



VINCENT C. GRAY MAYOR

June 25, 2014

The Honorable Phil Mendelson Chairman Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504 Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 201 of the Rental Housing Act of 1985, effective July 17, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-10; D.C. Official Code § 42-3502.01), which established the Rental Housing Commission, and in accordance with section 2(e)(19) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979, D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(e)(19), I am pleased to nominate the following individual for reappointment:

Peter Szegedy-Maszak 5050 MacArthur Boulevard, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016 (Ward 3)

as a member of the Commission for a term to end July 18, 2017.

Enclosed you will find all biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, along with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Darryl Gorman, Director, Office of Boards and Commissions, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

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Chairman Phil Mendelson at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on ______.

To confirm the re-appointment of Peter Szegedy-Maszak to the Rental Housing Commission.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Rental Housing Commission Peter Szegedy-Maszak Confirmation Resolution of 2014".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the re-appointment of:

Peter Szegedy-Maszak 5050 MacArthur Boulevard, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016 (Ward 3)

as a member of the Rental Housing Commission, established by section 201 of the Rental Housing Act of 1985, effective July 17, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-10; D.C. Official Code § 42-3502.01), which established the Rental Housing Commission, and in accordance with section 2(e)(19) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979, D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(e)(19), for a term to end July 18, 2017.

- Sec. 3. The Secretary to the Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, each to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.
 - Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

PETER SZEGEDY-MASZAK

PROFILE

Highly accomplished administrative law judge and attorney. Extensive knowledge of federal and local statutes, regulations and case law governing the practice and procedures of administrative law. Significant management-level experience in the successful representation of government agencies, private commercial and corporate interests, and non-profit institutions and service providers in a variety of major administrative and legislative proceedings related to real estate and economic development, landlord-tenant and housing regulation, zoning and land use planning, and public-private business partnerships. Exceptional organizational, oral communications, legal writing and research skills. Adept at the fair and efficient conduct of complex judicial proceedings. Highly effective skills in mediation, consensus-building and securing pre-hearing negotiated settlements in sharply contested legal disputes.

CAREER EXPERIENCE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RENTAL HOUSING COMMISSION - Washington, DC

Chairman
October 2011 - present
Commissioner
December 2007 - October 2011

Appointed as Commissioner twice by Mayor Adrian Fenty, and once by Mayor Gray, with unanimous confirmations by the City Council, as one (1) of three (3) Commissioners on the Rental Housing Commission established by the Rental Housing Act of 1985, as amended, as an appellate tribunal for landlord-tenant cases arising under the Act. Appointed by Mayor Gray to be Chairman of the Commission in November 2011. Since January 2011, reduced case backlog from 107 cases to 32, or by more than 67%. Reduced time periods for case processing to final orders by 60%. Authored over 75 Final Decisions, dispositive Final Orders, and general orders on a variety of motions. Drafted numerous regulations for the administration of the Act by the Commission and Rent Administrator. In recognition of achievements, nominated and selected as Finalist for 2012-2013 Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Awards for Distinguished D.C. Government Employees.

MARIA de KORNFELD FAMILY TRUST - Washington, DC

Legal Counsel

February 2005 - November 2007

Selected by Trustees of prominent family charitable and testamentary trust to provide legal advice and real estate consulting services regarding sale and residential development of 25,000-square foot property located in Washington, DC.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL — Washington, DC

<u>Senior Counsel, Special Committee on a Comprehensive Housing Policy</u> March 2004 - January 2005

Appointed by Co-Chairmen Adrian Fenty and Harold Brazil as senior counsel to special committee with oversight jurisdiction over the Comprehensive Housing Strategy Task Force, which was appointed for policy recommendations for the development of affordable and market-rate housing to attract new residents. Provided legal advice and drafted legislative options to implement recommendations for agencies in the economic development cluster.

BOW RIVER RANCH PARTNERSHIP - Washington, DC

General Counsel

January 1983 - February 2004

For closely-held, family corporation with 2,000- acre ranch located in Calgary, Alberta, appointed as chief counsel in all business and real estate operations. Successfully negotiated and closed numerous contracts, including leases, partnerships, television production agreements, and sales agreements for majority interests in ranch.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF ADJUDICATION - Washington, DC

Acting Administrative Law Judge

May 2002 - December 2002

Selected on contract to hear critical cases arising under the DC Rental Housing Act of 1985, as amended. Selected by Chief Judge to mediate complex landlord-tenant cases, with 90% success rate. Assisted ALJ's in drafting final decisions. Drafted settlement agreements in 12 cases.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL - Washington, DC

Senior Counsel, Economic Development Committee

December 2001 - April 2002

Appointed by Chairman as senior counsel to standing committee with legislative oversight over executive agencies in the economic development cluster. Retained specifically to review, analyze and make recommendations regarding fiscal year budget and new program proposals by the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development. Drafted proposed legislation for public-private financing and land use incentives for the development of affordable housing.

