**Section 310.10 Authority and Purpose**

a) Authority

 The Human Rights Authority exists as a division of the Guardianship and Advocacy Commission created by the Guardianship and Advocacy Act [20 ILCS 3955], and shall consist of as many regional authorities as the Commission may see fit to appoint pursuant to Section 5(a) of the Act.

b) Purpose

 Each regional authority shall investigate all nonfrivolous complaints within its authority and competence alleging that the rights of an eligible person have been violated and *may conduct investigations upon its own initiative if it has reason to believe the rights of a person have been violated* (Section 16 of the Act). For purposes of this Part criteria for investigation will include but not be limited to violations of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code [405 ILCS 5], the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act [740 ILCS 110] and the Nursing Home Care Act [210 ILCS 45].

(Source: Amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 13029, effective August 21, 2000)