

MURIEL BOWSER MAYOR

October 28, 2021

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 3 of the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.03), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Mr. Gary Thompson Northampton Street, NW Washington, DC 20015 (Ward 4)

for appointment as a member of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, replacing Michael Bennett, for a term to end July 7, 2024.

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

Muriel Bowsen

Chairman Phil Mendelson at the request of the Mayor A PROPOSED RESOLUTION IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA To confirm the appointment of Mr. Gary Thompson to the District of Columbia Board of Elections. RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Board of Elections Gary Thompson Confirmation Resolution of 2021". Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of: Mr. Gary Thompson Northampton Street, NW Washington, DC 20015 (Ward 4) as a member of the District of Columbia Board of Elections, pursuant to section 3 of the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.03), replacing Michael Bennett, for a term to end July 7, 2024. 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

Gary Thompson



Gary Thompson has been practicing law for 30 years, and is a top-rated specialist in the field of policyholder-side insurance recovery, including claim analysis, negotiation, settlement, arbitration, and when needed, litigation. He has won many trials and settled dozens of cases. He has experience representing policyholders in all lines of insurance. Mr. Thompson has worked on dozens of major property and business interruption claims, including some of the largest in history arising from 9/11, hurricanes like Katrina, the California fires, and recently for COVID-19 losses.

Mr. Thompson also has decades of experience in the hospitality industry on behalf of hotel owners or managers, including relating to management agreements, loan agreements, construction defects, mold, pollution, legionella, personal liability, theft, and various commercial disputes (both insurance and other disputes). He has been the lead trial lawyer in lengthy trials resulting in policyholder victories, including lead-counsel in verdicts from \$1 million to \$60 million. In total, his court verdicts, arbitration awards, and settlements (as lead lawyer) tally over a billion dollars.

Mr. Thompson's career also includes work with non-profit/public interest organizations, and pro bono work in voting rights and electoral work. He served eight years as an elected ANC Commissioner in ANC 3/4G, chairing the Commission for four years. He served as lead counsel in the action *Zukerberg v. D.C.* (2014) that led to a publicly-elected D.C. Attorney General and drafted and help litigate the action *Banner v. U.S.* (1998) seeking to invalidate the Congressional prohibition on a non-resident income tax on grounds of voting discrimination. He has ongoing involvement in D.C. voting rights issues.

A Ward 4 resident, Mr. Thompson received a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University and a juris doctorate from Rutgers Law School.



GARY THOMPSON

Founder, Managing Partner – Thompson Hammerman Davis LLP, D.C. (1/2019-present). Boutique law firm with a focus on policyholder-side insurance recovery, hospitality law, and construction disputes – experience litigating, winning trials, and reaching settlements. See www.thompsonhd.com.

Partner – Weisbrod Matteis & Copley PLLC, D.C. (2018). Continuing practice focused on insurance recovery.

Partner – Reed Smith LLP, D.C. (1/2006-12/2017). Office Managing Partner, D.C. office (2014-2017). Leader of 80-attorney office. Leading equity partner in the Insurance Recovery Group and Hospitality Industry Group, with substantial litigation and settlement experience, including several large trial verdicts.

Partner – Gilbert Heintz & Randolph LLP, Washington, D.C. (1/2001-1/2006). Founding equity partner of policyholder-side insurance coverage firm; helped the firm grow to 45 attorneys. Significant leadership and litigation experience.

Partner – Howrey & Simon, D.C. (7/1999 to 12/2000); and **Associate** (4/1995 to 6/1999). Extensive litigation experience in all aspects of litigation, at both federal and state levels. Substantive experience in policyholder-side insurance coverage, as well as in environmental, antitrust, fraud, and general commercial disputes.

Associate – Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, D.C. (now part of Arnold & Porter) (7/1992 – 5/1995); NYC (9/1990 – 7/1992; Summer 1989). Broad litigation experience in various aspects of pretrial litigation, at both federal and state levels.

Rutgers Law School, Newark, NJ (J.D. 1990). Law Review, Senior Articles Editor. Winner, Mock Trial Competition.

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. (B.A. 1987). Cum laude; double major in Philosophy and Political Theory. Debate Team (Mid-Atlantic Champion and other awards; scholarship).

Bars: District of Columbia; New York; federal courts: D.C. Cir.; 4th Cir., 9th Cir., D.D.C.; D.Md.; S.D.N.Y.; W.D.Tenn.

Pro Bono & Civic: 30 years of pro bono work, with various awards (2015 D.C. Bar Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year); service on various non-profits Boards; eight-years elected Chevy Chase Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (four as Chair); 18 years, Pro Bono General Counsel to the Higher Achievement Program.

Publications: extensive, see <a href="https://www.thompsonhd.com/gary-thompsonhd.com

Avocations: Running (21 Marathons & Ultras); Writing; U.S. Civil War History, including leadership in hosting "Ft. Stevens Day" (13th & Quakanbos St. N.W.)

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



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To:

Ronan Gulstone, Steve Walker

From:

Betsy Cavendish

Date:

October 28, 2021

Elijabet A. avendisch

Subject:

Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Michael Gill and Gary

Thompson to the District of Columbia Board of Elections

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

Elizabeth Cavendish