

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: October 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Report on PR 23-930, “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020”

The Committee of the Whole, to which Proposed Resolution 23-930, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020” was referred, reports favorably thereon with technical amendments, and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

The purpose of Proposed Resolution 23-930 is to confirm the reappointment of Christopher Bell as a member of the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees (Board). Mr. Bell is currently a Ward 3 resident and has served on the Board since July 12, 2011. If confirmed, Mr. Bell would serve for another five-year term to end on May 15, 2025. Mr. Bell’s most recent term expired on May 15, 2020. While he would normally be permitted to holdover for a 180-day period,¹ due to the coronavirus public health emergency, the holdover period is tolled, permitting Mr. Bell to remain in his current position.²

¹ The normal 180-day holdover period would end on November 15, 2020.

² See D.C. Act 23-326, the “Coronavirus Support Emergency Amendment Act of 2020,” which was enacted on May 27, 2020. ² Because D.C. Act 23-326 expired on June 9, 2020 and D.C. Act 23-334, the “Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2020,” is still undergoing congressional review, the Council has had to approve two congressional review emergencies to fill in the gap. D.C. Act 23-328, the “Coronavirus Support Congressional

Mr. Bell holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Texas, a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Texas School of Law. For nearly 20 years, Mr. Bell has practiced law, concentrating on real estate and housing and community development. Currently, Mr. Bell is a Partner in the Real Estate Group at Ballard Spahr, LLP. Prior to this, Mr. Bell served as the Associate General Counsel of Housing and Community Development for Fannie Mae. In this capacity Mr. Bell was the lead attorney for affordable housing transactions and served as the lead counsel for Fannie Mae's Office of Community Investment and Engagement, the charitable arm of the corporation.

Over the past nine years that Mr. Bell has served on UDC's Board, he has been a very active Trustee. He served as the Chair of the Operations Committee for three years, then as Vice Chair of the Board for three years, and currently as Chair of the Board for three years.³ Because of his role as Chair of the Board, he also serves on the Board's Executive Committee. In these roles, Mr. Bell aided in oversight over the creation of the UDC Student Center; participated in almost all of the searches for executive leadership positions at the University, including the search for and hiring of President Ron Mason; contributed financially to UDC; played a role in recruitment initiatives; helped with the formation of UDC's strategic plan, *The Equity Imperative*; and attended sporting and cultural events.⁴ Additionally, Mr. Bell has helped stabilize both UDC and UDC's Board. When he first became a Trustee in 2011, there was a great amount of distrust – between the Trustees themselves, between the four-year institution and Community College, between the Board and the Mayor and Council, and between the community at-large and the University. Over the past nine years, particularly in his roles as Vice Chair and Chair of the Board, Mr. Bell has helped to quell that distrust, shepherding in a more collegial and collaborative Board and working to restore trust both within the University and between the University and the Mayor, the Council, and the community at-large.

The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is both a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) and an urban land-grant institution. Formed in 1975 from the merger of the District of Columbia Teachers' College,⁵ the Washington Technical Institute, and Federal City College,⁶ UDC serves as the District's only public university. UDC's mission is to provide an

Review Emergency Amendment Act of 2020," was enacted on June 8, 2020 and expired on September 6, 2020. Currently, the second congressional review emergency, D.C. Act 23-405, the "Coronavirus Support Second Congressional Review Emergency Amendment Act of 2020," is in place. It was enacted on August 19, 2020 and will expire on November 16, 2020.

³ See Letter from Christopher Bell, Nominee, to Christina Setlow, Deputy Committee Director, Committee of the Whole, Council of the District of Columbia, at 4 (October 7, 2020)(attached to this report)[hereinafter Bell Letter].

⁴ See *University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees, PR 23-930, Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020, & PR 23-931, Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Mignon Clyburn Confirmation Resolution of 2020: Roundtable before the Council of the District of Columbia Comm. of the Whole*, at 2 (Oct. 8, 2020) (written testimony of Mr. Christopher Bell, nominee)[hereinafter *Bell Oct. 8, 2020 Written Testimony*].

⁵ This college was formed from the merger of Miners Teacher College and Wilson Teachers College. See *UDC's History*, UNIV. OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, http://www.udc.edu/about_udc/history_university_district_columbia (last visited July 12, 2013).

⁶ D.C. Law 1-36 (effective Nov. 1, 1975).

affordable, post-secondary education to District residents and to “prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce, the next level of education, specialized employment opportunities or life-long learning.”⁷ In furtherance of this mission, a law school was added in 1996⁸ and a community college in 2009.

