



County of Onondaga  
Office of Diversity and Inclusion  
Onondaga County/Syracuse Human Rights Commission

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## ONONDAGA COUNTY/SYRACUSE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION NOTES

February 19, 2025, ONONDAGA COUNTY/SYRACUSE HRC Session

\_Hassina Adams  
\_Liam O'Connor  
\_Leo Sanchez  
\_Paul Harvey

\_Agnes McCray  
\_Lauren Rosenstein  
\_Roosevelt Baums  
\_H. Bernard Alex (**HRC CHAIR**)

**Absent:** Commissioners Leo Sanchez and Hassina Adams.

**Present:** Commissioners H. Bernard Alex, Liam O'Connor, Roosevelt Baums, Paul Harvey, Agnes McCray, Lauren Rosenstein.

**County staff present:** Montanette Rocker present. Williams and Heard not present.

### Welcome and Introduction

**Opening:** In-person session began at 5:40 at the Central Library Branch on S. Salina St.

**Report from ODI admin:** Montanette gave an update on new commissioners joining the HRC: Mary Grace A. Almandrez and Duane L. Reese II. Gave an update on NAF's community roundtable regarding ICE and immigration and "Know Your Rights" discussion. Commissioner Adams can give an update at the next HRC meeting. Paul Harvey gave an update about the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District's Diversity group's meeting being rescheduled to February 26, 2025.

**Discussion:** Commissioners discussed recent news stories on immigration and how actions at the federal level are affecting immigrants and migrants in Onondaga County. Commissioners questioned whether ICE was dispatched to local hospitals and the ramifications of those actions. Commissioners discussed information publicized by NYCLU. Commissioners discussed attending local Naturalization ceremonies. Commissioners would discussed issuing statements on Human Rights issues that happen in Onondaga County, specifically the suicide of a transgender veteran earlier this year.

### Follow up:

Commissioner Alex gave an update on the Solvay Union Free School District's request for guidance on a matter. District plans to defer to another state entity to handle a recent incident. Commissioners planning for International Human Rights Day 2025.

**Meeting session ended at 7:15 p.m.**

*Notes submitted by Montanette Rocker on February 28, 2025*