



**MURIEL BOWSER**  
**MAYOR**

March 8, 2024

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 2214 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321; D.C. Official Code § 38-1802.14), I am pleased to nominate the following individual:

Mr. James Sandman  
Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
(Ward 6)

for reappointment as a member of the Public Charter School Board, for a term to end February 24, 2028.


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 that reads "Muriel Bowser".

Muriel Bowser  
Mayor

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

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A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the reappointment of James Sandman to the Public Charter School Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the “Public Charter School Board James Sandman Confirmation Resolution of 2024”.

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

Mr. James Sandman  
Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
(Ward 6)

as a member of the Public Charter School Board, established by section 2214 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321; D.C. Official Code § 38-1802.14), for a term to end February 24, 2028.

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.

## JAMES J. SANDMAN

### SUMMARY

Broad leadership experience as President of a national non-profit corporation, Managing Partner of a leading international law firm, General Counsel of a major urban school district undergoing dramatic transformation, President of the District of Columbia Bar, and chair/officer/board member of non-profit organizations. Frequent speaker and panelist on issues involving the administration of justice, the legal profession, diversity, and pro bono programs.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020 – **Distinguished Lecturer and Senior Consultant to the Future of the Profession Initiative**  
Present *University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School*

2023 -- **Senior Advisor and Chair of the National Leadership Council**  
Present *Frontline Justice*

2020 – **President Emeritus**  
Present *Legal Services Corporation*

2011 – **President**  
2020 *Legal Services Corporation*

Chief executive officer of the non-profit corporation established by Congress to provide funding for civil legal services for low-income people. LSC is the largest single funder of civil legal aid programs in the United States, making grants to 132 programs with more than 850 offices and almost 5,000 lawyers serving every state and the territories

- Oversaw budget of \$440 million and managed staff of 115 employees
- Approved all grants
- Represented LSC in dealing with Members of Congress and their staffs
- Worked closely with eleven-member Board of Directors appointed by the President of the United States and confirmed by the Senate

2007 – **General Counsel**  
2011 *District of Columbia Public Schools*

Chief Legal Officer for a 45,000-student, 8,000-employee public school system under the leadership of Chancellor Michelle Rhee

- Member of Chancellor Rhee's senior management team
- Responsible for all legal issues arising in the school system, including labor and employment matters, policy development, administrative litigation, and

- compliance with federal and local law
- Managed an office of 18 lawyers and six staff

1977 - **Managing Partner, Partner, and Associate**  
2007 *Arnold & Porter LLP*

Arnold & Porter is an international law firm based in Washington, DC.

- Elected by the partnership to five two-year terms as Managing Partner
- Firm revenue tripled during tenure as Managing Partner
- Opened and served as Managing Partner of Los Angeles office
- Practice areas: risk management and avoidance, product liability litigation, complex litigation, antitrust counseling and litigation
- Elected member of the firm's Policy and Partner Compensation Committees
- Appointed member of the firm's Management, Hiring, New Partners, Diversity, and Charitable Contributions Committees
- Resident in the firm's Washington (1977-82, 1992-2007), Denver (1982-91), and Los Angeles (1991-92) offices

1976 – **Law Clerk to the Honorable Max Rosenn, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit**  
1977

## EDUCATION

1973 - **University of Pennsylvania Law School**  
1976 *J.D., cum laude*

- Order of the Coif (top ten percent of class)
- Executive Editor, Volume 124, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*
- Associate Editor, Volume 123, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*

1969 - **Boston College, College of Arts and Sciences**  
1973 *Bachelor of Arts (History), summa cum laude*

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Durcan Commencement Award (top history student)
- Honors Program
- Four-Year Presidential Scholarship

## PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC, AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

### Albany Law School

- Member, Board of Trustees, 2015-present

### American Bar Association

- Vice Chair, Task Force on Law and Artificial Intelligence, 2023-present
- Chair, Task Force on Legal Needs Arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2020-21

- Member, House of Delegates, 2005-07
- Member, Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service, 2007-08
- Member, Commission on the Future of Legal Services, 2014-16
- Member, Advisory Council, ABA Center for Innovation, 2016-19

