FROM THE DESK OF

NKECHI TAIFA ESQ.

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TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

 Committee of the Whole

 Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Nkechi Taifa

 Nominee for appointment to

 DC Corrections Information Council Governing Board

RE: Response to questions posed in October 4, 2018 letter; received on October 11, 2011.

DATE: October 11, 2018

1. Below are answers to the questions in lieu of the Financial Disclosure Statement:

2. I have no business entity transacting business with the District Government in which I have a beneficial interest valued in excess of $5,000 including publicly traded stock.

3. I have no business entities transacting any business with the District Government from which me or my immediate family have received or are receiving income for services rendered in excess of $1000 during the past two years.

4. I have no business entity transacting business with the District Government in which me or any member of my immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent.

5. There are no lenders borrowed by me or any member of my immediate family in excess of $5000 outside of any loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.

6. Real property located in the District of Columbia in which I have an interest with a fair market value in excess of $5,000 are as follows:

5735 27th Street NW Wash., DC 20015

5919 4th Street NW, Wash., DC 20011

7. Professional licenses - District of Columbia law license

8. Professional organizations:

 District of Columbia Bar

 National Bar Association

 Washington Bar Association

 National Conference of Black Lawyers

9. Boards and commissions connected with the District government

 Commission on Human Rights – from around 2002 - 2014

10. Other boards currently member of – African Freedom Fund Treasury

11. I have no outstanding liability for taxes, fees or other payments to the District, federal or other state or local governments.

12. Neither myself nor member of immediate family have any financial or other interest that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for me in performance of my duties as a member of the Commission

13. I have not engaged in any local political activity over the past five years, including campaign contributions to a local candidate or political action committee.

14. I had been registered with the federal government as a lobbyist in the past, but have not for the past two years.

15. Why have you agreed to serve and how do you plan to help the Board fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Board over the next two years?

It would be a privilege and an honor to serve on the governing board of the Corrections Information Council. I have agreed to serve because I want to be an active part in helping the CIC achieve its mission and goal to help improve and maintain high standards in the conditions of confinement of District of Columbia residents spread throughout the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the DC Department of Corrections, and private contractors. The role the CIC plays to inspect, monitor and report on the conditions of confinement of District residents in facilities across the country is critical. I have watched the CIC from afar for years, and have been impressed by its professionalism, dedication, and tenacity to make a difference. And now fully staffed, and with a soon to be full governing board, the CIC will be even better able to attend to the unique needs of incarcerated District residents.

Over the next two years as part of the CIC board I plan to dedicate quality time and attention to assisting the CIC Executive Director and staff to fulfill its mandate to inspect, report, and assess, as well as to shine a light on issues of great concern to residents in the BOP and DOC. Such issues include serious medical concerns, language access issues, visitation, issues of sentence computation, facility issues, and others. With such exposure and recommendations from the CIC, it is hoped that District stakeholders, including agencies and advocacy organizations, can ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken.

16. Please discuss any past and present experiences not already mentioned that you believe are relevant to support your appointment as a member of the Board.

I started my legal career as a staff attorney for the National Prison Project of the ACLU Foundation during the mid-80s. My responsibilities included touring federal facilities and assessing conditions of confinement therein, escorting corrections and medical experts through facilities, interviewing prisoners, and taking depositions. Since then, most of my professional career has involved issues of criminal justice reform. I am looking forward to being part of the governing board of the CIC as it carries out its mandate to inspect, monitor and report on the conditions of confinement in the prisons, jails, and halfway houses where DC residents are incarcerated.