

JoAnn Edwards
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Human Rights Commission
333 Market St., 8th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2210

Greetings, JoAnn:

I thank you for providing the leadership necessary to ensure the PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION continues to enforce state laws that prohibit discrimination in employment, housing and, most important to me and HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College, education through the Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act.

I salute you, the Commission's executive director, and the team you lead in educating the public in order to prevent discrimination and foster equal opportunity and address incidents of bias that may lead to tension between racial, ethnic and other groups. I, especially, want to thank you and your team for responding in a timely manner to resolve the frivolous complaints brought against the College over the past couple of years in a fair and objective manner. From what I am told, until you became the executive director, it could take months if not years to resolve some of the complaints lodged against the College by many disgruntled former employees.

I commend you and your team for conducting yourselves in a professional, non-partisan manner during the transition of Governors and in light of the limited resources your agency has received as of late. With less staff and resources, I admire how you have been able to motivate and inspire your team to conduct themselves professionally. I sincerely hope the Commonwealth will recognize the important role the Commission performs and reward them accordingly.

I want to congratulate you and your team for creating a thoughtful three-year strategic plan to guide the Commission's work and priorities. From what I and the HACC community has experienced since your appointment four years ago, we look forward to learning how you exceeded the three goals of this plan to educate and prevent unlawful discrimination for all Pennsylvanians.

As Pennsylvania's civil rights leader, I strongly support the work you and your team are doing on a daily basis to ensure all Pennsylvanians will live, work, and learn free from unlawful discrimination. Please let me know how I and/or HACC may add value to your efforts.

Sincerely,

John J. "Ski" Sygielski
President