**California State Bar**

- Member, Closing the Justice Gap Working Group, 2021-22

**Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church**

- Elder/Trustee, 2011-14

**Christ Church – Washington Parish (Episcopal)**

- Member of the Vestry (board of directors), 2021-present
- Senior Warden, 2022-present

**College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY**

- Member, Board of Trustees, 2014-present
- Chair, Audit Committee, 2019-present
- Chair, Legal Affairs Committee, 2021-present

**Colorado Lawyers Committee**

- Member, Board of Directors, 1984-1991

**D.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy**

- Chairman of the Board and member of the Board of Directors, 2012 –2021

**District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission**

- Vice Chair, 2020-present
- Member, appointed by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, 2014-present

**District of Columbia Bar**

- President, 2006-07 (elected by the Bar membership)
- Board of Governors, 2003-08 (elected by the Bar membership)
- Pro Bono Committee, Chair, 2009-2014; Vice Chair, 2008-09; Member, 2018-present
- Chair, Pro Bono Program Strategic Assessment Task Force, 2014-15
- Chair, Pro Bono Initiative Working Group, 2007-08
- Chair, Committee on Multijurisdictional Practice, 2001-05
- Chair, Screening Committee, 2004-05
- Co-Chair, Law Practice Management Section, 1998-2000, 2001-02; member, Section Steering Committee, 1998-2003
- Pro Bono Initiative Working Group, 2000-01
- Special Committee on Multi-Disciplinary Practice, 1999-2005
- Task Force on Sexual Orientation and the Legal Workplace, 1995-99

**District of Columbia Circuit Judicial Conference Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services**

- Chair, 2013-18; Co-Chair, 2010-13; member, 2007-18

**District of Columbia Government**

- Facilitator (unpaid volunteer), Deputy Mayor's Cross-Sector Collaboration Task Force (on collaboration between District of Columbia Public Schools and charter schools), 2015-18

**District of Columbia Public Charter School Board**

- Vice Chair, 2021-present
- Member (by appointment of the Mayor of the District of Columbia), 2019-present

**Diversity Lab**

- Consultant on improving diversity in large law firms, 2020-present

**Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System**

- Chair, Executive Committee, and Chair, Advisory Board, 2022-present
- Member, Advisory Board, 2020-present

**International Senior Lawyers Project**

- Board of Directors, 2007-11, 2021-present

**The Meyer Foundation**

- Chair of the Board, 2018-19
- Vice Chair, 2017-18
- Member, Board of Directors, 2007-19
- Audit Committee, 2008-18; Chair, 2015-18
- Governance Committee, 2016-18

**Minority Corporate Counsel Association**

- Lloyd M. Johnson, Jr., Scholarship Selection Committee, 2005-07

**NALP Foundation for Law Career Research and Education**

- Board of Trustees, 2005-08
- National Advisory Board, 2003-05

**Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Washington, DC**

- Board of Directors, 2000-05
- Secretary, 2001-05

**Pro Bono Institute**

- Member, Board of Directors, 2020-present
- Law Firm Pro Bono Project Advisory Committee, 1998-2020

**Stephoe & Johnson LLP**

- Diversity Advisory Board, Chair, 2015-18; member, 2011-18

**Tahirih Justice Center**

- Board of Directors, 2014-19

**Tzedek DC**

- Advisory Council, 2017-present

**United States Civil Rights Commission**

- District of Columbia State Advisory Committee, Chair, 2014-16; member, 2008-16

**University of Pennsylvania Law School**

- Board of Advisors, Penn Law Center on the Future of the Profession, 2019-2020
- Board of Overseers, 1998-2007
- Capital Campaign Executive Committee, 2004-12

**Washington Council of Lawyers**

- Honorary Board, 2016-present

**Washington Performing Arts**

- Member, Board of Directors, 2003-22
- Executive Committee, 2008-22
- Vice Chair, 2008-18
- Chair, Audit Committee, 2010-18, 2019-22