According to D.C. Official Code Section 38-1202.01, UDC is governed by a Board of Trustees (Board), comprised of fifteen members.⁹ Of the fifteen, eleven are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council, three are alumni from either the University or one of its predecessor institutions, and one is a full-time student elected by the UDC student body.¹⁰ Each trustee, except for the student trustee, serves a five year term, and each non-student trustee may serve two consecutive full terms.¹¹ The following tables depict the current make-up of the UDC Board of Trustees:

Table A: Elected Alumni and Student Trustees to the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees

Elected Trustee	Role	Commencement Date	Term End Date
Barrington Scott	Alumni	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2025
Mildred L. Musgrove	Alumni	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2025
Anntoinette “Toni” White-Richardson	Alumni	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2025
Chavar Henry	Student	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2021

Table B: Mayoral Appointments to University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees

Mayoral Appointee	Resolution Number	Date of Council Approval	Term End Date
Esther Barazzone	R. 23-316	January 21, 2020	May 15, 2024
Christopher Bell¹²	PR 23-930	Pending	May 15, 2025
Mignon Clyburn	PR 23-931	<i>Pending</i>	May 15, 2024
Elaine Crider	R. 22-634	November 13, 2018	May 15, 2023
Ken Grossinger	R. 22-635	November 13, 2018	May 15, 2023
Charlene Drew Jarvis	R. 22-624	October 16, 2018	May 15, 2023
Carolyn Rudd	R. 22-623	October 16, 2018	May 15, 2023
Errol Schwartz	R. 22-621	October 16, 2018	May 15, 2023
Jerome Shelton	R. 23-317	January 21, 2020	May 15, 2024
Anthony Tardd	R. 22-622	October 16, 2018	May 15, 2023
Vacant			

The University has made great strides over the last four years, but more needs to be done. Moving forward, and during Mr. Bell’s time on the Board, the Committee will be paying particular attention to the following issues.

⁷ *UDC Mission*, UNIV. OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, <http://www.udc.edu/welcome/mission.htm> (last visited July 12, 2013).

⁸ See D.C. Law 11-152 (effective Aug. 1, 1996).

⁹ See D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.05 for a list of the duties of the UDC Trustees.

¹⁰ D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 38-1202.01(c) (2001 ed.). Of the eleven appointed by the Mayor, seven must reside in the District at the time of their Council confirmation. *Id.* 38-1202.01(c-1).

¹¹ *Id.* 38-1202.01(f). After the completion of the member’s second consecutive term, he or she must wait five years from the end of his or her second term before being reappointed or reelected to the Board of Trustees. *Id.*

¹² Mr. Bell has served two roles on the Board. See R. 19-149, approved July 12, 2011 and R. 21-306, approved December 1, 2015.

Enrollment: Over the past decade, UDC has struggled to increase enrollment. For the four-year flagship, the struggle was exacerbated when the Community College was established in 2009, and the four-year institution lost approximately half of its enrollment, as students who were previously enrolled at the flagship campus moved to the Community College. The Community College's enrollment has lagged the past few years due to the loss of both the nursing program accreditation and the mortuary sciences accreditation. However, the University has made increasing enrollment a priority, and President Mason has double downed on those efforts.¹³ For example, the University now offers scholarships and tuition assistance to students from D.C.'s public schools and public charter schools. Moreover, the Community College has now earned back both the nursing and the mortuary sciences accreditations.¹⁴

In addition to increasing the number of first-time full-time students, UDC needs to focus on student retention. Compared to other universities in the District, UDC's student population is older – the average age of a UDC student is 30 years old.¹⁵ Many of the students have to work to support themselves and their families and have to deal with issues such as fiscal constraints, childcare, housing, and transportation. Because of this, many UDC students pause their attendance at the University and can take longer than three years to earn an Associate's degree or six years to earn a Bachelor's degree. Thus, it is important that the University aid its students in tackling the issues they face so that the students can attend the University within the three and six-year norms.

