ADA ANNIVERSARY UPDATE: 31 YEARS

ADA Audio Conference Series
July 20, 2021

SPEAKERS

Sharon Rennert, Senior Attorney Advisor, ADA/GINA Division Office of Legal Counsel

Amanda Maisels, Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Section, U.S. Department of Justice
North Dakota Settlement Agreement (December 2020)
- Adults with physical disabilities in nursing facilities
- 8 year agreement, statewide
- Will ensure that adults with physical disabilities can receive community-based services instead of entering or remaining in nursing facilities
- Affects more than 2500 individuals

Maine Settlement Agreement (June 2021)
- Young man with intellectual disabilities
- Maine's Medicaid waiver limited the hours of services in his home, but not in congregate care settings.
- Maine will change policy on the cap for in-home services
- Pay $100,000 in damages to complainant
**CHILD WELFARE**

**Massachusetts Department of Children and Families Settlement Agreement** (November 2020)

- First DOJ settlement addressing discrimination against parents with disabilities by a state child welfare agency
- Complaints from parents with physical, hearing, developmental, and other disabilities
- DCF denied requests for reasonable modifications, failed to provide interpreters to individuals with hearing disabilities, and otherwise denied parents with disabilities an equal opportunity
- New Parents With Disabilities Policy
- No decisions based on generalizations or stereotypes

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Amtrak Settlement Agreement** (December 2020)

- Ensures equal access to Amtrak stations across country
- Over 10 years, Amtrak will design 135 accessible stations, construct 90, and have 45 more under construction
- $2.25 million settlement fund
- File complaints at civilrights.justice.gov/report
TRANSPORTATION

Accessible Pedestrian Signals in Chicago and New York (April 2021)
- U.S. intervened in suit against Chicago, 99% of Chicago’s intersections lack APS
- Statement of Interest filed in New York, addresses remedy for lack of access to signalized crossings and pedestrian grid

VOTING

Newton County, Arkansas Settlement Agreement (June 2021)
- Polling place accessibility – parking areas, pathways, ramps, barriers inside
- No working accessible voting machines
- Make voting program accessible, including selecting locations, surveying for accessibility, using temporary accessibility measures, providing accessible voting machines, ADA coordinator
Statement of Interest in A.V. v. Douglas County (D. Colo.) (June 2021)

- 11 year old child with autism sued his school district and the sheriff’s office after School Resource Officers aggressively handcuffed and detained him
- child scratched a classmate with a pencil after the classmate wrote on him with markers
- ADA applies to law enforcement, and reasonable modifications are required
- Public entities are liable under Title II for actions of employees
Questions?

Please use the Q&A section to submit your questions.

DO NOT post questions in the Chat box.

July ADANN 30th Anniversary Session

Webinar: Chat with the Directors past and present in Celebration of the 30 Years of the ADA National Network
Thursday – July 22, 2021
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM [Eastern Time]

Register & More:
www.ada-audio.org
Next Session:
Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Accessible Autonomous Vehicles (Avs)

Registration available at: www.ada-audio.org