

November 1, 2011

The Honorable Chai R. Feldblum  
United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
131 M Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20507

**Re: Administrative Conference Sunshine Act Study**  
***Board/Commission Member Survey***

Greetings:

I write to request your response to a survey regarding the impact of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (“the Sunshine Act” or “the Act”) on interactions between members of Executive Branch boards and commissions. As the attached letter from the Honorable Paul R. Verkuil, Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States (“ACUS”), indicates receiving responses to this survey is crucial to this important ACUS project.

ACUS is an executive branch agency re-established in 2010 to assist in improving the federal government’s administrative processes through applied research and development of nonpartisan expert advice and recommendations. Its membership consists of high-level federal officials, private sector experts, and leading scholars of diverse views and backgrounds. For more information about the Conference, please visit <http://www.acus.gov/about/>. As Chairman Verkuil notes in his letter, ACUS has played a central role in studying the Sunshine Act and providing advice on compliance.

The survey consists of 25 yes/no and multiple-choice-type questions and can be answered quickly from your personal experiences and perceptions. The questions should not require any research. Some questions seek or give you the opportunity to explain or elaborate upon your answers. The survey is answerable in 30-40 minutes, particularly if you are brief in any textual explanations of your answers. (Of course, should you choose to take more time and provide longer explanations that would be welcome.)

The link for the survey, which is on the Survey Monkey website, is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sunshineboardmembersurvey>. The easiest way to complete the survey is to follow the above link, do the survey on the Survey Monkey website and then use that website to submit your responses. (I’m willing to send you a copy of your responses should you complete the survey through Survey Monkey.) The survey could also be completed by completing the PDF version accompanying this letter, printing it out, and then emailing, faxing, or mailing it to me. I have provided a Word document that will allow those using the PDF version to provide answers that exceed the space provided by the text boxes.

Please complete the survey by December 9, 2011.

If you opt for confidentiality on the survey form, your responses will reported only as a part of aggregated data and any use of any narrative responses you offer will not be attributed to you. ACUS cannot ensure that your responses may not be disclosable in response to a FOIA request.

In case you are interested, a brief version of my biography can be found at <http://law.newark.rutgers.edu/our-faculty/faculty-overview/faculty-profiles/bernard-w-bell>.

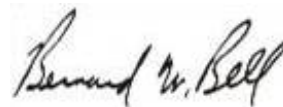
If you do not submit your answer directly through Survey Monkey, you can transmit it to me via email to [bbell@kinoy.rutgers.edu](mailto:bbell@kinoy.rutgers.edu), via fax at 973-535-1445, or via mail or delivery service to

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Finally, if you have any questions, please call me at 973-353-5464 (or email me at [bbell@kinoy.rutgers.edu](mailto:bbell@kinoy.rutgers.edu)).

If there are sufficient responses to this survey, you may be very interested in the results, as I suspect you may sometimes have wondered whether the interactions between members at other agencies resemble or differ from the interactions you have experienced at your agency. And needless to say a successful survey will provide very valuable data for government officials, scholars, and other experts for some time to come.

Very truly yours,



Bernard W. Bell  
Professor & Herbert Hanoach Scholar  
Consultant, Administrative Conference  
of the United States