Additionally, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University's enrollment, like that of many other institutions of higher learning, has dropped overall by approximately 20% for the Fall 2020 semester. Because of the challenging fiscal times that have accompanied the pandemic, many individuals do not want to incur additional costs (e.g. tuition and fees) at this time. For older students, which make up the majority of UDC's student body and many of whom were already experiencing challenging financial issues, this is particularly true. Thus, UDC not only has to contend with the decades long enrollment and retention issues it had before the pandemic, but now it has to deal with the added difficulties that have been brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to the pandemic, the Committee was pleased to see that growth in enrollment was starting to occur within the university system, particularly in the area of first-time, full-time students. However, this progress does not eliminate the need to continue to make enrollment, including student retention, a priority, especially given the University's current enrollment predicament. This is an area in which the Committee is particularly interested, and the Committee believes should be one of the top priorities for the UDC Board.

During Mr. Bell's tenure on the Board, he has made increasing enrollment a priority and been involved with developing recruitment plans for UDC.¹⁶ Under his tenure as Vice Chair and

¹³ See Letter from Ron Mason, President, University of the District of Columbia, to Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, at 8-11 (February 23, 2018) (on file with the Committee of the Whole).

¹⁴ See e.g. <http://www.abfse.org/html/dir-dc.html>.

¹⁵ UNIV. OF D.C., FACTBOOK – ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017 30 (2018), http://docs.udc.edu/irap/udc_factbook_ay_2016_2017.pdf. The average age of students at the flagship is 31 years old, at the community college is 28 years old, and at the law school is 32 years old. *Id.* This works out to the overall average age of students at the University being 30 years.

¹⁶ See *Bell Oct. 8, 2020 Written Testimony*, supra note 4, at 3.

Chair of the Board specifically, UDC has developed scholarship programs, which are designed to increase the number of first-time, full-time students that attend the University.¹⁷ Moreover, the University has created new Ph.D. programs and improved many of its internal functions – procurement, human resources, and internal governance – which all play a role in aiding students and ensuring that the University functions at the highest level so that it can recruit students.¹⁸ Yet, despite these efforts, UDC’s enrollment has continued to lag, and Mr. Bell acknowledges that both enrollment and retention should be the University’s, and the Board’s, top priorities.

When asked what UDC needs to do to improve both enrollment and retention, Mr. Bell responded that differentiated enrollment and retention plans are needed for the varying individuals who attend the university.¹⁹ To attract more first-time in college students who have just graduated from high school, the University needs to facilitate stronger relationships with District of Columbia Public Schools and DC public charter schools, as a large number of UDC’s students come from DC public high schools. In order to retain these students, Mr. Bell believes that transition and preview programs are necessary so that the students understand the rigors of college and are prepared to succeed in college.²⁰ While UDC is attracting hundreds of first-time, full-time students, it struggles to retain these students after the first year of college because the students are not ready. By utilizing transition or preview programs, the University would be able to tackle some of the preparation issues early on, thereby alleviating some of the issues their first-time in college students are facing and hopefully lead to better student retention.

With regard to the older students that UDC serves, Mr. Bell indicated in his pre-roundtable responses that these students often have greater financial fluctuations.²¹ These fluctuations often make it difficult for students to remain enrolled in the University, and thus, they have a more difficult time graduating on-time. In order to address this issue, Mr. Bell believes that UDC needs to reduce its cost variability by offering “more classes, flexible part-time programs and more online opportunities for mentorship and sponsorship with faculty and area businesses.”²² Additionally, Mr. Bell has stated that the University needs to do a better job of marketing the value of its Community College, as well as its Workforce and Life Long Learning (WDLL) programs.²³ It also needs to do a better job of creating program pathways, so that students enrolled in the Community College or in the WDLL programs has a true understanding of how they can progress through the various schools at UDC and continue to obtain more advanced degrees.²⁴ Taking these approaches will, hopefully, result in greater enrollment and retention regardless of whether a student is older and reengaging in classes at UDC or attending the University for the first time.

Private Fundraising: Over the past five years, beginning with fiscal year 2014, the Council has set aside funds for the University as part of a fundraising match. Originally as a means of supporting UDC’s accreditation efforts, the Council set aside a million dollars in matching funds

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Bell Letter, *supra* note 3, at 5.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ *Id.*

in fiscal year 2014.²⁵ For every dollar UDC raised in private donations, the District matched those donations dollar for dollar up to a maximum of a million dollars. While the University was unsuccessful in raising private funds in fiscal year 2014 for this match, the Council agreed to renew the match opportunity again in fiscal year 2015. UDC rose to the challenge that year and was able to meet, and indeed exceed, the million-dollar threshold, raising \$1,070,000 in private donations. Given that success, the Council again set aside a million-dollar match for the University in fiscal year 2016. UDC was once again successful at raising the funds and did so within the prescribed time frame.

