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CITY OF SEATTLE

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CITY CLERK

City of Seattle
Notice of Appointment

Name: Edlira Kuka		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Council <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Constituency
Residential Neighborhood: Shoreline, WA	98155	Contact Phone No.: N/A
Appointed to: Seattle Human Rights Commission		Date of Appointment: March 9, 2015
Authority (Ord., Res.): 118392		Term of Office: From: Confirmation To: 7/22/15
Background: Edlira would like to serve on the Commission because she is passionate about addressing barriers that communities face with regard to housing and employment rights, wrongfully being denied their basic human rights, specific areas of interest for her are addressing immigrant detention, use of force and youth violence issues, incarceration rates in minority population, use of criminal records and legal financial obligation as areas that impact the possibility of individuals re-entering and contributing to their communities after incarceration. Her interests and experience also include rights of youth in foster care and women rights, as well as addressing local and international human trafficking, including sex trafficking and other forced labor. By serving on the Commission she can offer her combination of experience in both direct service and knowledge of the legislative and policy processes in several human rights topics, to continue working on eliminating barriers faced by members of our community. Overall she hopes to accomplish this by providing a level of support and service to the Commission in responding to public need within the City to address all human rights for Seattle residents. She would also like to learn about focus areas that she may not have a background in, but nonetheless enthusiastic to learn more and become involved, including the possibility of serving on a committee within the Commission, and exploring other areas in which she can serve the Commission and the Seattle residents.		
Authorizing Signature: 		Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment: Mayor Edward B. Murray

Edlira Kuka, BA

Qualifications Profile

Experienced in: Legislative Advocacy, Public Relations for Non-Profit Agencies, Public Speaking, Working with Elected Officials, Teaching and Leading Workshops, Facilitating Meetings and Community Events, Editing and Technical Writing, Analytical Research, Multi-Cultural Partnerships, Supervising Staff and Volunteers, Report Writing and Data Analysis, Fundraising, Grant Writing and Board Development

Languages Fluent: Albanian, French; Intermediate: Spanish, Italian; Beginner: Mandarin Chinese

Professional Experience

Washington State House of Representatives, July 2014-Present

Legislative Assistant to Representative Gael Tarleton-36th Legislative District

- Provide policy research and analysis, write talking points and briefings on legislative focus areas
- Manage all office operations, scheduling and travel arrangements
- Communicate with constituents, lobbyists and other legislators on behalf of the Representative
- Work to resolve constituent matters regarding legal help and navigating state agencies
- Serve as point-of-contact for media and community relations

Washington State Senate, January 2013-March 2014

Session Legislative Aide to Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles-36th Legislative District

- Serve in public relations capacity and represent Senator at civic and community events
- Participate in panels and public forums on anti-poverty issues, children's rights and human trafficking
- Work as part-time summer staff between sessions serving in community relations role
- Manage daily office operations and meetings with other legislators, caucus staff and community members, and respond to constituents in a timely manner via phone, email and hotline
- Prepare materials and talking points for committee hearings and speaking engagements

Solid Ground, August 2010-July 2014

Housing Counselor, Legislative Advocacy Lead-Homeless Prevention Programs

- Develop community engagement plan in drastically expanding program presence in the community
- Lead the legislative advocacy component of the program and cultivate relations with state legislators and city officials and community partners to pass ordinances and state laws
- Expertise in working with immigrant and refugee communities and minority populations facing barriers
- Conduct presentations and workshops on housing laws with an emphasis on communities most at-risk of homelessness
- Provide in-depth counseling sessions over the phone on housing laws and rights

American Lung Association, May 2009-January 2010

Master Home Environmentalist-AmeriCorps Member

- Build Partnerships with local media agencies to increase program coverage of environmental justice and poverty issues
- Volunteer coordination, supervision, recruitment, interviewing and assisting with training protocol
- Work directly with children and families impacted by childhood asthma in substandard housing
- Write and edit press releases and represent program to donors, stakeholders and government entities
- Perform in-home visits and presentations to the community addressing indoor-air quality issues

Seattle Human Rights Commission

March, 2015

- 15 members, confirmed by City Council, who serve a term of 2-years:
 - 7 appointed by Mayor, confirmed by City Council
 - 7 appointed by City Council
 - 1 appointed by the Commission, confirmed by City Council
- 1 Get Engaged Member, confirmed by City Council who serves a single term of 1-year

D	G	Position #	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Position	Appointed By
1	F	1	Amy Huang	12/14/14	07-22-16	1 st		Mayor
6	F	7	Sarah Bishop	8/4/14	07-22-16	1 st	Vice-Chair	Mayor
1	M	3	Rich Stolz	5/6/13	07-22-16	2 nd		Mayor
1	F	2	Margaret Babayan	3/9/2015	07-22-15	1 st		Mayor
6	F	5	Ashley Miller	3/9/2015	07-22-16	1 st		Mayor
2	M	6	Ken Nsimbi	12/14/14	07-22-15	1 st		Mayor
2	F	4	Edlira Kuka	3/9/2015	07-22-15	1 st		Mayor
		8	Vacant		07-22-16			City Council
6	M	9	Alex Becker	2/10/14	07-22-16	1 st		City Council
6	F	10	Danielle Wallace	12/14/14	07-22-16	1 st		City Council
4	F	14	Ethel Branch	09-30-13	07-22-15	1 st	Chair	City Council
6	F	11	Sarah Lippek	12/14/14	07-22-15	1 st		City Council
3	F	12	Alejandra Gonza	2/10/14	07-22-15	2 nd	Secretary	City Council
6	F	13	Lara Diaconu	12/14/14	07-22-15	1 st		City Council
2	M	15	Jason Poydras	2/10/14	07-22-16	1 st		Commission
2	F	16	Juliana Tesfu	9/8/14	09-30-15		Get Engaged	Mayor

Diversity

	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	(1) Asian-American	(2) African-American	(3) Hispanic Latin@	(4) Native-American	(5) Other	(6) Caucasian
Council	1	5	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	4
Commission	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mayor	2	5	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	2
Get Engaged	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	4	11	1	9	3	4	1	1	0	6