



**MURIEL BOWSER**  
MAYOR

September 8, 2020

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 section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Act, approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Mr. Christopher Bell  
Hawthorne Street NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(Ward 3)

for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, for a term to end May 15, 2025.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser".

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 reappointment of Mr. Christopher Bell to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020".

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

Mr. Christopher Bell  
Hawthorne Street NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(Ward 3)

as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, pursuant to section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Act, approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), for a term to end May 15, 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.



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments  
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

### Christopher Bell



Christopher Bell has served on of the Board of Trustees for the University of the District of Columbia since 2011. An attorney specializing in multifamily housing finance, Mr. Bell is Associate General Counsel Fannie Mae. He has given many internal and external presentations on Fannie Mae operations, regulatory matters and multifamily housing finance matters.

Mr. Bell has a keen interest in higher education programs. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Virginia Bar and the American Bar Association. Mr. Bell was active in numerous organizations throughout his studies and received many academic awards and scholarships while pursuing his studies.

A Ward 3 resident, Mr. Bell earned his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and his *Juris Doctor* from the University of Texas School of Law.

## CHRISTOPHER D. BELL

### PROFESSIONAL IN-HOUSE EXPERIENCE

**Fannie Mae, Washington, DC**

**Sept. 2004-present**

**Associate General Counsel, Housing and Community Development**

- Lead attorney for affordable housing transactions. Provide counsel on corporate real estate finance transactions for complex real estate finance transactions including mortgage-backed securities and bond credit executions; Negotiate syndications, participations and assignments agreements involving complex secondary market financing transactions.
- Serve as lead counsel for Office of Community Investment and Engagement (OCIE), the corporate charitable arm of Fannie Mae. Provide legal counsel regarding grant documentation issues, intellectual property rights, procurement, audit and compliance matters.
- Assist in crafting written work product and messaging including review of press releases and consents for OCIE events and contractual matters.
- Provide counsel regarding Fannie Mae charter and regulatory matters, including issues relating to Fannie Mae's mission and new products and services. Routinely give presentations on aspects of charter and/or legislative issues.
- Draft correspondence, memoranda and talking points for Senior Management on transactional, legislative and regulatory matters.

**Giant Food LLC, Landover, MD**

**Oct. 2002-Aug. 2004**

**Senior Real Estate Counsel**

- Provided counsel on real estate transactions and retail anchor leasing negotiations for grocery stores in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.
- Addressed issues relating to zoning, development cooperation agreements and land use approvals. Interacted with business team members regarding proposed and existing store operations.
- Analyzed corporate financing needs of parent company and provided legal analysis regarding sales and acquisitions across operating companies.

### PROFESSIONAL LAW FIRM EXPERIENCE

**Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, Washington, DC**

**Apr. 2000 – Sept. 2002**

**Associate, Real Estate and Corporate**

**Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, Washington, DC**

**Jan. 1999 – Apr. 2000**

**Associate, Affordable Housing Finance**

**McGuireWoods LLP, McLean, VA**

**Sept. 1996 – Jan. 1999**

**Associate, Real Estate Zoning and Leasing; Summer Associate, 1995**

### EDUCATION

**The University of Texas School of Law**

**Austin, TX**

**Juris Doctor**

*Shell Oil Endowed Presidential Scholarship*

*Herbert S. Bonham Endowed Law Scholarship*

Texas Environmental Law Journal; Associate Editor

Author, *Promoting Equity in Siting Hazardous Waste Facilities*, Spring Issue 1995

Selected for Membership in The Board of Advocates

Quarterfinalist, First-Year Moot Court Competition

**Harvard University, JFK School of Government**

**Cambridge, MA**

**Master in Public Administration-Focus on Housing/Urban and Community Development**

*Academic Focus on Housing Policy and Urban and Community Development*

*Awarded Woodrow Wilson Foundation Two-Year Fellowship for Graduate Studies*  
Graduate Teaching Assistant in Human Resource Management and Real Estate Finance  
Course work at M.I.T.'s Department of Urban Studies and Planning and Harvard's Graduate School of Design

- Harvard Transportation and Urban Economics Professional Interest Council
- Journal of African American Policy, Staff Member

## **The University of Texas**

**Austin, TX**

### ***Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy/Minor Concentration-Communications***

*Dean's Distinguished Graduate, College of Liberal Arts*

*University of Texas Achievement Five-Year Academic Scholarship Award*

*ITPE-NMU Four-Year Academic Scholarship Award*

- Member, The University of Texas Friar Society, the University's most prestigious honorary society
- Recipient of the Edward S. Guleke Award for Student Excellence
- Elected Vice-President, Texas Students' Association, represented 50,000 students
- Chairperson, Texas Union African-American Cultural Committee
- Selected to 18-day Texas/Soviet Student Exchange Program
- Author, *Overcoming Barriers to Minority Recruitment and Retention*, Polis Magazine

## **ADMISSIONS**

- Virginia State Bar, 1996-present
- District of Columbia Bar, 1999-present
- American Bar Association, 1998-present

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS**

- Appointed to the Board of Trustees, University of the District of Columbia (UDC), 2011-present
  - ◆Elected Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees, May of 2012-
  - ◆Chair of the Operations Committee, 2016-
  - ◆Chair of the Facilities Committee, 2011-2014
- Board of Directors, El Centro Rosemount, 2007-2012; Served as Vice Chair, 2009-2010
- Oyster-Adams Bilingual School Annual Parent Campaign, 2009-2010

## **LANGUAGES**

- French (proficient in writing and speaking)
- Spanish (proficient in speaking)

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

- Selected as Fannie Mae General Counsel Fellow, General Counsel Fellowship Program, 2015
- Recipient, Fannie Mae "All In" Awards, 2015, 2012
- Selected by Fannie Mae Office of Diversity and Inclusion to attend The Executive Leadership Council's Mid-Level Manager's Conference Symposium, 2011, 2008
- Completed Fannie Mae Mentoring Circles Program, a twelve-month program for high performers, 2010
- Making Home Affordable Certificate of Appreciation-Foreclosure Prevention SWAT Team, 2009
- Spirit of Serve Award Certificate of Appreciation for Volunteerism, 2008

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Panelist, "Get on Board" Non-Profit Leadership Board Training Program, 2015, 2014
- Speaker, "Utilizing Your Fannie Mae Resources", Legal Administrative and Professional Network Group, 2015
- Panelist, Fannie Mae Multifamily Legal Issues Forum, 2014, 2013
- Panelist, "Multifamily Housing – Getting Deals Done in Uncertain Times," October 2013; Sponsored by the 2013 Advanced Real Property Institute of the Maryland State Bar Association

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

**To:** Ronan Gulstone, Steve Walker  
**From:** Betsy Cavendish  
**Date:** July 16, 2020  
**Subject:** Legal sufficiency review of Resolution nominating Mignon Clyburn and Christopher Bell to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia.

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**This is to Certify** that this office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

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

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Elizabeth Cavendish