

Testimonial of Beverly K. Couch

“Thomas Newkirk is a committed, enthusiastic, passionate and heroic civil rights attorney. I never thought I would have a need for a civil rights attorney until I was discriminated against by the State of Iowa, Iowa Workforce Development.

My case involved IWD’s failure to hire me for over 100 positions, as well as IWD’s use of a Customer Service Exam, which was known to discriminate against African Americans. Tom agreed to take my case only three months prior to the date the case was set for trial. Tom took a risk by taking my case so late in the game. He spent countless hours away from his family to fight this long battle with me, when in fact, he could have turned me away.

In preparing for the trial for my case, Tom uncovered evidence of discrimination against African Americans in hiring and promotions with the State of Iowa, which has now turned into a class action which has the potential to involve 1000+ African Americans in this State. Because of Tom’s dedication, hard work and tireless hours, Tom was able to obtain for me a favorable judgment.

In working with Tom on my case, I realized that he is excellent, proficient, organized, fast-paced, and most of all caring, for the rights of African Americans and others whose civil rights have been violated.”