



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: The Vermont Truth & Reconciliation Commission

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### **VTRC Will Hold a Special Meeting of Emblematic Cases Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm**

Montpelier, VT Monday, November 27, 2023 – The Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission (VTRC) is pleased to announce its first emblematic case meeting. The VTRC will review these cases to help it build and structure the work.

The VTRC is examining emblematic cases within Vermont to help shape the thematic foundations that will steer the work outlined in Act 128. The commission defines "emblematic," as cases that symbolize and embody the Act 128 mandate, but also resonate with the mission. The mission was voted on and passed in the last public meeting.

“We are excited about involving the public in this preparatory stage of work. It is a necessary part of the process of uncovering the issues that people are experiencing in their every-day lives,” said Mia Schultz, VTRC Commissioner.

The VTRC will host several special emblematic case meetings over the coming months and is encouraging community organizations and individuals who would like to submit emblematic cases to send them via email.

Act 128 communities will be centered in this work including: Native American or Indigenous; individuals with a physical, psychiatric, or mental condition or disability and the families of individuals with a physical, psychiatric, or mental condition or disability; Black individuals and other individuals of color; and individuals with French Canadian, French-Indian, or other mixed ethnic or racial heritage. Though this is not the time to receive testimonies, the VTRC recognizes the valuable input that the public will have in the building and planning of the commission’s strategic plan.

“These emblematic cases are crucial for guiding our work and for making sure that the work is community-focused and community-led...The VTRC is excited for the public to join this process,” states Adam Kersch, VTRC Lead Researcher.

Commissioners Mia Schultz and Melody Mackin will preside over this public meeting. Adam Kersch and Michele Olvera will present cases that they have researched and examined. Attendees will have the chance to listen to the intricacies of our work.

An ASL interpreter will be present. If there is a need for a language other than English, free language assistance services. Please visit the VTRC’s [Language Services page](#) under “Resources” in the website for more information or reach out to us directly at VTRC [VTRC@vermont.gov](mailto:VTRC@vermont.gov).

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Click here to join the public teams meeting here: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): [+1 802-828-7667](tel:+18028287667), [332172643#](tel:+1332172643) United States, Montpelier

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For public or media inquiries and updates, contact the Commission at [VTRC@vermont.gov](mailto:VTRC@vermont.gov).  
Please visit our website at [Home | Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#) to view up-to-date meeting dates, agendas, and public meeting minutes.