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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

July 11, 2014

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 213 of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1202.13 (2012 Repl.)), which established the Board of Professional Counseling, and in accordance with section 2(f)(24) of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f)(24) (2013 Supp.)), I am pleased to nominate the following individual for re-appointment:

Victoria Sardi-Brown
2450 Virginia Avenue, N.W., #324
Washington, D.C. 20037
(Ward 2)


as an educator engaged in teaching and counseling member, to the Board of Professional Counseling, for a term to end July 1, 2016.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of this 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 Darryl Gorman, Director, Office of Boards and Commissions, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent C. Gray".
Vincent C. Gray



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 re-appointment of Ms. Victoria Sardi-Brown to the District of Columbia Board of
Professional Counseling.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling Victoria
Sardi-Brown Confirmation Resolution of 2014".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the re-appointment of:

Victoria Sardi-Brown
2450 Virginia Avenue, N.W., #324
Washington, D.C. 20037
(Ward 2)

as an educator engaged in teaching and counseling member, pursuant to section 213 of the
District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C.
Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1202.13), and section 2(f)(24) of the Confirmation Act of
1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D. C. Official Code § 1-523.01(f)(24)), for a
term to end July 1, 2016.

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.

Victoria A. Sardi-Brown, Ph.D., LPC

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

- Licensed Professional Counselor (DC; PRC13852).
- Over 15 years of clinical experience in mental health and career counseling.
- Over 15 years of teaching experience at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Extensive experience in research design, implementation, analysis, and interpretation.
- Excellent communication, leadership, organization, and team building abilities.
- Demonstrated expertise in professional presentations and facilitating workshops.
- Highly effective in working with diverse groups of people.
- Significant public policy and advocacy experience in the counseling field.
- Extensive involvement and service to educational institutions and non-profit associations.
- Created a 501(c)3, manage, and oversee the operations of a childhood cancer non-profit.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation, www.mattiemiracle.com, Arlington, VA.

Co-founder, Chairman, and President (November 2009 - Present)

Mattie Miracle is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to improving the treatment of Osteosarcoma and other childhood cancers through the psychosocial support of children and their families. This foundation was founded in the loving memory of Matthew J. Brown, my seven year old son who died from Osteosarcoma on September 8, 2009. The Foundation serves as a resource on Osteosarcoma and other childhood cancers by enhancing awareness, education, advocacy, and providing psychosocial support services to children, their families, and medical personnel so that children are better prepared to cope with cancer and thereby lead happy and productive lives during and after treatment. As President and Co-founder of the Foundation, the responsibilities entail: 1) the creation and establishment of a non-profit, which included filing articles of incorporation in the State of Virginia, filing a tax exempt status form with the IRS for a letter of determination, creating by-laws and other governing board documents, 2) the establishment of a governing board, 3) presiding over all board meetings, 4) interfacing with the public and non-profit associations to seek funding and grants to run and support Mattie Miracle, 5) planning fund raising events, such as the Mattie Miracle Walk scheduled each Spring, 6) managing the day to day operations of Mattie Miracle, and 7) working with leading psychosocial professionals to create and implement a national psychosocial standard of care.

The American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA), Alexandria, VA

Past President (July 2009 - July 2010)

As Past President of this national professional association (with 6000 members), the responsibilities entailed: 1) directly supporting the current President, 2) attending all executive board meetings and conference calls, 3) planning the National Conference in July 2010, 4) overseeing the financial integrity of the Association, 5) recruiting new leaders to the Association, and 6) serving as a liaison to the Association's membership committee.

President (July 2008 to July 2009)

Nominated by the AMHCA executive board and elected by AMHCA members to serve as President. AMHCA is a National Counseling professional association representing licensed mental health counselors and State chapters, with consistent standards of education, training, licensing, practice, advocacy and ethics. Responsibilities of President include: 1) implementing the annual AMHCA plan of action, 2) presiding at all the meetings of the board of directors, 3) supervising the executive director, 4) establishing task forces, 5) representing AMHCA at meetings and conferences, and 6) serving as a liaison to AMHCA committees.

