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ADA
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Civil Rights Division
Disability Rights Section – 1425 NYA
Washington, D.C. 20530

To Whom IT May Concern,

I reside in Macon County, Alabama. I am a 20-year disabled Navy veteran who served the Marine Corps on firing ranges as support and a shooter for 10 of those 20 years. I retired in 1986.

The VA has furnished me with a pair of hearing aids.

Too often during official county business meetings, my county commission does not have an adequate public address system for the citizens to hear their remarks. Most recently, the meeting on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 6 pm I am not certain if any person in the room heard everything spoken. I always sit in the front row and wearing my hearing aids I have at times had to request the commissioners to speak louder. At earlier meeting, I asked an elderly woman sitting behind me if she could hear and her response was "no." A 67- year old citizen informed me "I cannot hear a damn thing they say."

Monday evening's meeting had the acting chair, Commissioner District 1, Miles Robinson, Commissioner District 4, many of the staff employees, and people in the audience were making comments to the effect, "I can't hear you", "Please repeat that," and "what" before and after the noisy air conditions were shut off.

The commissioners often speak among themselves requiring me to inquire, "What did Commissioner xxx say?"

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I have called for many times to turn on and up the public address system along with their individual poor quality microphones. It appears to me, they set to a standard of their choice as contrasted to checking with us in the audience.

As a veteran with a hearing loss and on behalf of the two mentioned citizens, I respectfully request this department take remedial action by notifying Chairman Louis Maxwell, Macon County Commission, 101 E. Rosa Parks Ave., Tuskegee, AL 36083 to the obligation of providing equal accommodations for those with disabilities.

The remedial action should include a quality public address system in the Annex asking if individuals can hear at the beginning of every meeting and a portable public address system for when the county comes into the county for the district monthly meetings as they did this past Monday evening.

Respectfully,

Frank Dillman