



**Lilian Sotolongo Dorka** is the Director of EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO), within the Office of General Counsel. ECRCO is responsible for enforcing several federal civil rights laws which, together, prohibit discrimination on the basis of: race, color, or national origin (including on the basis of limited-English proficiency); sex; disability; and age by applicants for and recipients of financial assistance from EPA. ECRCO works diligently to ensure that the protection of human health and the environment is a reality for all persons in the United States, regardless of race, national origin, language ability, disability, sex or age.

As of December 2016, EPA reorganized the functions of the formerly Office of Civil Rights (OCR) with respect to its external civil rights compliance function. This external civil rights enforcement function now resides organizationally within ECRCO, which is located in EPA's Office of General Counsel.

Lilian joined EPA in December, 2014 as the Deputy Director of EPA's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and became the Acting Director of OCR in June, 2016. In this former capacity, Lilian also had responsibility for leadership and management of EPA's internal civil rights programs, including EEO, Affirmative Employment and Reasonable Accommodations.

Prior to coming to EPA, Lilian worked for the US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights since 1987, where she served in various legal, management and public relations and press capacities, including most recently as the Senior Counsel to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights for over 10 years. In addition to her work to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students, she was a voting member of ED's IT Investment Review Board Working Group, and one of the founding members of the Education Department's Hispanic Employees Council.

Lilian has been working in the civil rights enforcement arena for over 30 years and considers it her life's work. Lilian was born in Cuba and came to the United States at the age of six. She began her American education experience in Union City, NJ, as an "English learner" herself, and with very little support. She received her BA degree in political science and English literature from the University of Miami, Miami FL, and her JD from the Catholic University School of Law, Washington, DC.