



February 2, 2012

As you may know, I was recently appointed by Governor Malloy as the State ADA Coordinator. Consistent with the law and past practice, I am developing information concerning the state's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act as well as the state's interaction with persons with disabilities.

There are, of course, a number of state agencies whose areas of authority and responsibility include a variety of programs and services to persons with disabilities. The Office of Protection and Advocacy is the primary agency responsible for assuring that persons with disabilities are represented in matters in which their ADA rights are implicated.

My focus will be on the efforts of the agencies of the Executive Branch and how state agencies accommodate employees and clients with disabilities, including issues of access and communications. I do not anticipate overlapping or impinging in any way on the authority or responsibility of any other state agency. My hope is that we will be able to be a point of contact for discussion and communications generally within state government on these issues and that we will be able to assist in resolving issues that may arise in the context of state employees or agency clients with disabilities.

We have begun the outreach process to the various stakeholders around the issues of concern to persons with disabilities. Toward that end, we would like to begin to understand what concerns you may have in terms of the state government's overall ADA compliance and in terms of issues of concern to state employees or state clients who have disabilities.

Please feel free to contact Attorney Jeffrey Beckham in my office at (860) 713-5195, Jeffrey.beckham@ct.gov, with any information, questions, or concerns you may have or if you would like to schedule a meeting to discuss matters of concern to state employees or state clients with disabilities.

Thank you for the important work that you do. I look forward to working with you on these issues.

Sincerely yours,

Donald J. DeFronzo