



A Presentation of the  
Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice  
and the Civil Rights Division Association



# Voices of the Civil Rights Division, Then and Now

October 28 - 29, 2011



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*African American Voters Lining Up to Vote for the First Time in Rural Wilcox County, Alabama, After Passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965*

The "Voices" that will make up the program will be those of Civil Rights Division attorneys and staff members as well as other participants in the cases and events to be explored.



## Registration

**Friday, October 28:** By email invitation only due to space limitations. No charge.  
Plan to arrive at Justice Department by 1:00 pm.

**Saturday, October 29:** Public welcome. Fee \$50.00 (\$20.00 for students; fee waived on request).

# Voices of the Civil Rights Division, Then and Now

## Friday, October 28 | Great Hall, Department of Justice

- 1:30 pm Welcome and Introductions
- 1:45 pm Legacy of the Civil Rights Division of the 1960s
- Enforcement of Civil Rights in the Alabama Black Belt
    - The historic scene – the challenges confronting the Division and the Division's response*
    - The Selma/Montgomery March and the Liuzzo case*
    - The 1966 Dallas County election case*
    - The Selma field office and Wilcox County school case*
- 3:00 pm Civil Rights Division Today
- Highlights of the areas of civil rights for which the Division is currently responsible, illustrating the significant changes in the Division's jurisdiction that have occurred since the 1960s and methods now employed by the Division in carrying out its responsibilities
- 5:00 pm Wrap-Up: How the work of the Division today draws on the experience of the Division in the second half of the twentieth century
- Tom Perez**, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- 5:15 pm Light Refreshments

## Saturday, October 29 | Sidwell Friends School, 3825 Wisconsin Ave., N.W, Washington DC

- 8:30 am Light Breakfast
- 9:15 am Welcome and Introductions
- 9:30 am Mississippi – Voting Rights, "Freedom Summer," and the Neshoba County criminal case – Breaking the caste system
- Setting the Stage – **Bob Moses**, SNCC leader in Mississippi; **Taylor Branch**, civil rights historian
  - Reenactment of the closing arguments in the federal prosecution of Klan members charged with conspiracy in the deaths of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner
  - Panel discussion of the challenges faced in enforcement of civil rights in Mississippi in the 1960s, private and public responses to those challenges and the effects of the Neshoba County criminal case on the rule of law in the South
    - Moderated by: **Drew S. Days, III**, former Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 pm Guided Conversation with **John Doar**, former Assistant Attorney General and First Assistant, Civil Rights Division, by **Owen Fiss**, former attorney, Civil Rights Division
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm Expansion of the Division's Priorities to Include Sex Discrimination
- The historic scene – State "protective" statutes restrict women's work and sex stereotypes limit job opportunities in major industries and protective services
  - Early Division cases
    - Rhode Island Pregnancy Act case*
    - Executive Order 11246 case against Whitney bank*
  - Litigation to stop sex discrimination by police and fire departments
  - Military service school cases and Virginia Military Institute
- 4:15 pm Concluding Remarks

### Questions

For Friday's event: Kathy L. Anderson @ [kathy.anderson3@usdoj.gov](mailto:kathy.anderson3@usdoj.gov), or 202-598-2345

For Saturday's event: Alexander C. (Sandy) Ross @ [mross161@comcast.net](mailto:mross161@comcast.net), or 703-567-5579