For fiscal year 2017, the Council put forth more stringent match requirements, indicating that for every two dollars the University raised, it would receive a dollar. The University was just short of meeting the full match in fiscal year 2017 but given its efforts and the more stringent match requirements, the Council renewed the fundraising match opportunity again in fiscal year 2018. For fiscal years 2018 - 2020, the University also received a dollar, up to a maximum amount of \$1.5 million, for every two dollars that UDC raised. UDC met the matches in fiscal years 2018 and 2019. While the University was working toward raising the maximum amount of matching funds in fiscal year 2020, its fundraising was slightly derailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of the pandemic and the need for the University to have access to as many funds as possible, the Council agreed to amend the fiscal year 2020 match back to a dollar for dollar match,²⁶ which the University was able to meet. For fiscal year 2021, the match is again a dollar for dollar due to the continuing pandemic.²⁷ However, the Committee has been clear with the University that the return to the lower match threshold is solely due to the pandemic and that once the pandemic ends, the Committee will look to return to the higher match threshold.

Although the original impetus for the match was to provide additional support for UDC's accreditation activities, secondary reasons for the match have been to incentivize the University to increase its private fundraising activities and to encourage the UDC Foundation to take a more active role in raising private funds to support the University. As discussed in Committee budget reports, UDC has to fight year after year for its subsidy, as well as for capital funds from the District government. The University needs to continue to increase its private fundraising, even though the Committee believes wholeheartedly that the District should support UDC financially.

When asked what steps the University should take to increase private fundraising, Mr. Bell indicated that UDC needs to continue to grow its alumni giving.²⁸ While more alumni have begun to donate to the University, UDC is still not accessing much of its alumni pool. However, Mr. Bell believes that UDC has begun to turn a corner when it comes to alumni giving because the University now has a Vice President of Advancement and a team of individuals focused solely on fundraising.²⁹ Additionally, Mr. Bell is committed to exploring new ways that the University can

²⁵ See Title X, Sec. 10002 of D.C. Law 20-61, the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Support Act of 2013.

²⁶ See D.C. Law 23-130, the "Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2020," effective October 9, 2020.

²⁷ See Title IV, Subtitle D of D.C. Act 23-407, the "Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Act of 2020," enacted August 31, 2020.

²⁸ Bell Letter, *supra* note 3, at 6.

²⁹ See *University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees, PR 23-930, Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020, & PR 23-931, Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Mignon Clyburn Confirmation Resolution of 2020: Roundtable before the*

attract donations, such as creating a capital campaign to fundraise funds needed to either renovate 4250 Connecticut Avenue or renovate and build out Backus so that it may serve as the headquarters for the Community College.³⁰

Over the past nine years, Mr. Bell has demonstrated his commitment to UDC and its Board. He has worked tirelessly to improve the University, and during his tenure as Vice Chair and Chair of the Board, he has worked to create a stable and collaborative atmosphere amongst the Board and between the Board and the University. Through his testimony, as well as his responses to pre-roundtable questions, the Committee believes that Mr. Bell has demonstrated that he understands both the successes and challenges of UDC and that he is fully committed to ensuring that the University succeeds. The Committee recommends confirmation of Mr. Bell for reappointment to the UDC Board of Trustees.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- September 8, 2020 PR 23-930, “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020,” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The resolution is deemed disapproved on December 22, 2020.
- September 18, 2020 Notice of Intent to Act on PR 23-930 is published in the *District of Columbia Register*.
- September 18, 2020 Notice of a Public Roundtable on PR 23-930 is published in the *District of Columbia Register*.
- October 8, 2020 The Committee of the Whole holds a public roundtable on PR 23-930.
- October 20, 2020 The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 23-930.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Bell is the Mayor’s nominee for one of the eleven Board of Trustees seats appointed by the Mayor.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

Council of the District of Columbia Comm. of the Whole (Oct. 8, 2020) (oral testimony of Mr. Christopher Bell, nominee).

³⁰ *Id.*

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on PR 23-930 on October 8, 2020. The testimony summarized below is from that hearing. Copies of written testimony are attached to this report.

Christopher Bell, Nominee, testified about his continued willingness to serve on the Board of Trustees, highlighted his dedication to the Board over the past nine years that he has served, and commented on various challenges facing the University, including enrollment, private fundraising, and capital improvements.

