§ 703.2 Functions.  
Under the Commission’s charter each Advisory Committee shall:

(a) Advise the Commission in writing of any knowledge or information it has of any alleged deprivation of the right to vote and to have the vote counted by reason of color, race, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or that citizens are being accorded or denied the right to vote in Federal elections as a result of patterns or practices of fraud or discrimination;

(b) Advise the Commission concerning matters related to discrimination or a denial of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution and the effect of the laws and policies of the Federal Government with respect to equal protection of the laws;

(c) Advise the Commission upon matters of mutual concern in the preparation of reports of the Commission to the President and the Congress;

(d) Receive reports, suggestions, and recommendations from individuals, public and private organizations, and public officials upon matters pertinent to inquiries conducted by the Advisory Committee;

(e) Initiate and forward advice and recommendations to the Commission upon matters that the Advisory Committee has studied;

(f) Assist the Commission in the exercise of its clearinghouse function and with respect to other matters that the Advisory Committee has studied;

(g) Attend, as observers, any open hearing or conference that the Commission may hold within the State.

§ 703.3 Scope of subject matter.  
The scope of the subject matter to be dealt with by Advisory Committees shall be those subjects of inquiry or study with which the Commission itself is authorized to investigate, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1975(a).  Each Advisory Committee shall confine its studies to the State covered by its charter.  It may, however, subject to the requirements of § 703.4, undertake to study, within the limitations of the Act, subjects other than those chosen by the Commission for study.

§ 703.4 Advisory Committee Management Officer.  
(a) The Chief of the Regional Programs Coordination Unit is designated as Advisory Committee Management Officer pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Public Law 92–463, as amended).

(b) Such Officer shall carry out the functions specified in section 8(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

(c) Such Officer shall, for each Advisory Committee, appoint a Commission employee to provide services to the Committee and to be responsible for supervising the activity of the Committee pursuant to section 8 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.  The employee is subject to the supervision of the Regional Director of the Commission responsible for the State within which said Committee is chartered.

§ 703.5 Membership.  
(a) Subject to exceptions made from time to time by the Commission to fit special circumstances, each Advisory Committee shall consist of at least 11 members appointed by the Commission.  Members of the Advisory Committee shall serve for a fixed term to be set by the Commission upon the appointment of a member subject to the duration of Advisory Committees as prescribed by the charter, provided that members of the Advisory Committee may, at any time, be removed by the Commission.

(b) No person is to be denied an opportunity to serve on a State Advisory Committee because of race, age, sex, religion, national origin, or disability.  The Commission shall encourage membership on the State Advisory Committee to be broadly diverse.

§ 703.6 Officers.  
(a) The officers of each Advisory Committee shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and such other officers as may be deemed advisable.