



Disability and Guardianship Project Disability and Abuse Project

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August 16, 2018

Superior Court of California
for the County of Sacramento
Executive Office
720 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Administrative Complaints for Violations of Title II of the ADA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and California Government Code Section 11135

To the Court:

With this letter I am submitting to the Superior Court two complaints for its review. The complaints are filed by Spectrum Institute and other organizations on behalf of individuals and classes of people who, due to orders of this court, are required to participate in probate conservatorship cases. Because of the nature and extent of their disabilities, they are unable to file complaints for disability discrimination on their own – either individually or collectively.

Regulations promulgated by the Department of Justice to implement Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and similar provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require a public entity such as this court to receive and process administrative complaints that call the court's attention to policies and practices that are not in compliance with the mandates of these federal laws. A directive from the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing – the state civil rights agency that enforces Government Code Section 11135 and the ADA provisions it incorporates – instructs people to file complaints with the state entity that is alleged to be violating those provisions.

The two complaints advise the court of policies and practices that are violating these state and federal nondiscrimination laws. They ask the court to voluntarily correct the problem within 60 days so that it will be unnecessary for formal complaints to be filed with DFEH.

We look forward to a prompt review of the complaints and a speedy and equitable resolution of the problems they bring to the court's attention.

Yours truly,

Thomas F. Coleman
Legal Director