The Committee received no testimony or comments in opposition to PR 23-930.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

This confirmation is consistent with existing law. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01, the Board shall be comprised of fifteen members – of whom eleven members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. Of the eleven members, seven must be District residents at the time of their confirmation. Additionally, each member, except for the student trustee, may three, five-year terms or a total of 15 consecutive years.³¹ Mr. Bell is a Mayoral appointee, is a resident of the District, and is nominated for a third and final term.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

PR 23-930 will have no fiscal impact on the District of Columbia budget or financial plan. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.04, trustees receive no compensation for their service on the Board. However, each trustee is entitled to be reimbursed up to \$4,000 annually for any “actual and necessary expenses incurred while actually engaged in service as a Trustee.”³² Such expenses are included as part of the University’s annual budget.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 23-930.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Christopher Bell to the UDC Board of Trustees for a five-year term that expires on May 15, 2025.
<u>Section 3</u>	Directs the Council to transmit a copy of the resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee, the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees, and to the Office of the Mayor.

³¹ See D.C. Law 23-130, the “Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2020,” effective October 9, 2020.

³² *Id.* § 38-1202.04.

Section 4 Provides that PR 23-930 should take effect immediately.

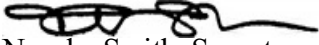
IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 23-930 as introduced.
2. Written Testimony.
3. Nominee's response to questions.
4. Legal Sufficiency Determination for PR 23-930.
5. Committee Print for PR 23-930.

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council
From :  Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council
Date : Friday, September 11, 2020
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Tuesday, September 08, 2020. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020", PR23-0930

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson, at the request of Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed disapproved on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 without Council action.

Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services



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,


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
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA**



Public Roundtable
on
PR23-0930, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia
Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020”

Testimony of
Christopher Bell

Before the
Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairperson

October 8, 2020
10:00 AM
Virtual Meeting Platform
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004



Good morning Chairman Mendelson and members of the Committee. My name is Christopher Bell and it is my pleasure to be here today to offer my testimony in support of my candidacy for reappointment to the University of District of Columbia Board of Trustees (the “Board of Trustees”). I thank you all for the opportunity to appear today, and I would especially like to thank Mayor Muriel Bowser for nominating me for reappointment. I have had the proud honor of serving on the Board of Trustees since 2011 and I would be honored to continue doing so for another term.

By way of my professional and personal background, I am a real estate attorney with expertise in housing finance, economic development, and conservation. I hold my undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and hold advanced degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and Harvard University. My wife of 21 years is an international lawyer with the Federal Trade Commission. We have three children—my daughter is a freshman in college in Vermont, and my two sons are in the 11th and 7th grades. All three have gone through DCPS schools and programs.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, I have served as Chair of the Operations Committee for three years, then Vice Chair of the Board for three years, and I am presently starting my third year as Chair of the Board of Trustees. I have been an active board member. I have played a significant role in almost all executive searches at the University of the District of Columbia (“UDC” or the “University”). I have helped to oversee the creation of the University Student Center. I routinely support and participate in University cultural and sporting events. I have done press interviews, been involved in recruitment initiatives, and contributed to the creation of various strategic plans at the University. I have also contributed financially to multiple efforts at the University.



I believe the University is in a much better place since my arrival. Under my leadership of the University—in which I benefitted from the prior leadership of Joe Askew and Elaine Crider--the University has excelled in terms of our internal governance, human resource and procurement functions, and prioritizing real estate and facility needs to support student academic outcomes. We have new Ph.D. programs, successful graduate programs, and continued recognition of our David A. Clarke Law School and its nationally ranked clinical programs under the leadership of our new Dean. Our Community College is one of the largest colleges in our university and our workforce and academic programs are aligned to meet the economic needs of residents and employers. We have strong administrative leadership in place and the University has a much better relationship with the elected and community leaders of the District. We have created new scholarship programs, maintained overall accreditation, and achieved re-accreditation of certain programs. We are receiving more grant dollars and strengthening our partnerships with the community-based organizations. We are seeing successes in our efforts to increase alumni participation and have made gains in fundraising through the University Foundation. We are doing a better job marketing and communicating the success of our efforts.

While we have enjoyed many successes, we still have areas of opportunities to explore. First and foremost, our student enrollment continues to be challenged for a number of reasons, both specific to DC as well as natural trends in high school graduation. The current pandemic has heightened the challenge. We require capital to address our aged building and technology infrastructure. I must thank the Mayor and Council for recent assistance in that regard. We need to continue attracting dollars from donors to all facets of our University. We need to strengthen our relationship with the public P-12 system so that our DCPS and DCPCS graduates are better



able to matriculate through the University's Community College, other Undergraduate, and Graduate, and Professional Degree programs.

