

Office of the Mayor Gavin Buckley, Mayor 160 Duke of Gloucester Street Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

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To:

City Council Alderpersons

From:

Mayor Gavin Buckley

Date:

December 5, 2019

Subject:

R-50-19 - Confirmation of D. Michael Lyles for City Attorney

Pursuant to City of Annapolis Code, Section 3.08.030, I am seeking your confirmation of D. Michael Lyles to the position of City Attorney at a salary of \$157,480 (grade A20, step 10). I have attached a copy of Mr. Lyles resume for your consideration.

Mr. Lyles has completed his Juris Doctorate from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law and is a member of the Maryland Bar, and he possesses a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of the District of Columbia. His extensive legal experience includes 25 years of practice in both the public and private sectors.

Mr. Lyles was the Executive Director of the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission where he oversaw a \$1.5 million budget, providing executive support to 13-member commission responsible for prosecuting cases of illegal discrimination and civil rights violations. He supervised a diverse staff of investigators, lawyers, and administrative staff to the goals of resolving a significant case backlog, rewriting bylaws, hearing procedures, and redesigning the alternative dispute resolution process. He worked on the county's task force to address human trafficking and the immigration defense program. Mr. Lyles also worked for the U.S. Department of Defense as a trial attorney with a top-secret security clearance. His government experience includes working for Prince George's County Office of Law as a senior attorney in the Major Litigation section appearing in federal, state, and appellate courts, providing his expertise in government contracts, tort claims, eminent domain, real estate transactions, and litigation strategies.

I trust that you will find Mr. Lyles' education, training, and experience meet the qualifications for the City Attorney position, and I see your favorable confirmation on December 9, 2019.

D. Michael Lyles, Esquire 106 Johnsberg Lane Bowie, Maryland 20721 301-466-9864 dmllaw@verizon.net

EXPERIENCE

Stroud Priest, L.L.C

October 2018 - Present

Of Counsel

As Of Counsel to the law firm, I am responsible for providing legal advice in the area of Government Contracts, complex corporate transactions, commercial real estate and business litigation, corporate compliance and internal investigations as well as employment law.

<u>University of Maryland University College</u> Adjunct Professor

January 2014 - Present

As an adjunct professor, I teach employment law to undergraduates in the business school majoring in Human Resources.

Prince George's County Human Relations Commission

June 2011-Oct. 2018

Executive Director (Appointed Position)

As Executive Director, I was responsible for a \$1.5 Million budget and providing executive support and management for the 13 member Commission, prosecuting cases of illegal discrimination and civil rights violations on behalf of the citizens as a whole and individual complainants. I also supervised a diverse staff of investigators, lawyers and administrative personnel involved with investigating discrimination cases. I also oversaw and conducted outreach to the community regarding civil rights and the county's anti-human trafficking effort. I developed and managed the agency's budget of just over 1.5 Million Dollars and managed agency contracts and facilities, in addition to providing government relations expertise and generally providing executive leadership covering all aspects of the agency's mission.

Major Accomplishments Include:

Commission: In the first year of appointment, improved efficiency of case investigations by closing 132 backlogged cases, helping close 31 cases over 3 years old in about 9 months. Improved the case closure rate of EEOC cases by 100% year-over-year. Established new caseload standards for investigators. Currently, have case investigation duration down to a national recognized and lauded 180 days, on average. Within six months of appointment, conducted review and re-write of Commission By-laws and Hearing Policies and Procedures in order to streamline the hearing process. I also oversaw a redesigned Alternative Dispute Resolution process by establishing and implementing an Affirmative Mediation Plan, which is responsible for an increase negotiated settlements by over 200% year-over-year in the first two years of implementation.

Anti-Human Trafficking: In 2013, I was appointed by the County Council to Chair the Prince George's County Human Trafficking Task Force managing an annual budgeted of \$150,000. Considered to be one of the best run Task Forces in the United States. In 2017, my efforts culminated in the Task Force being a recipient of a highly coveted grant for over \$1.3 Million dollars to help build the capacity of the Task Force to fight human trafficking in all its forms and to aid victims.

Immigration Defense and Language Access: In 2017, I was tapped to lead, out of the Commission, the County's immigration defense program, which provides direct legal services and know your rights presentations to immigrants and families of those federally detained and awaiting deportation or removal proceedings. Annually, we are slated to serve over 65 foreign nationals and have been able to secure release of over 50% of those served allowing them to reunite with family in Prince George's County. The program has been budgeted at \$350,000 for the immigration defense and Language Access Program. The newly established Language Access Program will provide a county-wide policy and review mechanism for all county agencies to ensure that those citizens and

customers speaking languages other than English can easily and conveniently access county services.