The District of Columbia Mental Health Counselors Association (DCMHCA), Washington, DC

Executive Director (July 2005 to Present)

DCMHCA is a professional counseling association, which was established in 1985, and is a state chapter of the

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued):

AMHCA. The association represents the training and advocacy needs of mental health counselors and their clients in the District of Columbia. Responsibilities include: 1) serving as a liaison between the state chapter and the national association, AMHCA, 2) managing the executive leadership of the association, 3) overseeing the treasurer and the association's funds, 4) coordinating membership services, 5) establishing community networks and organizing professional development opportunities, 6) designing and maintaining the association's website, and 7) generating non-dues revenue for the association.

The District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling, Washington, DC

Licensure Board Chair (June 2006 to Present)

Appointed by former DC Mayor Anthony Williams. Responsibilities include: 1) reviewing and approving counselor licensure applicants (with an estimate of processing over 200 applications per year), 2) presiding over monthly board meetings, 3) presiding over all ethical violation hearings and determining revocations or suspensions of licenses, 4) instituting new bills and regulations of the profession in the District of Columbia, and 5) interacting with licensees, DC City Council, and the public regarding licensure issues and concerns.

The George Washington University, Department of Counseling, Washington, DC

CACREP Coordinator (January 2004 to January 2006)

Appointed by the graduate program chair to assist in developing and coordinating the University's report for The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). This comprehensive report documents the standards that all counseling programs must meet in order to get re-accredited. This report documents the University's compliance with such standards as clinical training, and program objectives and curriculum. The process also requires close coordination with program faculty, students, and alumni.

The George Washington University, Department of Counseling, Washington, DC

Project Coordinator, Graduate Certificate Programs in Counseling Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Persons (June 2001 to Present)

Co-authored a grant with the Department Program Director to receive funding from a Title VII Training for All Teachers grant awarded to the University. The Department received a \$30,000 grant from Project PAACT (Preparing All Administrators, Counselors and Teachers to Educate Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Students) to develop graduate certificate programs in Counseling Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Persons. This is a 12-credit program for both pre-master's and post-master's students. Responsibilities include assisting the Program Director, fielding applicant questions, and advising applicants throughout the graduate certificate admissions process.

National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) Campus Coordinator, (September 1998 to October 2001)

Assisted counseling graduate students complete and process their applications for the bi-yearly administration of The National Counseling Exam (NCE), which is the exam that qualifies an individual for national counselor certification. Created a listserv to update students about the exam process and procedures. Responsible for administering NBCC Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to mental health professionals in the community who attend Counseling Department sponsored workshops and presentations. Oversaw the administration of NBCC CEUs for professional development events that were co-sponsored with the Art Therapy and the Applied Health Sciences Departments.

Graduate Assistant, (September 1996 to August 2001)

Assisted the Counseling Department's Program Director in preparing the application for the re-accreditation of the University's counseling programs. The Department was seeking re-accreditation from CACREP, which document the standards that all counseling programs must meet in order to get re-accredited. The re-accreditation process occurs every five years. Was instrumental in creating the template for the 500-page document. Wrote program summaries documenting and illustrating Department compliance with each CACREP standard and criteria. An example of the information provided was an overview of course content, compiled data from student evaluations, an evaluation of the quality of student internship placements, an assessment of our Department's research publications, alumni job placement, characteristics of our facility and technology, and aspects of the admissions process. Responsible for the coordination of the CACREP accreditation team visit to the University as well as the University's written response to the items addressed in the accreditation team report.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued):

Involved with formulating and organizing the Department's Program Review, which is a University sponsored assessment of the Counseling and Human Resource Development programs. Planned, coordinated, and oversaw a marketing campaign and an alumni event, with over 300 people in attendance.

Created a program evaluation survey that is administered each May to all graduating counseling students. In addition, results are tabulated each year and shared with faculty and the student body. In order to monitor the evaluation process more effectively, developed a flow chart of the Department's schedule of evaluations. The formulation of this chart is in compliance with our programs' accreditation body, CACREP.

Created and maintained four departmental listservs (faculty, doctoral students, master's students, and alumni). As the list master, responsibilities included answering student questions, posting job announcements, internship opportunities, communications between faculty and students, networking opportunities, announcements of professional development activities, and solidifying connections between alumni and the department.

