

Institutional History of FCS Governmentwide Leadership & Coordination Role

1970-1974

Federal Programs Section (FPS) Created

By 1970, the Federal Program Section was 1 of 8 major CRT sections organized by subject matter and statutes. Key functions: assuring uniformity of regulations and procedures; providing legal advice to agencies on the interpretation and application of Title VI; actively reviewing the enforcement programs of the agencies and developing recommendations for improvement; litigating to enforce Title VI on referral by the agencies; and undertaking compliance review of DOJ recipients and at the request of other agencies.

Executive Order 11764

FPS responsibilities broadened with signing of EO 11764 in 1974, and a Coordination Unit was established to provide "continuing technical assistance and program guidance" to the federal agencies.

1965

Civil Rights Division directed to provide leadership on Title VI

Executive Order 11247, signed just after passage of the Civil Rights Act, directs the AG to lead the federal agencies' implementation of Title VI. Responsibility initially delegated to Special Assistant for Title VI in CRT. In addition to litigation, CRT provides legal "counseling to the compliance agencies on a day-to-day basis."

1979

MOU between LEAA & CRT

MOU memorializing info sharing and cooperation between LEAA (OJP predecessor) and CRT on investigations under Title VI and related statutes published in Fed. Reg. Primary responsibility for investigation rests with the agency that received the complaint. Later MOUs are not mentioned on this timeline.

1980

Executive Order 12250

Signing of Executive Order 12250, Leadership and Coordination of Nondiscrimination Laws.

Renamed Coordination & Review Section (COR)

COR was created by merger of portions of the Federal Programs Section and the Sex Discrimination Task Force.

1992

Some disability functions removed

After passage of the ADA in 1990, COR was the focal point of DOJ's legislative and regulatory development and technical assistance efforts. After creation of the Public Access Section in 1992, COR lost some disability-related responsibilities and staff, but COR retained administrative enforcement, investigation, interagency governmentwide leadership and coordination duties.

2000

Responsibilities broadened by Executive Orders 13166 and 13160

Signing of EO 13166 on language access to federal and federally assisted programs and activities. COR assigned governmentwide leadership and coordination responsibility for more than 85 federal agencies. For example, COR leads effort to review LEP recipient guidance, populates resource clearinghouse www.LEP.gov, and drafts TA documents for agencies and recipients.

Signing of EO 13160, prohibiting discrimination in federally-conducted education and training programs. COR assigned interagency implementation responsibilities for more than 85 federal agencies.

1995

Title VI & Title IX Focus

The Department reorganized CRT and refocused COR on its Executive Order 12250 responsibilities. The Disability Rights Section was created and expanded to include responsibility for all disability related work. Some COR staff was transferred to DRS. Going forward, COR focused on Title VI, Title IX, and related program statutes. Toward the end of this period, COR developed and published the Title IX Common Rule and Title VI joint amendments for more than 20 federal agencies.

2010

Renamed Federal Coordination & Compliance Section (FCS)

Renamed the Federal Coordination and Compliance Section in part to more accurately capture the Section's administrative enforcement role with respect to both DOJ-funded entities and other agencies' dockets.

2010-2017

For over 50 years, CRT has maintained a center of expertise for Title VI and related authorities. Although the office name has changed over time, the work that FCS does has remained remarkably consistent because of its vital role in ensuring expert legal analysis and consistency among federal agencies' application of the federal funding civil rights statutes in the administrative context.