The solutions to the challenges are both short-term and long-term. In the short-term, we need to meet our basic obligations to our students. We must better understand our students and their circumstances, identify barriers to retention, and make sure that our academic advising, financial support, and university resources are able to meet their needs. In the longer term, we have to acknowledge that there were many years of disinvestment in the University. That lack of investment impacted our product and image, impaired our infrastructure, and compromised our ability to fully serve our students. We continue to face budgetary pressure due to less local funds support relative to our publicly funded counterparts. Finally, we are in a competitive market, and our student population is primarily local, older and subject to economic and social insecurities more acutely than students at other area schools. In short, we have unique long-term challenges for which we have developed unique solutions through our *Equity Imperative* strategic plan.

Our challenges are many and our resources are limited, but we are rich in motivation and determination. We are embracing the difficulties and opportunities that confront us. We are mobilizing our resources, intellect, and collective creative ability through our outstanding faculty, exemplary staff, and stakeholders so that our wonderful students are able to aspire, accomplish, and take on the world. As the only public institution of higher learning in and for our nation's capital, we cherish our historical origins from many institutions, and we look forward to navigating a future that builds on our strengths and takes the University to new levels of success and accomplishment.



I would like to thank you, Chairman Mendelson, for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony today and I welcome any questions that the committee may have.



Christopher D. Bell
Hawthorne Street NW
Washington, DC 20008

October 7, 2020

Christina K. Setlow
Deputy Committee Director
Committee of the Whole, Chairman Phil Mendelson
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Responses to Chairman Mendelson's Questions Regarding Christopher
D. Bell's Reappointment to the UDC Board of Trustees

Dear Ms. Setlow:

Enclosed please find my responses on Exhibit A to the questions to your letter to me dated October 2, 2020 in connection with my candidacy for reappointment to the UDC Board of Trustees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Thanks,



Christopher Bell

Enclosure

Exhibit A

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of that statement.

--Please see Attachment #1

2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock.

--Please see Attachment #1

3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1 ,000 during the past two years.

--Please see Attachment #1

4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.

--Please see Attachment #1

5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.

--Please see Attachment #1

6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000.

--Please see Attachment #1

7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.

--Please see Attachment #1

8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

--Please see Attachment #1

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member in the past ten years and include the term of service for each.

--Other than the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees, for which I have been a member since 2011, I have not been on any board or commission connected with District Government in the past ten (10) years.

10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.

--I have been a member of the Harvard Alumni Real Estate Board since 2017. In 2019, I was asked to serve on the FDR Memorial Advisory Committee, a nonprofit organization that focuses on the well-being of the FDR Memorial and disability issues in America. In September of 2020, I was named a member of the National Housing Advisory Council by the Board of Governors of the National Housing Conference.

11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees , or other payments to the District, federal , or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.

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

12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as an UDC Board of Trustees member?

--Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for me in my performance of my duties as a UDC Board of Trustees member.

13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including any campaign

contributions to a candidate or political action committee.

--I have not been involved in any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) in the past five years, including campaign contributions to candidates or political action committees.

14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.

-- I am not registered to lobby with any local, state, or federal government.

15. Please describe your current role on UDC's Board of Trustees, including a description of any committees you may chair or of which you are a member.

--I am presently starting my third year as Chair of the Board of the Trustees. I participate in all committee meetings. During my first three years on the Board of Trustees I chaired the Operations Committee. I was then Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees for three years prior to becoming Chair of the Board of Trustees. As an officer, I also serve on the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

16. (a) What do you see as the top five priorities for the University, and how do you see the Board facilitating each of these priorities? (b) What is your vision for UDC over the next five years? Include in your answer what you believe should be the relationship between the Flagship and the Community College.

--The top five priorities of the University should be (i) the creation of a responsive enrollment plan for the system addressing the enrollment needs of the Flagship, Graduate and Professional Programs, Community College and Workforce Programs, (ii) improving overall retention of students by ensuring academic essentials are appropriately staffed and funded, (iii) investing and building our technology, real estate and physical infrastructure to better serve the University community, (iv) growing our fundraising apparatus to attract donors, alumni and grant opportunities and (v) increasing our presence, perception and prominence in the DC community.