Doctoral Initiative Coordinator, (May 1999 to August 2000)

Coordinated the application process of converting the Ed.D. program in Counselor Education at the University to a Ph.D. program. This entailed: (1) compiling and analyzing doctoral student admissions data; (2) scanning through major newspapers as well as World Wide Web sites to analyze the requirements sought for jobs in academia from 1997 to 2000; and (3) designing and administering a survey to 37 doctoral programs that were accredited by the CACREP to decipher the demand in the U.S. for Ph.D. programs in Counselor Education. The results of this survey were compiled and shared with all 37 programs as well as provided the University with substantial evidence in support of the Department's application for the conversion of the Ed.D. program to a Ph.D. program in Counseling.

The George Washington University, Community Counseling Services, Washington, DC

Supervisor, (September 1997 to May 1998, August 2000 to August 2003)

Supervise master's level students. Duties include regular meetings with students to review taped client sessions and cases notes, and provide feedback regarding student's interaction with clients. Weekly supervision critiques the effectiveness of the supervisor.

Counseling Intern, (January 1996 to August 1996)

Conducted personal and career counseling sessions. Enhanced skills in client intake, administration and interpretation of assessment tests, maintenance of client files, and made referrals within the professional community.

U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO), Office of Counseling & Career Development, Washington, DC

Counseling Intern, (January 1996 to May 1998)

Developed mental health and career counseling skills in a crisis situation when the GAO downsized 150 employees. Conducted workshops on Interviewing Skills, Effective Listening Skills, and Resume Clinics. Created and implemented a Support Group for downsized employees and supervised new interns. Counseled mental health and career clients and implemented support groups for the following issues: women's issues, caregivers of older adults, bereavement, and assertiveness training.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

The George Washington University, Department of Counseling/Human Services, Washington, DC

Associate Professorial Lecturer, (January 1999 to May 2008)

Selected by the Counseling Department Program Director, to teach several master's level classes that are a requirement for counseling majors. Also selected by the Director of the Human Services program, to teach a course entitled 'Introduction to Human Development I.' This is an undergraduate level course and a requirement for Human Services' majors. Graduate and undergraduate courses entail weekly lectures that intertwine theory and practice into each session. Encourage student participation and create a classroom environment in which students feel comfortable sharing their practicum/field work experiences to solidify the concepts discussed in class. In 2002, received a *Bender Outstanding Teaching Award from the George Washington University*. The following is a list of courses taught at the University:

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (continued):

- Social and Cultural Dimensions of Counseling/Multicultural Counseling (graduate level): Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008
- Assessment in Counseling (graduate level): Spring 2004, Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008
- Psychosocial Adjustment (graduate level): Spring 1999, Fall 1999, Summer 2000, Fall 2000, Summer 2001, Spring 2003, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Spring 2005, Spring 2007, Spring 2008
- Lifespan Development (graduate level): Summer 2001
- Counseling Older Adults (graduate level): Summer 2000
- Child and Adolescent Development (graduate level): Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008
- Introduction to Human Development I (undergraduate level): Fall 1999, Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008

Teaching Assistant, (January 1998 to May 1998)

Co-taught a master's level course in counseling entitled, 'Theories and Techniques of Counseling.' Responsible for moderating group discussions and critiqued the student case studies presented in class. Graded course papers and final exam.

Teaching Assistant, (May 1996 to July 1996)

Co-facilitated a personal growth group consisting of eight master's level students over an eight week time period.

Teaching Assistant, (September 1995 to December 1995)

Assisted in teaching a graduate course in Career Counseling. Duties included lecturing, facilitating class discussions and preparation of handouts and transparencies. Received a recommendation from the course professor for a teaching assistantship.

Boston College, Biology Department, Chestnut Hill, MA.

