

## Tom Coleman - Spectrum Institute

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April 9, 2018

Honorable John M. Gore  
Acting Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division -- Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Gore,

As we wait for the DOJ to issue guidance to state courts about the application of the ADA to guardianship proceedings, we continue to educate state courts by filing complaints with them about the denial of access to justice to people with disabilities involved in these proceedings.

The enclosed complaint to the Supreme Court of Texas is our most recent activity of this nature. (<http://spectruminstitute.org/Texas/>) Previously, we filed a similar complaint with the Supreme Court of Missouri (<http://spectruminstitute.org/Missouri/>) Having received no response, we have written to the Chief Justice, reminding him that a public entity with 50 or more employees has a duty under federal regulations issued by the DOJ to process complaints or grievances about ADA noncompliance in its policies or practices. A complaint to the Washington Supreme Court (<http://spectruminstitute.org/Washington/>) did receive an appropriate reply from the Chief Justice. That court is investigating the complaint as required by these federal regulations.

Please share the enclosed booklet with DOJ attorneys monitoring ADA complaints against state courts and with staff who are working on guidance to these courts for guardianship proceedings as directed by Section 505 of S. 178. This complaint is being sent to the DOJ for information purposes only at this time. We hope that the filing of a formal complaint against the Supreme Court of Texas will not be necessary. Voluntary action by that court to secure ADA compliance in the guardianship system is preferable.

Very truly yours,



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ecc: Elizabeth Johnson, Disability Rights Section