ARNOLD & PORTER - Washington, DC

Special Counsel in Real Estate Practice Group

June 1997- September 2001

Selected by highly reputed, national law firm to develop and implement a local administrative and land use component for a real estate practice representing major corporate and commercial clients in variety of projects. Successfully represented clients in a wide variety of administrative and legislative proceedings, requiring extensive negotiation, documentation, advocacy and communications skills. Responsible for developing a high profile zoning, environmental and historic preservation practice before DC administrative

agencies. Appointed to blue-ribbon government task forces on regulatory reform in DC agencies, including City Council legislative advisory committee.

OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA - Washington, DC

Assistant Corporation Counsel - Real Estate and Economic Development
December 1986 — June 1997

Selected for senior-level position in section of Office of the Corporation Counsel (OCC), responsible for land use and economic development cases. For ten years, appointed and served as chief legal counsel and advisor for major DC administrative agencies, including the Zoning Commission, the Office of Planning and the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). Prepared highly regarded analysis of requirements under DC's Administrative Procedures Act for client agencies. Successfully represented HPRB in multi-million dollar lawsuit regarding the former Gallinger Hospital. Successfully represented the Department of Housing and Community Development in over \$75M of economic development transactions, including loans, sales, and development agreements. Received several outstanding service awards.

STEWART AND STEWART - Washington, DC

Associate Attorney
April 1986 - December 1986

Retained by international trade firm to develop and service corporate real estate and commercial practice. Successfully closed variety of commercial transactions for clients.

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, KOGOD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - Washington, DC

Adjunct Professor, Real Estate Finance, Real Estate Program January 1985 — June 1992

Selected to teach undergraduate and MBA courses in real estate finance and land development.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION - Washington, DC Director of Real Estate

February 1984 - April 1986

First senior real estate executive selected by pre-eminent, national nonprofit to generate income from extensive national real estate holdings. Initiated and administered real estate acquisition, disposition, leasing and development programs at historic properties with cumulative revenue over \$2 million.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS - Washington, DC

Appellate Judicial Clerk for the Honorable James A. Belson August 1982 - January 1984 Following very competitive recruitment process, selected by highly respected jurist as one of only two judicial clerks on basis of writing, research and interpersonal skills. Researched and drafted over 40 published opinions and memorandum judgments.

RYERSON POLYTECHNICAL UNIVERSITY - Toronto, Ontario, Canada Professor, Urban and Regional Planning Department August 1974 - August 1979

As youngest applicant, selected by academic administration for tenure-track teaching position. As tenured faculty member, consistently awarded highest faculty achievement and university service honors for quality of undergraduate teaching and applied research.

EDUCATION

NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE, Reno, Nevada

Certification, 2009 — Civil Mediation (Advanced certification received from the American Bar Association — October 2009)

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, Washington, DC

LL.M., 1998 - Intellectual Property, Entertainment and Sports Law Course Emphasis: Entertainment, Copyright and Telecommunications

Juris Doctor, 1982 Member, National Administrative Law Moot Court Team

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, Chapel Hill, NC

Masters of Regional Planning, 1974 Mellon Foundation Fellow

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, South Bend, IN

Bachelor of Arts, Government, magna cum laude, 1972 (Honors Program)

AWARDS

Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Awards for Distinguished D.C. Government Employees: Selected as one (1) of 15 Finalists for 2012-2013 Award from over 275 nominees. Recipient of Certificate of Excellence in recognition of exemplary service.

Member: DC Bar, American Bar Association. Married, no children. Hobbies: golf, collecting sports memorabilia, reading, pro bono activities, music, photography and travel.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since 1986, I have worked for more than 15 years with the executive and legislative branches of the D.C. government as, respectively, a senior staff attorney, legislative committee counsel, administrative court judge and appellate judge. In 2008, I began my tenure as a Commissioner on the Rental Housing Commission (Commission) as a nominee of Mayor Fenty. I was re-nominated by Mayor Gray, who also appointed me Chairman in October 2011.

My leadership since 2011 has resulted in the following accomplishments:

- 1. Reduction of the case backlog (i.e., cases awaiting either hearings or issuance of final decisions) from 107 cases to 33, or by approximately 68%)
- 2. A reduction of 30 45 days in the Commission's processing of a case between its filing and the issuance of a final decision.
- 3. Initiation of an innovative Case Settlement and Mediation Program, allowing parties the option to settle their cases before undertaking appeals to the Commission. Four major cases have been settled, with a number of others in settlement negotiations.
- 4. Initiation of an expedited review and revision procedure for proposed amendments to the Rental Housing Act of 1985 and/or its regulations.
- 5. Initiation of a revised case assignment procedure according to which the Chairman assigns to each Commissioner (for preparation and issuance of a decision) both newly heard case(s) and case(s) in the backlog for at least two years.
- 6. Initiation of customer service procedures designed to assist litigants, by assuring timely responses to questions and provision of information about Commission operations and case status, with particular focus on assistance to pro se parties in their appeals.
- 7. Initiation of regular meetings with senior management of stakeholder agencies like the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Office of Administrative Hearings, and with interested City Council members and staff.
- Initiation of productive budget negotiations with DHCD and the Office of the Attorney General, successfully leading to Commission's hiring of two staff attorneys.

