



MURIEL BOWSER

MAYOR

December 1, 2022

The Honorable Phil Mendelson Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 16-1052, I am pleased to nominate the following person:

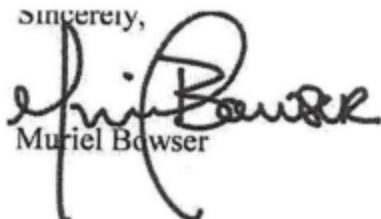
Ms. Varina Winder
Kentucky Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(Ward 6)

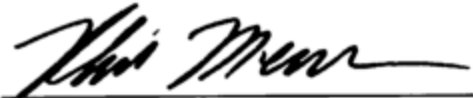
for reappointment as a community representative member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, for a term to end July 20, 2025.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together 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 Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the appointment of Ms. Varina Winder to the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board Varina Winder Confirmation Resolution of 2022”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the rappointment of:

Ms. Varina Winder
Kentucky Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(Ward 6)

as a community representative member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 16-1052, for a term to end July 20, 2025.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Varina J. Winder

varina.winder@gmail.com

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

March 2021-present

Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, *Senior Advisor*

- Senior political appointee and deputy to Senior Official, overseeing office of 35+ staff, \$10 million in operational funding, and \$10 million in programmatic funding (**received Superior Honor Award**).
- Strategic decision-maker for gender-related policy development and implementation, office personnel and staffing. Leads engagement with the White House, including Gender Policy Council and National Security Council, and represents State Department priorities globally with private sector, governments, and civil society.
- Major initiatives to date include: guiding White House first-ever U.S. National Gender Strategy; overhauling State Department annual Human Rights Reports and restoration of reproductive rights section; securing \$200 million for holistic women's economic empowerment programming ("GEEA Fund"); managing ongoing evacuation and relocation efforts for 1500+ Afghan women leaders and their families; developing State Department response to *Dobbs vs. Jackson*, and directing USG engagement and commitments for the 2021 Generation Equality Forum.

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

July 2017-February 2021

Family Planning 2020, *Sr. Manager, Global Partnerships & Strategic Engagement*

November 2019-February 2021

- Expanded profile and visibility of Family Planning (FP2020), a global family planning partnership convened by USAID, DFID, UNFPA and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and consisting of 125+ commitment-makers from 45+ countries, foundations, multilateral organizations, and private sector organizations.
- Managed cross-portfolio team to generate commitments to FP2020 from civil society and donor governments.
- Developed and led FP2020 focus and engagement on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) integration, formalized partnerships leading global HIV organizations, created Call to Action on Integration during COVID.
- Led FP2020 engagement with high profile external partners in global and multilateral contexts, including International Conference on Family Planning, Commission on the Status of Women, UNGA, and Women Deliver.
- Ensured optimal allocation of resources and proper documentation, tracking, and monitoring of all relevant portfolio activities; oversee consultant and junior staff.

Family Planning 2020, *Chief of Staff*

July 2017-November 2019

- Chief of Staff and strategic advisor to Executive Director of FP2020.
- Liaison for 30+ employees to Executive Director; hired and supervised four direct employees, including budget manager for \$6 million annual budget.
- Oversaw and managed bi-annual staff retreats; overhauled team-wide annual performance review process.
- Led quarterly and annual reporting and bi-annual meetings with DFID and BMGF; developed key program evaluation metrics; coordinated FP2020 engagement across global events.
- Drafted and implemented first-ever Code of Conduct on Sexual Misconduct and Harassment for global partners, with focus on reducing risk and harm to young people.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

September 2011-June 2017

Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, *Senior Policy Advisor*

October 2015- June 2017

- Advisor to Deputy Secretary of State Heather Higginbottom on gender equality, health, development, and global partnerships (**received Meritorious Honor award**).
- Recruited to help shape Department's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) strategy and its implementation, launched high-level, interagency Steering Committee comprised of 15+ State Department Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries, as well as senior leadership from USAID, OPIC, MCC, and Peace Corps, and develop Committee processes for decision-making.
- Led 20-person working group to implement Department-wide policy on SDGs.

Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, *Senior Policy Advisor*

January 2014 -October 2015

- Principal policy advisor to Ambassador-at-Large on gender-based violence, women's and girls' health, multilateral affairs, and girls' education policy.
- Led team of 15 interagency colleagues to formulate U.S. position on the SDGs, resulting in successful adoption of gender as a priority U.S. issue (**received Meritorious Honor award**).

- Chaired interagency committee on *U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence Globally* and wrote annual report to the White House based on global data call from 100+ embassies.
- Drafted calls for proposals, reviewed and provided recommendations on public-private partnerships and global programming.
- Wrote op-eds, blogs, social media, statements, and press guidance on gender-based violence, health, and development issues on behalf of the Secretary of State and the Ambassador-at-Large; organized multiple public diplomacy events each year; represented the U.S. Government and served as negotiator annually at UNGA and Committee on the Status for Women.

Population, Refugees & Migration Bureau, *Presidential Management Fellow* July-December 2013

- Developed and assisted with implementation of requirement that refugee relief organizations include detailed gender analyses in proposals for State funding; drafted and presented bureau-wide training curriculum on gender-based violence and protection; served on decision panels for funding proposals.

U.S. Embassy Bogota, *Political Officer/Presidential Management Fellow* January-April 2013

- Significantly increased Embassy engagement with local women leaders, non-profits and businesses; wrote cables on human rights, trafficking, gender-based violence, & inter-governmental relations.

Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, *Presidential Management Fellow* September 2011-2013

- Lead policy advisor for Latin America, liaising with all posts in Mexico, Central and South America; staffed Global Ambassador for Women's Issues on trips throughout region, including trips with Secretary of State.
- Conceptualized and executed the creation of two key public-private partnerships focused on women's entrepreneurship and gender-based violence: *WE Americas: Women's Entrepreneurship in the Americas* and *Mujeres Adelante*.
- Authored numerous articles, policy papers, memos, and blog entries for Ambassador Melanne Verwee, including "Women's Rights and Foreign Policy," [published](#) in *Americas Quarterly*.

ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Washington, DC

Policy Analyst August 2007-June 2009

- Child welfare policy advisor for non-profit membership association representing 360+ national child and family-serving agencies; successfully lobbied for legislative changes to foster care and adoption policy.

EDUCATION:

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, John F. Kennedy School of Government Cambridge, MA
Master of Public Policy June 2011

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY Washington, DC
Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish (*Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude*) May 2006

PERSONAL & VOLUNTEER:

Leadership Now Project, <i>Advisor</i>	2016-present
Penn Kemble Democracy Fellowship, <i>Fellow</i>	2021-2022
Women in Global Health, <i>Executive Committee, DC Chapter</i>	2020-present
Preeclampsia Foundation Promise Walk, <i>Fundraising Volunteer</i>	2017-2021
Truman National Security Project, <i>Security Fellow</i>	2015-present
DC Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, <i>DC Mayoral Appointee</i>	2014-present

Fluent in Spanish, basic French, learning German, Active Top Secret/SCI clearance



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments

John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Varina Winder



Varina Winder is a Senior Policy Advisor and Foreign Affairs Officer in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues at the U.S. Department of State.

As Senior Policy Advisor in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, Ms. Winder advised on gender-based violence, women's and girls' health, and Sustainable Development Goals. Previously, she was on detail in Deputy Secretary Higginbottom's office, working on development, global health, and gender issues.

Ms. Winder has also worked at the U.S. Embassy in Bogotá, Colombia, where she served as a political officer covering human rights and gender, and on the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration's Gender and Youth team. She joined the Department as a Presidential Management Fellow, leading Latin American policy development and engagement for the Global Women's Issues office.

A Ward 6 resident, Ms. Winder holds a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Spanish from Georgetown University.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Bryan Hum, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: October 3, 2022
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Lisa Geller, Ashley Joyner Chavous, Laila Leigh, Shannarese Sims, and Varina Winder as members of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced resolutions and found them to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Vanessa Careiro, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'.

Elizabeth Cavendish