

The Springfield Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations and the Missouri Association of Social Welfare Human Rights Task Force will co-sponsor a public forum titled "Police Profiling and Preventive Policing: How to Provide Better Public Safety by Building Public Trust."

This event is scheduled for 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 10, at the Earl L. Barkley Auditorium in the City Utilities Training Center, which is located just north of the CU Main Offices located at 301 E. Central St.

Panel members participating in the forum will include: Yolanda Lorge, President of Grupo Latinoamericano; H. Wes Pratt, Chairperson of the local NAACP Legal Redress Committee; Mark Struckhoff, Executive Director of Council of Churches of the Ozarks; and Paul Williams, Springfield Police Chief.

The keynote speaker will be David A. Harris, professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Dr. Harris studies, writes and teaches about police behavior and regulation, law enforcement, and national security issues and the law. His book, "Profiles in Injustice: Why Racial Profiling Cannot Work," and his articles addressing traffic stops of minority motorists and stops and frisks, has influenced the national debate on profiling and related topics.

He has testified three times in the U.S. Senate and before many state legislative bodies on profiling and related issues. His book, "Good Cops: The Case for Preventive Policing," uses case studies from around the country to show that citizens need not trade liberty for safety; they can be safe from criminals and terrorists without sacrificing their civil rights if law enforcement uses strategies based on prevention. Dr. Harris conducts professional training for law enforcement, judges, and attorneys throughout the country, and presents his work regularly in academic conferences.

Dr. Harris has appeared on The Today Show, Dateline NBC, National Public Radio, and has been interviewed by the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Los Angeles Times, among many others.

This forum, as well as previous meetings in Jefferson City, Columbia and St. Louis, have been made possible by a grant from the Sparkplug Foundation to the Missouri Association for Social Welfare Human Rights Task Force.

For additional information, please contact Carol Zablocki, Chairperson of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations, at (417) 864-1038, or via e-mail [czablocki@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:czablocki@springfieldmo.gov).