hearing an injunction proceeding against the respondent was commenced in the Denver District Court to prevent the respondent from renting the apartment in question to someone else. The suit was dismissed when the respondent agreed to stipulate that he would keep the apartment open until a hearing could be held by the Commission. The Commissioners found for the complainant and ordered the respondent to offer the apartment to the Pettigrews.

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## COLORADO URBAN LEAGUE OPENS NEW OFFICE

The Colorado Urban League this month opened its new Pikes Peak Branch Office at 23 East Pike's Peak Avenue in Colorado Springs. (634-5364, Area Code 303).

This office will provide service in the four basic areas that are covered in its main Denver office. Namely, employment, housing, education and health and welfare.

John S. Dolley is the executive director of this new branch office which is housed in the Buron's Building.

## COLORADO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS

In 1957 the Colorado Civil Rights Commission (Anti-Discrimination Commission) was brought into being as a separate and independent agency of State Government. The Commission was charged with enforcement of a Fair Employment Practices Act and given enforcement of the places of Public Accommodations Act which had been on the books since 1895.

Colorado, while not the first State to establish a Commission, was certainly one of the earlier States to do so and has since set a reputation nationally by its progressive laws and attitudes. Colorado was among the first in passing a Fair Housing Act in 1959 and took the lead in the powers amended into the act in 1965.

Realizing that changes have taken place in attitudes within the past ten years, in September the seven Commissioners and ten professional members of the staff and the Assistant Attorney General sat together for two days discussing the need for changes in direction the Commission takes to end discrimination and to refine its techniques for dealing with the problems of discrimination.

The Commission adopted a position that said in effect that it favored those policies and positions that would lead to its own demise by making equality of opportunity in all areas of public life a reality to all of Colorado's citizens.

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### COMMISSION OPENS NEW OFFICES

The effectiveness of the Colorado Civil Rights Commission is ever expanding because of a growing awareness of the functions of the Commission and the remedies available to the citizens who feel that they have been aggrieved under the law.

A new sub-branch office has been opened in the Southeastern part of the State in La Junta as a satellite from the Pueblo branch office. The Alamosa branch office has opened a sub-branch office in Monte Vista in Southwestern Colorado. Northern Colorado is being serviced out of the Denver office through a branch office in Greeley.

All three new offices will be operated on a one-day per week basis.

R E M I N D E R

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