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GOVERNOR PATRICK ANNOUNCES NEW CHAIR AND NEW MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION**Appointments Bolster Commonwealth's Chief Civil Rights Agency**

BOSTON - Wednesday, December 5, 2007 - Governor Patrick has named Malcolm S. Medley, a recent appointee to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD), as the Commission's new Chairman. With the designation of Medley as chair, Sunila Thomas-George, currently Acting Chief of Enforcement at MCAD, has been appointed to the vacant seat. "Malcolm Medley's broad experience and knowledge will be invaluable as he takes the helm of the Commonwealth's chief civil rights agency," said Governor Patrick. "I am proud that he will be joined by Sunila Thomas-George whose own extensive work at the Commission as a supervising attorney will bring additional professionalism and sound judgment to the Board. Both these appointments will ensure that we as a Commonwealth continue to strive to protect the rights of all the citizens of Massachusetts."

Medley is a Boston lawyer whose practice focuses on representing individuals in federal and state courts and at administrative agencies in cases involving discrimination based on race, age, disability and ethnicity. He is also a trained arbitrator and member of the American Arbitration Association Commercial and Employment Arbitrators roster. Medley previously served as a Special Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Boston School Department from 1993 to 2000, playing a key advisory role in cases involving discrimination, student school assignment criteria and school desegregation and staffing court orders. Medley also served as Legal Counsel at OneUnited, the largest black-owned bank in the country, from 2001 to 2004. OneUnited profitably serves urban communities in Massachusetts, California and Florida that were previously viewed as "un-bankable." Medley graduated from Northeastern University in 1989 and Boston University School of Law in 1992.

Sunila Thomas-George has been an attorney with the Commission since 1997 serving in a number of capacities. During her ten years at the Commission, she was Acting Chief of Enforcement, Supervising Attorney of the Enforcement Advisors Unit, Supervising Attorney of the Attorney Assisted Unit, and a commission counsel. She managed a staff of attorneys and worked closely with the Commissioners, the Chief of Enforcement and the General Counsel on substantive and procedural issues before the Commission. She also assisted in drafting the MCAD Disability and Sexual Harassment Guidelines. She has been a Certified Trainer in Discrimination and Harassment Prevention since 2001. Thomas-George has been the recipient of a number of awards including the Executive Branch Award for Excellence in Government Legal Services in 2004 and the Manuel Carballo Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Service in 2001. She graduated from Wheaton College in 1991 and Western New England College School of Law in 1995.

The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination is the Commonwealth's chief civil rights agency. The Commission works to eliminate discrimination on a variety of bases and areas, and strives to advance the civil rights of the people of the Commonwealth through law enforcement, outreach and training.

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