



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

December 1, 2022

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 D.C. Official Code§ 16-1052, I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Ms. Shannarese Sims
Franklin Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
(Ward 5)

for appointment as a community representative member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, replacing Ian Harris, to serve the remainder of an unexpired term ending July 20, 2025.


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,

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

Muriel Bowser


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the appointment of Ms. Shannarese Sims to the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board Shannarese Sims Confirmation Resolution of 2022”.

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

Ms. Shannarese Sims
Franklin Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
(Ward 5)

as a community representative member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 16-1052, replacing Ian Harris, to serve the remainder of an unexpired term ending July 20, 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.

Shannarese Sims, MA, LGPC

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor dedicated to eradicating violence against women through advocacy, education and trauma-informed support services.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts:
Counseling Psychology
Bowie State University
Merit Scholarship Recipient
12/2019

Bachelor of Science:
Human Ecology & Community Health
The Ohio State University
Morrill Scholarship Recipient
06/2012

SKILLS

- **Detail Oriented**
- **Cultural Humility**
- **Social Media Savvy**
- **Event Coordination**
- **Innovative + Adaptable**
- SAVRAA Sexual Assault Counselor Training
- CPR & First Aid Certifications
- Microsoft Office Products
- Ability to advance functioning of programs + achieve project deliverables

WORK EXPERIENCE

Therapeutic Services Manager

Network for Victim Recovery of DC | 2021 - Present

- Spent 6 months creating and developing a Therapeutic Services Program for the organization; manage operations and activities for the program.
- Maintain a caseload of crisis/short-term therapy clients; develop and facilitate support groups for survivors; empower clients to make informed decisions about their mental health.

Senior Advocate

Network for Victim Recovery of DC | 2021

- Advanced client advocacy and provided trauma-informed support services to survivors of crime.
- Onboarded new team members and assisted the Program Director in research, education, and implementation of best practices for victim services.

Founder/Lead Therapist - PT

Hiwa Therapy, LLC | 2020 - Present

- Provide therapy to individuals who have experienced interpersonal violence, sexual abuse, trauma, and anxiety.
- Integrate theoretical frameworks such as Cognitive Behavior Therapy and Adlerian Therapy to support clients in managing mental health.
- Create and facilitate psychoeducational presentations and trainings to community organizations.

Contractual Therapist - PT

Chase Counseling and Consulting Services, LLC | 2020 - Present

- Provide strengths-based therapeutic services to individuals under the clinical supervision of Dr. Bridgette Chase, LPC.
- Develop special projects and manage branding for the CEO.

Shannarese Sims, MA, LGPC

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor dedicated to eradicating violence against women through advocacy, education and trauma-informed support services.

INTERESTS

- Travel
- Literature
- Adventure
- Transformative Justice

AFFILIATIONS

Forensic Teaching Associate
DC Forensic Nurse Examiners
 2021 - Present

- Instruct novice clinicians on best practices for completing a medical-forensic exam, including speculum insertion.
- Emphasize trauma-informed language and actions to use throughout the medical-forensic exam.

Internship Counselor
Young Ladies of Tomorrow
 2019 - 2020

- Reduced recidivism for at-risk adolescent girls via trauma-informed therapy.
- Lead psychoeducational groups at the Balance and Restorative Justice Drop-In Center.

Professional Member
American Counseling Association
 2019 - Present

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

Advocate

Network for Victim Recovery of DC | 2019 - 2021

- Offered support services to survivors of sexual assault; worked closely with Forensic Nurse Examiners, Emergency Room Personnel, and the DC Metropolitan Police Department to coordinate a seamless response process.
- Referred survivors to appropriate internal and external resources; attended hearings in the criminal justice system to support and advocate for survivors.

Lead Case Manager

House of Ruth Madison Program | 2018 - 2019

- Assisted survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, substance abuse, and neuro-divergent clients overcome barriers to services.
- Built therapeutic relationships, assessed strengths and needs, collaborated on goals, and implemented service plans.
- Created and facilitated a variety of psychoeducational and psychosocial groups for residents of the program.

Hotline & Residential Coordinator Manager

My Sister's Place DC | 2016 - 2017

- Developed plans to improve the functioning of the Hotline Program; ensured 4000 community referrals were distributed in a single year.
- Interviewed, trained, and supervised 14 Hotline & Residential Coordinator staff.
- Offered compassionate support to hotline users; demonstrated specialized knowledge and sexual assault service skills when responding to client requests for assistance.



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

Shannarese Sims



Shannarese Sims is a Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor based in Washington, DC. She practices under the supervision of Dr. Bridgette Chase (Chase Consulting Services, LLC) and specializes in issues stemming from interpersonal violence, sexual abuse, trauma, and anxiety. Ms. Sims works as a Program Manager at Network for Victim Recovery of DC, managing therapeutic services for survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

With professional experience in crisis intervention and response, psychosocial case management services, sexual assault support services, and group facilitation, Ms. Sims strives to address the wellbeing of trauma survivors. She most recently created and developed the Therapeutic Services Program in which she manages and remains steadfast in her commitment to eradicate violence against women through advocacy, education, and trauma-informed services.

A Ward 5 resident, Ms. Sims holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Ecology/Community Health at The Ohio State University and a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Bowie State University.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Bryan Hum, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: October 3, 2022
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Lisa Geller, Ashley Joyner Chavous, Laila Leigh, Shannarese Sims, and Varina Winder as members of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'.

Elizabeth Cavendish