



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

May 2, 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 204 of the Clemency Board Establishment Act of 2018, effective December 13, 2018 (D.C. Law 22-197, D.C. Official Code § 24-481.04), I am pleased to nominate the following individual:

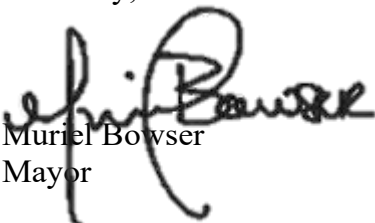
Mr. Mark Rollins
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Place, NE
Washington, DC 20019
(Ward 7)


for appointment as a member, who is a member of the District of Columbia Bar in good standing with experience in criminal law, of the Clemency Board, filling a vacant seat formerly held by Andrew Fois, for the remainder of an unexpired term to end February 10, 2027.

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 Bowser
Mayor


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

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6 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
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10 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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15 To confirm the appointment of Mark Rollins to the Clemency Board.
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17 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
18 resolution may be cited as the “Clemency Board Mark Rollins Confirmation Resolution of
19 2024”.

20 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:
21

22 Mr. Mark Rollins
23 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Place, NE
24 Washington, DC 20019
25 (Ward 7)
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27 as a member, who is a member of the District of Columbia Bar in good standing with experience
28 in criminal law, of the Clemency Board, established by section 203 of the Clemency Board
29 Establishment Act of 2018, effective December 13, 2018 (D.C. Law 22-197, D.C. Official Code
30 § 24-481.03), filling a vacant seat formerly held by Andrew Fois, for the remainder of an
31 unexpired term to end February 10, 2027.

32 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
33 upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

34 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mark Rollins

Attorney At Law

SUMMARY

A Criminal lawyer with over 1,000 criminal bench trials and 75 criminal jury trials in DC Superior Court since 1997. Winning criminal cases through creative solutions. Bringing a fierce defense for people accused of committing crimes in the District of Columbia. Has developed strong relationships with prosecuting attorneys and court staff to secure favorable dispositions to cases. Research-savvy and has an excellent public speaking ability.

WORK EXPERIENCE

1997 - Present **Partner at Rollins and Chan Law Firm**

[ROLLINS AND CHAN LAW FIRM](#)

A practice dedicated to criminal defense in Washington, DC. Criminal defense practice includes litigation in jury and bench trials, conducting pretrial hearings, sentencing proceedings, parole revocation hearings, writing and arguing motions such as motions to suppress physical evidence and defendant's statements, motions to dismiss, motions for government sanctions, double jeopardy motions, motions to compel discovery, and motions in limine. Work closely with investigators and experts as needed to develop trial strategies and defenses. In the absence of trials, I also negotiate for favorable diversion and plea agreements on behalf of clients. I provide representation in post-trial matters such as probation review hearings and probation show cause hearings. I have also provided representation to individuals subpoenaed before the grand jury. Tried cases in front of almost every judge in DC Superior Court. Also managed and developed practice standards, websites, forms and information for other criminal attorneys. Written over 300 articles/blogs in Criminal law at www.rollinsandchan.com.

1995 - 1996 **Covington and Burling Westwood Fellow for Neighborhood Legal Services**

[Covington & Burling LLP Westwood Fellowship](#)

Provided civil legal services to indigent clients in the area of housing law, family law, and social security law. Using a variety of advocacy tools, including but not limited to: negotiation, representation in administrative hearings and litigation, community education, media advocacy and working in collaboration with community-based partners.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IN CRIMINAL LAW

- 2018 Practice 360 A day for Lawyers and Law firms ([The Criminal Lawyer and Technology](#))
- 2017 District of Columbia Bar Lunch & Learn Presentations ([Criminal Defense in the District of Columbia](#)).
- 2016 DC Practice Management Advisory Service ([A Day in the Life of a Criminal Defense Lawyer: The Inside Scoop on Running a Criminal Law Practice in D.C](#))
- 2015 Practice 360° | A Day for Lawyers and Law Firms ([Starting a criminal practice in DC Lawyer in the District of Columbia](#))

EDUCATION

1992 - 1995 **Juris Doctorate**

[David Clarke School of Law \(formerly District of Columbia School Of Law\)](#)

Law Review, District of Columbia School of Law (Fall 1993-1994); Vice President of Black Law Students Association, DCSL Chapter (Fall 1993/94) Student Member of The American Bar Association (Fall 1992); Student Tutor 1993-1995; Summer Intern at United States Attorney's Office

1988 - 1992 **Bachelor of Arts, Political Science**

[West Virginia State University](#)

Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society (Spring 1991); President of Alpha Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, WVSC Chapter (1991); President of Pan-Hellenic Council, WVSC Chapter (1992); Writer, The Yellow Jacket News (Fall 1989-1991); Honda/BET All Academic Bowl participant for WVSC 1992; Chief Hearing Examiner of Student Court



MEMBERSHIPS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Steering Member**, (Treasurer and Practice Manual Coordinator) D.C. Bar Criminal Law and Individual Rights Community
- AWO rating 9.7 superb.
- Member DC Bar
- Member Maryland Bar
- Member US District Court - DC
- Member US District Court - MD
- Member of Criminal Justice Act Panel in DC Superior Court
- Board Member, Capital Guardian Youth Challenge Academy
- Mentor, Judge Rigsby Law Camp
- Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc



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

Mark Rollins



Mr. Mark Rollins is a private practice criminal defense attorney and partner at Rollins and Chan Law Firm. He is a member in good standing of the District of Columbia Bar Association and the Maryland State Bar Association.

Mr. Rollins’ legal career has focused on social justice, civil rights, and human rights. A member of the Criminal Justice Act Panel, he has tried over 1,000 bench trials and 75 jury trials in DC Superior Court. He is also a mentor for the Judge Rigsby Law Camp, a youth development program serving more than 50 students from DC schools.

A Ward 7 resident, Mr. Rollins earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from West Virginia State University and his Juris Doctor from the University of the District of Columbia.



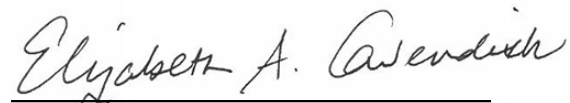
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Tomás Talamante, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: April 15, 2024
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of resolutions nominating Mark Rollins and Dr. Amber Thornton to the Clemency 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 Michael Porcello, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-0872, or me at 202-724-7681.



Elizabeth Cavendish