

DISABILITY RIGHTS Connecticut, INC. (DRCT)

is

OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

What is Disability Rights Connecticut?

DRCT is an agency designated by Governor Malloy to succeed the former Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (P&A) when it closed on July 1, 2017. Unlike P&A, which was a state agency, DRCT is a non-profit organization independent of state government.

Mission

We advocate, educate, investigate and litigate to advance and protect the civil rights of citizens with disabilities to participate equally and fully in the social and economic life of Connecticut.

How can Disability Rights Connecticut help you?

As with the former Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, **our purpose is to safeguard and advance the civil and human rights of people with disabilities in Connecticut.** We are now part of a nationwide network of “protection and advocacy systems” and we will operate under federal statutory mandates. In addition to conducting investigations, educating policy makers, and challenging discriminatory barriers in court, we can help individuals with disabilities understand and exercise their rights. When you contact us, we will give you information about disability rights, refer you to experts and resources, empower you in your advocacy efforts and provide representation consistent with DRCT’s mandates, priorities and resources.

DRCT can be contacted on a variety of issues including, but not limited to:

- Housing
- Special education
- Rights in treatment facilities
- Accessibility of buildings, programs and services
- Troubleshooting problems with human services
- Employment and vocational rehabilitation

See Other Side

- Transportation and handicapped parking
- Legal and human rights
- DRCT will also participate in community outreach projects, including training and consumer empowerment initiatives, and will work with other disability groups on systems advocacy strategies, including efforts to educate legislators and other policy makers.

Staff and Board of Directors

Staff: DRCT is working to build its staff during the summer of 2017. Currently, there are three staff members: Executive Director, Legal Director and an Advocate.

Board of Directors

Officers

Win Evarts, President
Molly Cole, Treasurer
Gina Teixeira, Secretary

Directors

Melissa Marshall	Nyema Pinckney
Sheldon Toubman	Daria Smith
Maryann Guerra	Tom Behrendt

Contact Information

DRCT's temporary office is located at:

**University of Connecticut Center for
Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
270 Farmington Avenue, Suite 181
Farmington, CT 06030**

(860) 679-1546

**DRCT will maintain the toll-free number formerly used by the Office
of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities.**

1 (800) 842-7303 (voice/TTY)

Information can be requested by email at Info@disrightsct.org