



2201 Old Ivy Road
PO Box 400406
Charlottesville VA 22904-4406

434.982.2974 *voice*
434.982.4528 *fax*
millercenter.virginia.edu

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Contact: Lisa Todorovich

Tel: (434) 243-4096

Fax: (434) 924-2739

ltodorovich@virginia.edu

Former President Carter Convenes First Public Hearing of the National Commission on Federal Election Reform

Washington, D.C. — March 20, 2001 Former President Jimmy Carter will preside over the first public hearing of the National Commission on Federal Election Reform, to be held at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia on March 26, 2001, beginning at 10 a.m. Carter and former President Gerald Ford are honorary co-chairs of the Commission. The hearing is open to the public and the media.

The hearing will feature panels of distinguished Americans who will share their views on a wide range of election reform issues. A full, updated list of witnesses is available on the Commission's website, <http://www.reformelections.org> and on <http://millercenter.virginia.edu> and <http://www.tcf.org>. Live and on-demand webcasts of the hearing will be available from these websites as well. Witnesses who have already agreed to testify at this hearing include:

- Asa Hutchinson, U.S. Congress (R-Ark.)
- Cathy Cox, Georgia Secretary of State
- Robert Irvin, Minority Leader of the Georgia Legislature
- Mark Pritchett, executive director of Florida Governor Jeb Bush's bipartisan Task Force
- Susan MacManus, University of South Florida
- Deborah Phillips, Voting Integrity Project
- William Boone, Clark Atlanta University
- Jack Rakove, Stanford University
- Alex Keyssar, Duke University
- Ruth Mandel, Rutgers University
- Larry Sabato, University of Virginia

This public hearing in Atlanta is only the first of four public hearings at presidential libraries across the country. The calendar of public hearings follows:

- April 12 at the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley, CA

- May 24 at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin, TX

- June 7 at the Gerald Ford Library in Ann Arbor, MI

Seats at the Cecil B. Day Chapel in The Carter Center for the March 26th hearing are available on a first come, first serve basis. Press accreditation and badging will begin at 9:00 a.m. Doors open to the public at 9:30 a.m. Media are asked to pre-register via e-mail to medwards@virginia.edu or by fax at (804) 982-2739 by 5:00 p.m., Friday March 23.

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