



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR
OCT 1 1 2016

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 4 of the Office on Ex-Offender Affairs and Commission on Re-Entry and Ex-Offender Affairs Establishment Act of 2006, effective March, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-243; D.C. Official Code § 24-1303), which established the Commission on Re-Entry and Ex-Offender Affairs ("Commission"), re-designated by Mayor's Order 2012-31, dated February 12, 2012, as the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizen Affairs, I am pleased to nominate the following person for appointment to the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizen Affairs:

Ms. Esther Ford 4805 1<sup>st</sup> Street, SW, Apartment A Washington, DC 20032 (Ward 8)

as a member of the Commission, replacing Roosevelt Cohens, for a term to end August 4, 2017.

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.

Murie Bowse

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 appointment of Ms. Esther Ford to the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizen Affairs. RESOLVED, BY COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizens Affairs Esther Ford Confirmation Resolution of 2016". Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of: Ms. Esther Ford 4805 1st Street, SW, Apartment A Washington, DC 20032 (Ward 8) as a member of the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizen Affairs, established by section 4 of the Office on ex-Offender Affairs and Commission on Re-Entry and Ex-Offender Affairs Establishment Act of 2006, effective March, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-243; D.C. Official Code § 24-1303), re-designated by Mayor's Order 2012-31, dated February 12, 2012, as the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning Citizen Affairs, replacing Roosevelt Cohens, for a term to end August 4, 2017. 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. 

#### **ESTHER FORD**

OBJECTIVE: A challenging position which will allow me the opportunity to mentor my peers and assist them to develop skills that will enhance their recovery process.

#### **SUMMARY**

- Ability to work effectively, provide positive feedback with coworkers.
- Skilled in providing a healthy, safe and stigma free environment with in the community
- The ability to train others with skills that will provide positive and professional work ethics and empathy that will inspire trust among with community members.
- Manage and work effectively in all socio-economic arenas.

#### PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Provide information on various educational, employment and career resources. Assist
  with the utilization of source materials using job search databases. Provided career
  counseling and re-entry information for those in and out an institutional setting.
  Assisted with developing pre-release plans and individual recovery/treatment plans
- Make presentations to communities on trauma related to issues.
- Served as a liaison with mental health/substance abuse consumers formerly incarcerated persons whom have successfully completed treatment to help them advancement to the next stages of recovery.

#### **SUMMARY OF APTITUDES**

Clinically Competent Certification Co-occurring Disorders• 12 Core Functions, SBIRT Treatment • Crisis Intervention• Adult Supervision

## Work Experience:

First Stop Recovery Resource and Wellness Center- Executive Director	Present
DC DOC RSAT Program-Volunteer/hired as Peer Program Assistant	5/4/13 to 9/15
Pathways to Housing (ACT Team# 3)	1//13 to 5/15
Women's Program Development, Campbell Foundation	4/11 to 12/12
Program Asst. /Peer Advocate, Catholic Charities	2010 to 2011
Second Genesis/Facilitator	2009-2011
Trinity Dry Cleaner-Manager	1994-1999

## **Esther Ford**

## **EDUCATION/TRAINING/CERTIFICATIONS**

University District of Columbia- Social Work	8/16	
Catholic University of America – AA Human Services	5/16/15	
DC Certified Peer Specialist	9/14	
Catholic Charities School of Professional Studies	6/11 to12/11	
Certifications and Certificates in Training for:		
Managers Food Handlers License	06/16	
Human Rights Liaison	01/16	
Re Entry Support Specialist Advance Level Facilitator	07/15	
Certified Forensic Peer Specialist	01/15	
Certified Peer Specialist with Advance Level Training for Veterans	10/14	
Certified Clinically Competent in Co Occurring Disorder	10/14-8/15	
Catholic Charities Professional Counseling Certification- 240 contact hours 06/12		
Suicide Prevention	09/14	
SBIRT Training	06/13	
Incorporating the 10 Peer Concepts into Daily Practice	11/14	
Trauma Informed Training	2/12/13	
WRAP Facilitator	12/14	
DTR Facilitator 8/13 TO 4/15		
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training	08/14	
Mental Health First Aid	07/14	

# **Conference Participation:**

• 2015 (Sponsor) Behavioral Health Trauma Informed Focus on Recidivism

- 2012/13/14 (Host) Mental Health Awareness Summit, Trauma Informed Care
- Created Mentoring and Support Program at Maryland Correctional Facility

## **BOARD OR COMMITTEE**

- DBH Certified Peer Specialist (Committee and Trainer)
- DC Re Entry Taskforce
- Ombudsman Advisory Council -Committee Member
- Ida Mae Campbell Wellness Center (Former President and Board Chair)
- Undo Racism in America Committee Member
- Leadership Committee for EXOA

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

- Standardized Peer Foundation Training module (Creator)
- Facilitator for DC DBH Certified Peer Specialist Training
- EXOA- 12 Step Program for retuning citizens 2/16 (Creator)
- Peers Talk Social Media Site (Creator)
- Family Chatroom Social Media Site (Creator)
- USA VETS Social Media Site (Creator)
- First Stop Recovery Resource and Wellness Center (Founder/ Executive Director)
- Re Entry Support Specialist (Creator and Facilitator)
- CRESS-Certified Re Entry Support Specialist (Creator and Facilitator)



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

#### **Esther Ford**



Esther Ford is an advanced-level certified re-entry support specialist dedicated to increasing engagement and linkages with the returning citizen community.

Ms. Ford, herself a returning citizen, personally experienced the challenges of reintegration in the community, including the effects of stigma associated with incarceration, which directly impacts and limits housing and employment opportunities. She has dedicated herself to serve as a model for the possibility of leading a productive and fulfilling life as an active member in her community.

Ms. Ford founded the First Stop Recovery Resource and Wellness Center (FSRWC), a community- based organization committed to the recovery of all those who are challenged by behavioral health conditions and overcoming all other addictive behaviors, including veterans, returning citizens, homeless, geriatric, members of LGBTQ population, and youth. FSRWC places special emphasis on high-risk individuals and uses a peer leader model to directly impact clients.

A Ward 8 resident, Ms. Ford is an advocate for social change and holds numerous certifications.

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



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To:

Lauren C. Vaughan, Steve Walker

From:

Betsy Cavendish

Date:

September 22, 2016

Subject:

Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions appointing Al Hanson, Clarence Johnson,

Corwin Knight, Esther Ford, Marcus Bullock, Paula Thompson, Stenise Sanders, Tanisha Murden, and Tony Lewis to the Commission on Re-Entry and Returning

Citizen Affairs

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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 Alana Intrieri, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

Elizabeth Cavendish