United States Department of Defense, Office of Hearings and Appeals 2006-2011 Department Counsel-Trial Attorney (TOP SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCE)

I represented the Department in the litigation and appeal of industrial security clearance cases. My primary responsibilities from trial through appeal included, investigation, pleading preparation, discovery and trial preparation, coordination of pre-trial matters and presentation of evidence at trial in accordance with the Federal Rules of Evidence. Major Accomplishments. In 2011, appointed Region Coordinator for Attorney staffing of regional cases. In 2009, I provided critical special project assistance, advice and counsel as a volunteer member of Department's "Habeas" Litigation Team supporting the U.S. Government's criminal prosecutions of terrorism suspects held at the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility.

Prince George's County Office of Law, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 2002-2006 Associate County Attorney-Major Litigation Section

As a senior attorney in the Office of Law, I was primarily responsible for advocating the interests of the County, its executives and employees in a wide range of matters in federal and state trial and appellate courts. Additionally, I provided expert advice to the County Council, County Executive and various Department Administrators on issues involving commercial real estate transactions, government contracts, eminent domain, tort claims, and litigation strategy. I was also specially assigned to counsel agency Directors on developing creative real estate financing strategies.

District of Columbia Child & Family Svc's/LaShawn General Receivership 1996-1998 Deputy General Counsel/Managing Attorney

Provided legal advice and counsel to the General Receiver appointed by the U.S. District Court to manage the District of Columbia's child welfare system. In reporting to the General Counsel, I managed day-to-day operations of the agency's legal office, supervising a staff of over 25 employees, including attorneys and investigators and administrative staff, and oversaw all issues of the office relating to contracts, administration, budget development and human resources.

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Williams Worthy, L.L.C., Riverdale, Maryland Senior Associate/Trial Attorney	2001-2002
Jones & Lyles, L.L.C., Bowie, Maryland Founder and Managing Member/Trial Attorney	1999-2001
Cooper & Associates, P.C., Washington D.C. Associate/Trial Attorney	1998-1999
The Hon. Rufus King III, D.C. Superior Court Judicial Law Clerk	1994-1995
SIGNIFICANT NON-LEGAL EXPERIENCE	
Naval Air Systems Command, Arlington Va. Contract Specialist: Lead Acquisition of the E2-C and the EA-6B platform	1989-1994
Bell Atlantic NSI (Currently Verizon, Corp.)	1986-1988
United States Army Reserves Supply Specialist (76V) E4 (Honorably Discharge)	1982-1988

EDUCATION

- Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, Juris Doctorate 1994
- University of the District of Columbia, Bachelors of Business Administration, Finance 1986
- Iowa State University, Engineering/Finance. No Degree Obtained. 1980-1983

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Grand Counselor (General Counsel), Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.: (2014-2018) In this elected position, I advise the Board of Directors and the membership on all legal matters and manage regional counsels internationally on all legal matters and litigation on behalf of the organization world-wide, including but not limited to Tort and Contract defense and Intellectual Property matters.

Board Member, Collington Life Care Community, Mitchellville, MD (Since 2016)

Chair, Bowie State University Board of Visitors (2011-2017)

Chair, Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, National Bar Association (2014-2017)

Chair, Board of Advisors to the School of Business and Public Administration, University of the District of Columbia (On Board since 2014)

Transition Board Member for the Prince George's African American Museum Project (2010)

The J. Franklin Bourne Bar Association (Since 1999)

Executive Committee

Judicial Nominating Committee

The Prince George's Chamber of Commerce – General Counsel (2009-10)

Councilman, 4th District-City of Bowie Maryland (Elected) (2007-2009)

Chairman, City of Bowie Board of Convenors for Bowie Cable Public Access Channel (2003-2004)

LEGAL LICENSURE AND MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Licensed to Practice Law in: Maryland and the District of Columbia

United States Supreme Court

United States District Court for the District of Columbia and Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit United States District Court for the District of Maryland and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals

American Bar Association

Maryland State Bar Association

Prince George's County Bar Association (Since 1996), Membership Chair (2004-5)

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. - Lambda Gamma Gamma Chapter

U.S. Army Reserves (1982-1988)

Hobbies: Reading, Travel, Jazz Guitar