Teaching Assistant, (September 1991 to May 1994)

Assisted in teaching three undergraduate biology courses. Duties included tutoring, conducting field trips, grading, and conducting weekly lectures to class sizes ranging from 50 to 250 students. In 1993, received a Teaching Excellence Award from Boston College.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

The George Washington University, Department of Counseling/Human Services, Washington, DC

Project Coordinator, (June 2001 – July 2003)

Coordinated a research training study with 32 Fairfax County School Counselors. The training project was sponsored by a Preparing All Administrators, Counselors and Teachers to Educate Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Students grant. This U.S. Department of Education grant was awarded to the University, of which I applied and won a sub-grant to coordinate this project. The purpose of this study was to investigate the challenges and professional development needs of elementary and secondary school counselors who work with linguistically and culturally diverse students. In addition, their perceptions of the impact of a nine-month professional development program focused on improving school counselors' multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skill were assessed. Involved in the coding of data, data analysis and interpretation, as well as the dissemination of research findings at conferences and in publication. Involved in the coding of data, data analysis and interpretation, as well as the dissemination of research findings at conferences and in publication.

The George Washington University, Department of Counseling/Human Services, Washington, DC

Research Assistant, (September 1998 to May 2001)

The Adaptation to Aging (AtA) Scale was a new instrument that assessed the level of adjustment individuals make to the aging process. Assisted the principal director, Dr. Don Linkowski, with revising the conceptual framework for the AtA, pilot testing the instrument, as well as validating the instrument. Involved in the coding of data, data analysis and interpretation, as well as the dissemination of research findings at local and national conferences.

Doctoral Dissertation, (November 2001 to March 2003)

Designed and implemented a mixed methodology research study to assess the relationship and predictive value of

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (continued):

eldercare service use/non-use, general self-efficacy, caregiver self-efficacy, and job satisfaction on the perceived stress levels for employed caregivers of older adults. The study was comprised of 100 caregivers of older adults who were employed at a federal agency in the Washington, DC area. The data was coded, and utilizing SPSS, extensive quantitative analyses were performed. In addition, the qualitative data obtained from in-depth interviews were also analyzed. This was the first empirical study of its kind to assess the relationship between eldercare service use and the employee's level of caregiver stress. This study pioneered new ground, because it was the first study of its kind to be conducted at a federal agency.

Boston College, Biology Department, Chestnut Hill, MA.

Master's Thesis, (September 1992 to May 1994)

Cultured human osteosarcoma cells (MG-63) and exposed this cell line to various growth factors (e.g., epidermal growth factor, fibroblast growth factor, platelet derived growth factor, and transforming growth factor) to assess their effects on the activity of alkaline phosphatase and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, key enzymes in bone formation and metabolism.

GRANTS:

In Spring 2000, co-authored with the Counseling Department Program Director at George Washington University the following grants:

- Building pre-service counselors' multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skills. Submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement & Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students. Amount awarded \$25,000.
- Building in-service counselors' multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skills. Submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement & Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students. Amount awarded \$20,000.
- Certificates in culture, language, and diversity. Submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement & Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students. Amount awarded \$30,000.

EDUCATION:

The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Ph.D. in Counseling (2003); 3.94/4.00 GPA

The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

M.A. in Counseling (1996); 3.89/4.00 GPA

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

M.S. in Biology (1994); 3.75/4.00 GPA

Union College, Schenectady, N.Y.

B.S. in Biology/Psychology (1991)

INVITED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

2009

Sardi, V.A., and Gintner, G. (2009, July). *AMHCA 101 and State Chapter Board Development*. Presentation at the American Mental Health Counselors Association Conference, Washington, DC.

2008

Sardi, V.A., and Mears, G. (2008, July). *What do boards do? What are the responsibilities of boards and board members?* Presentation at the American Mental Health Counselors Association Conference, San Diego, CA.

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**



Legal Counsel Division

MEMORANDUM

**TO: Lolita S. Alston
Director
Office of Legislative Support**

**FROM: Janet M. Robins
Deputy Attorney General
Legal Counsel Division**

DATE: June 6, 2014

**SUBJECT: Legal Sufficiency Review of Resolution, the "District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling Ms. Victoria Sardi-Brown Confirmation Resolution of 2014"
(AM-13-942 B)**

This is to Certify that this Office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and has found it to be legally sufficient. If you have any questions regarding this certification, please do not hesitate to contact me at 724-5524.


Janet M. Robins

JMR/phg