**Whitman-Walker Clinic**

- Chair of the Board of Directors, 2008-09
- Board of Directors, 2003-09
- Co-Chair, "Going the Extra Mile" Benefit, 2002-06

**Whitman-Walker Foundation**

- Member, Board of Directors, 2023-

**Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA**

- Board of Trustees, 2002-08

**Women's Bar Association Foundation, Washington, DC**

- Member, Board of Directors, 2011-14

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

- Wilkes University, Commencement Speaker and Honorary Doctor of Laws Recipient, 2023
- *American Lawyer* Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022
- Fayette County (Kentucky) Bar Association, Access to Justice Award, 2022
- Albany Law School, Commencement Speaker and Honorary Doctor of Laws Recipient, 2021
- American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Elected Fellow, 2021
- Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, Distinguished Life Fellow Award, 2021
- Neighborhood Legal Services Program (Washington, DC), Pioneer of Justice Award, 2021

- American Bar Association, Presidential Citation, 2020
- Legal Services NYC, Visionary Leadership Award, 2020
- American Law Institute, Member, 2019-present
- Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Louis Stokes Paragon Award, 2017
- Rutgers Law School, Commencement Speaker, 2017
- University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, Commencement Speaker, 2017
- District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights, Cornelius Alexander Humanitarian Award, 2016
- Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia, Hugh M. Johnson Award, 2016
- District of Columbia Bar, Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Award, 2015
- Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights & Urban Affairs, Wiley A. Branton Award, 2014
- Villanova University, Medallion Award and Law School Commencement Speaker, 2014
- McGlothlin Leadership Fellow, College of William & Mary, 2014
- Quotation of the Day, *The New York Times*, March 16, 2013
- College of Saint Rose, Commencement Speaker and Honorary D.H.L. Recipient, 2013
- Council for Court Excellence, Justice Potter Stewart Award, 2013
- Washington Council of Lawyers, Presidents' Award, 2012
- College of Law Practice Management, Fellow, 2012-present
- University of Pennsylvania Law School, Howard Lesnick Pro Bono Award, 2011
- Tahirih Justice Center, Wings of Justice Award, 2011
- DC Law Students in Court, first annual Celebration of Service Award, 2011
- "90 Greatest Washington Lawyers of the Last 30 Years," *Legal Times*, 2008
- University of Pennsylvania Law School, Alumni Award of Merit, 2007
- "Star of the Bar," Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, 2006

#### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

- Colorado (inactive)
- District of Columbia
- Pennsylvania (inactive)
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Courts of Appeals for the Third, Fifth, Tenth, and District of Columbia Circuits
- United States District Courts for the Districts of Columbia and Colorado





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

### James Sandman



Mr. James Sandman is an accomplished attorney and a current member of the Public Charter School Board.

Mr. Sandman served as President of the Legal Services Corporation from 2011 to 2020. The Legal Services Corporation has a budget of \$415 million and is the largest funder of civil legal aid programs in the United States, supporting 132 programs with more than 840 offices serving every state and territory.

Mr. Sandman practiced law for 30 years with the international, Washington-based law firm of Arnold & Porter. He served as the firm’s Managing Partner for ten years. Immediately prior to joining the Legal Services Corporation, he served for three years as General Counsel of the District of Columbia Public Schools. He is a past President of the 100,000-member District of Columbia Bar.

Mr. Sandman is very involved in his community in Washington, DC. He previously served as Chairman of the Boards of the Meyer Foundation and of the DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. He also served on the District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission, the Washington Performing Arts Board of Directors, and of the Tahirih Justice Center Board of Directors, which provides legal assistance to immigrant women and girls fleeing violence.

A Ward 6 resident, Mr. Sandman earned his Bachelor of Arts in History from Boston College and his Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he served as Executive Editor of the Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif.



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



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

**To:** Tomas Talamante, Steve Walker  
**From:** Betsy Cavendish  
**Date:** February 1, 2024  
**Subject:** Legal sufficiency review of Resolution nominating James Sandman as a member of the Public Charter School Board

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**This is to Certify** that this office has reviewed the above-referenced resolution and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Erika Satterlee, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Cavendish