--I think the University needs to maximize its unique status as the only public institution of higher learning in our nation's capitol. Stabilizing and growing our enrollment will allow us to focus on other opportunities such as new undergraduate and professional degree programs, transition/bridge programs that help those new to college and new to our university better matriculate, taking advantage of our geographic location to develop strong language, cultural and international programs that are affiliated with the

various embassies, growing UDC's presence in DCPS and DCPCS and developing strong donor and alumni giving base to grow our financial wherewithal.

-- The Community College is a vital component of the University. We need to: continue to grow the Community College and make sure that the faculty and staff know that they are vital component of the University; help Community College students have defined articulated pathways to the Flagship; and continue to liaise with community leaders to make sure that the Community College, and the Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning programs are aligned with the economic needs of the metropolitan area.

17. What is your strategy for increasing enrollment and retention at UDC, including at the flagship, the Community College, and the workforce development and lifelong learning programs.

My strategies for increasing enrollment include:

--Instituting differentiated enrollment plans that recognize the varying student populations that we serve. Our First Time in College (FTIC) cohort has increased. However, we are losing too many students after their first year. We are seeing declines in our enrollment for the Community College and international populations.

--Creating a plan for the FTICs that focuses on relationships with DCPS and DCPCS. We need to foster relationships with high school counselors, principles and parents. We need transition and preview programs to help kids understand the rigors of college and we need to bring DCPS and DCPCS to UDC every opportunity we have. For the older student populations we serve, we need to help them better manage economic fluctuations and try to reduce cost variability in attending college. This would include more classes, flexible part-time programs and more online opportunities for mentorship and sponsorship with faculty and area businesses.

-- Better demonstrating our value add proposition for the Community College and Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning programs. We have difficulty attracting students despite our lower overall attendance costs. Our students have great economic sensitivity to events in the macro economy. We need to better show students that the Community College and workforce development programs adds value to business formation, career uplift and career longevity. Where we can, we need to have the pathways from both to higher academic attainment. The DC metropolitan area is an expensive area to live in. We need to make sure that area residents are able to live and thrive

in our community by having academic offerings that align with their life goals and economic needs.

18. What steps do you think the University should take to increase private fundraising?

-- I think we need to grow our alumni giving. While we have seen an uptick in giving and participation from alumni giving, we are still are not accessing the vast overwhelming numbers of our alumni. We need to reconnect with them and help them realize that the continuing value of their degree is very much linked to contemporary strength and reputation of the University.

-- We are working on our branding and marketing efforts to look at local donors as well as national donors. We operate in the shadow of several better funded private institutions that have the internal and external apparatus to get donor investments from around the country. As we get our story out, show our success and value proposition, I am confident that we will have better success with alumni giving.

19. The University has several capital projects that it needs to complete but has limited funding to do so. What are your priorities with regard to the University 's capital projects?

-- We need to prioritize the building structures and mechanical systems at the University. Several of our buildings have mechanical systems that do not function. This makes classrooms and office space too hot or too cold depending on the time of the year. We have faulty elevators, cooler systems and maintenance needs that need to be remediated. In addition to the foregoing, I think we need a long-term home for our Community College that works for our students and faculty. We need to continue to make sure that our real estate investments align with our academic needs.

Attachment #1

Financial Disclosure Statement

FDS Filing Details for 2019

Name: Christopher Bell

Date of Appointment or Employment:

Final Date of Service:

Position: Board Member

Agency: University of the District of Columbia

Position Held with the District Government During the Prior calendar year (If Not The Same As Above)

Position:

Final Date in Position:

Agency:

Non District Employment/Business

1) Did you have any non-District employment or engage in any outside business or other activity during the previous calendar year for which you received compensation of \$200 or more?

Position / Title	Name of Employer	Description of Work	Start Date	End Date	Income Received from Outside Business	Client Name
Attorney	Ballard Spahr LLC	Provide legal counsel on finance transactions	10/05/2015	02/28/2020	\$250,001 - \$500,000	

2) Was your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) employed by a private entity or did they engage in any business endeavors during the previous calendar year for which they received compensation of \$200 or more?

No

3) Did you serve in any unpaid position (without compensation) as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, member or in any other formal capacity of a non-government board or other outside entity during the previous calendar year?

Position / Title	Name of Entity	Start Date	End Date
Harvard Alumni Real Estate Board	Board Member	07/01/2019	

4) Did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) serve in any unpaid position (without compensation) as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, member or any other formal capacity of a non-government board or other outside entity during the previous calendar year?