- Initiation of participation in externship programs at several local law schools, resulting in retention of three student interns as judicial clerks for the summer and/or fall terms.
- 10. Significant improvement in staff morale, teamwork and productivity and in client satisfaction.

I have authored final decisions in a number of cases, including the following:

REID v. WEINSTEIN, TP 28,010 (RHC April 7, 2008)

PINNACLE REALTY MGMT v. DOYLE, TP 27,067 (RHC June 30, 2008)

WASHINGTON COMMUNITIES v. JOYNER, TP 28,151 (RHC July 22, 2008)

TENANTS OF 710 JEFFERSON STREET, N.W. v. LONEY, SR 20,089 (RHC (Sept. 3, 2008)

BORGER MGMT, INC. v. LEE, RH-TP-06-28,854 (RHC March 6, 2009)

HAWKINS v. JACKSON, RH-TP-08-29,201 (RHC Aug. 31, 2009)

1773 LANIER PLACE, N.W. TENANTS' ASSOCIATION v. DRELL, TP 27,344 (RHC Sept. 9, 2009)

McCaster v. Capitol Park Towers Co., RH-TP-07-29,043 (RHC Feb. 26, 2009)

TENANTS OF 1940 BILTMORE STREET, NW v. SISTER RULE PROPERTIES LLC, RH-SR 07-20,110 (RHC Feb. 4, 2011)

<u>WALDRON-LADSON v. GELMAN MGMT. CO.</u>, RH-TP-09-29,813 (RHC Feb. 25, 2011)

MINOR v. ATKINSON, RH-TP-06-28,827 (RHC May 5, 2011)

MUNONYE v. HERCULES REAL ESTATE SERVICES, RH-TP-07-29,164 (RHC July 7, 2011)

SINDRAM v. TENACITY GROUP, RH-TP-07-29,094 (RHC Aug. 18, 2011)

HAGO v. GEWIRZ, RH-TP-07-28,898 (RHC Aug. 18, 2011)

BARNES-MOSAID v. ZALCO REALTY, INC., RH-TP-08-29,316 (RHC Sept. 28, 2012)

AHMED v. AVILA, RH-TP-28,799 (RHC Oct. 29, 2012)

UNITED DOMINION MGMT CO. v. HINMAN, RH-TP-06-28,728 (RHC June 5, 2013)

WILSON v. KMG MGMT, LLC, RH-TP-11-30,087 (RHC July 24, 2013)

DEJEAN v. GOMEZ, RH-TP-07-29,050 (RHC Aug. 15, 2013)

WATKIS V. FARMER, RH-TP-06-28,749 (RHC Aug. 15, 2013)

UNITED DOMINION v. KELLY, RH-TP-06-28,707 (RHC Aug. 15, 2013)

UNITED DOMINION v. RICE, RH-TP-06-28,749 (RHC Aug. 15, 2013)

BARAC CO., v. TENANTS OF 809 KENNEDY ST., RH-VA-02-107 (RHC Sept. 27, 2013)

BECKFORD v. DREYFUSS, RH-TP-07-28,895 (RHC Sept. 27, 2013)

UNITED DOMINION v. COLEMAN, RH-TP-06-28,833 (RHC Sept. 27, 2013)

JACKSON v. PETERS, RH-TP-12-28,898 (RHC Sept. 27, 2013)

CARTER v. PAGET, RH-TP-09-29,517 (RHC Dec. 11, 2013)

GELMAN v. CAMPBELL, RH-TP-09-29,715 (RHC Dec. 23, 2013)

<u>SMITH PROPERTY v. MORRIS & POWER</u>, RH-TP-06-28,794 (RHC Dec. 23, 2013 & Jan. 17, 2014 (re-issue))

KURATU v. AHMED, INC., RH-TP-07-28,985 (RHC Feb. 18, 2014)

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Legal Counsel Division

MEMORANDUM

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Lolita S. Alston

Director

Office of Legislative Support

FROM:

Janet M. Robins

Deputy Attorney General Legal Counsel Division

DATE:

June 5, 2014

SUBJECT:

Legal Sufficiency Review of Resolution, the "Rental Housing Commission

Peter Szegedy-Maszak Confirmation Resolution of 2014"

(AM-12-307 D)

This is to Certify that this Office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and has found it to be legally sufficient. If you have any questions regarding this certification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 724-5524.

Janet M. Robins

JMR/phg