

ADA ANNIVERSARY UPDATE: 31 YEARS

ADA Audio Conference Series
July 20, 2021



1

1

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

2

2

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) UPDATE

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

Sharon.Rennert@eeoc.gov

July 20, 2021



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION UPDATE JULY 2021

AMANDA MAISELS
DEPUTY CHIEF, DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AMANDA.MAISELS@USDOJ.GOV

ADA.GOV

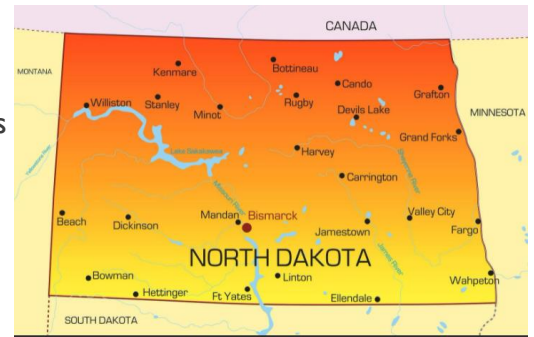




OLMSTEAD

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 that 2500 individuals



5

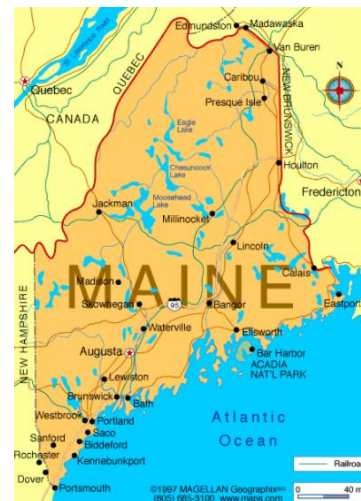
5



OLMSTEAD

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



6

6



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



7

7



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



8

8



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



9

9



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



10

10



LAW ENFORCEMENT

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



11

11



ADA.GOV BETA SITE

ADA.gov BETA
U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division

Questions about the ADA?
Talk to us at 800-514-0201 | 800-514-0203 (TTY)

Home ADA Topics File a Complaint Give Us Feedback

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects people with disabilities from discrimination.

Disability rights are civil rights. From voting to parking, the ADA is a law that protects people with disabilities in many areas of public life.

Help us improve ADA.gov
We're working to make ADA.gov more user friendly. We've launched this beta site to share our work in progress. Let us know how we're doing so far.

Share feedback

How can we improve this site?

beta.ada.gov

Please share your feedback!

12

12

Questions?

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

DO NOT post questions in the Chat box.

13

13



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



14

14



ada Audio Conference Series

Next Session:
Tuesday, August 17, 2021

**Accessible Autonomous Vehicles
(Avs)**

Registration available at: www.ada-audio.org

15