



Raul Torres
Executive Director

September 10, 2026

Minutes of July 9, 2026
Human Rights Commission
James J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

Human Rights Commission

Curtis Porter, Chairman
Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair
Ramunda Young, Parliamentarian
William A. Johnston, III
Padreus D. Pratter
Benjamin Baldwin
Kimberly Sparkes
Victoria D. Staubly
Russell Young

MINUTES

Chair

Curtis O. Porter

Vice Chair

Evelyn BruMar

Parliamentarian

Ramunda Young

Members

William Johnston

Kimberly Sparkes

Padreus D. Pratter

Victoria D. Staubly

Benjamin Baldwin

Russell Young

Present: Commissioners: Chair, Curtis O. Porter; Vice Chair, Evelyn BruMar; William Johnston; Russell Young; Benjamin Baldwin; Victoria D. Staubly; Padreus D. Pratter; Director, Raul Torres; and Assistant Director, Shelia Venning.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Citizens Time

- There were no citizens present.

Old Business

The minutes of the June 11, 2026, meeting were approved (BruMar moved/Baldwin seconded).

New Business

- No new business

Committee Reports

Jail Board

- The next Jail Board meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2026. Due to a scheduling conflict that evening, Director Torres will collect the meeting minutes directly from the Board and present a report at the September meeting.

Director's Report

- The week of July 13th we will begin interviewing for the vacant investigator position. We have secured a contractor investigator to work on a as needed basis.
- The HRO is on track to close 34 employment cases which is our contractual obligation with EEOC by September 30, 2026.
- The Office of Executive Management has announced the creation of the Performance Management Office. Led by Director Chris Watkins, this three-person team will collaborate with all county agencies to establish and evaluate performance metrics aligned with the county's newly adopted Strategic Plan.
- On June 7, 2026, Commissioner Russell Young attended a two-hour Ordinance Training session held at the Human Rights Office.
- *Prince William Magazine* has published the second installment in its series on the Human Rights Office. The third article will highlight the office language access initiatives and its approach to serving community members with limited English proficiency.
- On June 16, 2026, the office hosted a webinar titled Empower Your Voice: Advocating for your Disability Rights in the Workplace for individuals with disabilities. Following the webinar we distributed a newsletter on disability rights. To ensure broad community accessibility, all event materials and communications were distributed in both English and Spanish.
- The office is in the process of developing a quick-reference outreach guide.
- A motion was approved to extend the following cases for one year. (Baldwin moved/BruMar seconded)
 - 570-2025-02625: July 11, 2025, open date, appealed July 15, 2026
 - 570-2025-02352: Under Investigation, August date
 - 570-2025-02433: Under Investigation, August date
 - 570-2025-03107: Trying to Mediate
 - 10E-2025-00015: Under Investigation

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Padreus D. Pratter – Commissioner Pratter shared research highlighting that on this date in 1868, the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was officially ratified. The amendment serves as a foundational protection against discrimination, enshrining the principle that all individuals are created equal and entitled to equal protection under the law.

Victoria Staubly – Commissioner Staubly reported enjoying her participation in the Dale City Fourth of July parade and shared that she will be driving to West Virginia later this month to meet her first great-niece or nephew.

Ben Baldwin – Commissioner Baldwin shared that his son is turning 13. Jokingly he shared this may be the reason he seems a bit more tense.

Russell Young – Commissioner Young invited everyone to attend the Dumfries Fourth of July celebration on Saturday. The event will begin between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM, followed by a fireworks display starting around 9:00 PM or 9:30 PM.

William Johnston – Commissioner Johnston shared his opinion on the Supreme Court, offering strong praise for Justice Thomas while expressing criticism toward Justice Jackson regarding her statements about Justice Thomas in a birthright citizenship case

Evelyn BruMar- Commissioner BruMar updated the commission about the new laws that came into effect July 1st.

- Pay Transparency: Employers must disclose salary ranges to applicants before hiring.
- Housing & Evictions: Landlords may initiate eviction proceedings after 14 days.
- Civil Rights: The statute of limitations for filing discrimination complaints in Virginia has been extended to two years.
- Firearms & Public Safety: Guns are prohibited in hospitals, with expanded restrictions in state buildings. Safety rules require firearms to be locked or secured in a container when minors are present.
- Expungement / Clean Slate: Certain felony records can now be sealed to expand employment opportunities.
- Traffic Safety: Live-streaming while driving is prohibited. Speeding violations may result in required speed-tracking devices.
- Paid Family Leave: Phased implementation begins with full rollout anticipated by 2028.
- Cannabis Regulation: Licensed retailers may sell to adults 21 and older under enhanced regulatory oversight.

Commissioner BruMar also invited the commission to the following event;

- July 10 (6–9 PM): Open House & Facility Tour
- Upcoming Saturday: Screening of *Two Eyes* (Indigenous LGBTQ+ documentary)
- July 18 (12–4 PM): Birthday Donation Drive (Hygiene products, non-perishable food, and foundation gifts)

Chair Porter – Chair Porter reported ongoing discussions with the newly formed Richmond Human Rights Commission to bring Northern Virginia Commissioners together.

Key outreach and media initiatives were also presented:

- The African American Festival will be held on August 1 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with members urged to attend. Media promotion will include a FOX5 appearance on July 27 at 11:45 AM and a planned radio interview on WHER.
- The 5th Annual Community Fair (Police Department) will take place on September 12 to foster positive engagement between residents and law enforcement.

Additionally, it was noted that despite the summer recess in August, the Racial & Social Justice Task Force will convene on the second Thursday of August at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR JULY 2026**

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	5	2	
Housing		1	
Public Accommodation			
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			61