Position / Title	Name of Entity	Start Date	End Date
Vice Chair	American Bar Association	06/01/2019	

5) During the previous calendar year, did you have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

6) During the previous calendar year, did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

Securities, Holdings and Investments

7) Did you have a beneficial interest in or hold any security ("security" means stocks (any class), bonds (including savings bonds and tax exempt bonds), stock options, warrants, debentures, obligations, notes (not mortgage notes), mortgages (not on one's home), investment interests in limited partnerships, REITs, and such other evidences of indebtedness and certificates of interest or participation in any profit-sharing agreement as are usually referred to as securities) at the close of the previous calendar year that exceeded in the aggregate \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

List each security and/or beneficial interest you held below	Total Value of Beneficial Interests or Securities at the close of previous calendar year.
Ameriprise Investment Services	Over \$1,000,000

8) Did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have a beneficial interest or hold any security ("security" means stocks (any class), bonds (including savings bonds and tax exempt bonds), stock options, warrants, debentures, obligations, notes (not mortgage notes), mortgages (not on one's home), investment interests in limited partnerships, REITs, and such other evidences of indebtedness and certificates of interest or participation in any profit-sharing agreement as are usually referred to as securities) at the close of the previous calendar year that exceeded in the aggregate \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

List each security and/or beneficial interest you held below	Total Value of Beneficial Interests or Securities at the close of previous calendar year.
Ameriprise Investment Services	Over \$1,000,000

9) Did you owe any entity or person (other than a member of your immediate family) \$1,000 or more, (excluding: mortgages on your personal residence, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution), during the previous calendar year?

No

10) Did your spouse, domestic partner or dependent child(ren) owe any entity or person (other than a member of their immediate family) \$1,000 or more, (excluding: mortgages on personal residences, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution), during the previous calendar year?

No

11) Did you have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year, aside from primary personal residence, occupied by you, your spouse or your domestic partner, where your interest had a fair market value of more than \$1,000, or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

No

12) Did your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year, aside from their primary personal residence, where their interest had a fair market value of \$1,000 or more or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

No

Regulated Professions

13) Do you hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are you licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are you licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

Type of License Issued	Issuing Entity
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Legal License	District of Columbia Bar
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14) Does your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are they licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are they licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, or the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

Type of License Issued	Issuing Entity
Legal License	District of Columbia Bar

Gifts

15) Did you receive any gift(s) (A gift is defined as a payment, subscription, advance, forbearance, rendering, or deposit of money, services, or anything of value, unless consideration of equal or greater value is received) from any person that has or is seeking to do business with the District, conducts operations or activities that are regulated by the District, or has an interest that may be favorably affected by the performance or nonperformance of your duties in the total amount or with a total value of \$100 or more during the previous calendar year?

No

Additional Comments

Supporting Documents

I certify that I have:

- Not caused title to property to be placed in another person or entity for the purpose of avoiding the disclosure requirements on the preceding form;
- Filed and paid my income and property taxes;
- Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District;
- Reported known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities;
- Not been offered or accepted any bribes;
- Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means;
- Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law; and
- Not received or been given anything of value, including a gift, favor, service, loan gratuity, discount, hospitality, political contribution, or promise of future employment, based on any understanding that my official actions or judgment or vote would be influenced.
- I certify that I have:
- Not caused title to property to be placed in another person or entity for the purpose of avoiding the disclosure requirements on the preceding form;
- Filed and paid my income and property taxes;
- Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District;
- Reported known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities;
- Not been offered or accepted any bribes;
- Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means;
- Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law; and
- Not received or been given anything of value, including a gift, favor, service, loan gratuity, discount, hospitality, political contribution, or promise of future employment, based on any understanding that my official actions or judgment or vote would be influenced.

Additional Comments

1 **COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 **Committee of the Whole**
3 October 20, 2020
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6

7 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
8

9
10 23-930
11

12
13 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
14
15
16
17

18 To confirm the reappointment of Christopher Bell as a member of the Board of Trustees of the
19 University of the District of Columbia.
20

21 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
22 resolution may be cited as the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia
23 Christopher Bell Confirmation Resolution of 2020”.
24

25 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:
26

27 Mr. Christopher Bell
28 Hawthorne Street, N.W.
29 Washington, D.C. 20008
30 (Ward 3)
31

32 as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, established
33 by section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act,
34 approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), for a term to end
35 May 15, 2025.

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

39 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.