City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name:
Brandon Monson

Board/Commission Name:
Seattle Human Rights Commission

Position Title:
Member

☒ **Appointment** ***OR*** ☐ **Reappointment**

City Council Confirmation required?
☒ Yes
☐ No

Appointing Authority:
☐ City Council
☒ Mayor
☐ Other: *Fill in appointing authority*

Term of Position: *
7/23/24
to
7/22/26
☒ *Serving remaining term of a vacant position*

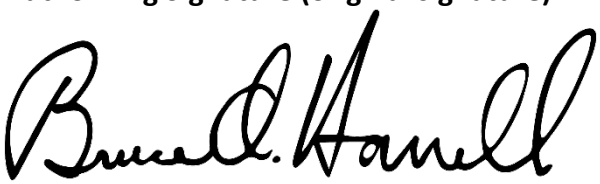
Residential Neighborhood:
Greenwood

Zip Code:
98103

Contact Phone No.:
Business phone # - NOT personal phone #

Background:
In Brandon's current role as Special Projects Coordinator in the City of Kirkland's City Manager's Office, he advises on local policy, oversees the citywide volunteer program, and leads a range of initiatives, from electric leaf blower legislation to internal leadership development programs for city staff. The common thread in all of this work is community: how we serve it, how we include it, and how we ensure that people (especially those who are often overlooked) feel seen and supported by their government. Brandon believes cities like Seattle have a responsibility to lead with compassion and courage. The Human Rights Commission plays a vital role in making sure that happens. He'd be honored to support that work alongside others who share that commitment.

Authorizing Signature (original signature):



Date Signed (appointed):
August 29th, 2025

Appointing Signatory:
Bruce A. Harrell

Mayor of Seattle

Brandon Monson

SUMMARY

Experienced advisor to politicians, senior leaders, and managers, skilled in solving complex problems, delivering creative solutions, and identifying strategic opportunities. A cross-functional leader with a focus on empathy, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning to drive organizational goals.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Congressional Affairs Manager
2023 – Present

- Manage all communications between FEMA and Senate/Congressional offices in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska.
- Led the response to Hurricane Helene in Tennessee and the wildfire response in Los Angeles County.
- Serve as the primary point of contact for 450 FEMA regional staff regarding congressional and intergovernmental external relations, including meeting facilitation, town halls, and site tours.
- Advise regional External Affairs Director and Regional Administrator on strategies and tactics impacting local elected officials.
- Maintain and grow relationships with elected officials and their staff.
- Provide information and recommendations to senior leadership regarding trends affecting the organization and key stakeholders.
- Manage multiple long- and short-term projects, ensuring successful execution.
- Draft and edit various communication materials for internal and external stakeholders, including press releases, talking points, speeches, briefing packets, and media advisories.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist
2022 – 2023

- Facilitated in-person and virtual briefings for elected officials, staff, and FEMA senior leadership.
- Developed and coordinated strategic communications products, including External Affairs Guidance and embargoed documents.
- Established and maintained effective working relationships with leadership, advising on outreach and engagement efforts.

- Determined effective communication approaches to reach target audiences, tracking and evaluating outcomes for continuous improvement.

The Just One Project – Director of Outreach
2021 – 2022

- Managed 16 monthly pop-up food delivery events, serving an average of 12,000 people.
- Created and implemented permanent community markets in high schools and grocery stores in food desert areas.
- Worked with legislators to secure funding and expand service areas.
- Partnered with local businesses to increase volunteer participation and strengthen relationships.
- Led innovative initiatives to expand the organization's reach and impact.

Nevada Homeless Alliance – Consultant
2021

- Developed policy infographics to brief state legislators.
- Provided consultation on policy construction and implementation.
- Assisted in coordinating vaccine distribution events for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Clark County Commissioner Justin Jones – District Director
2020 – 2021

- Conducted policy research, drafted legislation, speeches, and talking points, including leading the effort to ban source of income discrimination in housing.
- Managed constituent services, preventing 50+ evictions by coordinating social service grants.
- Led multiple policies and events, including affordable housing initiatives and community outreach.
- Organized the county's first vaccine clinic for the homeless population and facilitated federal grant applications, securing a $12 million grant for Red Rock National Park.

Congresswoman Jacky Rosen – Intern/District Representative
2018

- Provided policy guidance to leadership, developed legislative policies, and assisted in resolving key constituent issues related to USPS, Veterans Affairs, and USCIS.

Hakkasan Group – Security Specialist Manager
2013 – 2020

- Managed a team of 15+ employees, coordinating VIP entry, attendance, and security at casinos and nightclubs for high-profile guests.

EDUCATION

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Master of Arts, Public Policy & Urban Leadership (2018 – 2020)

- Mapped Nevada food deserts and developed public-private partnerships to deploy sustainable solutions.

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (Graduated with Honors, 2016 – 2018)

University of London
Candidate for Master of Arts, Refugee Protection & Forced Migration Studies (2023 – Current)

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Advisory Board, UNLV Graduate Professional Development
- Winner, UNLV Student Learning and Leadership Impact Award
- Fellow, Ronald Reagan Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- Fellow, The Fund for American Studies, Washington, D.C.
- Recipient, UNLV Political Science Department Scholarship
- Finalist, Harry S. Truman Scholarship, Phoenix, AZ
- FEMA Core Value Award

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & IMPACT

- **My Brother's Keeper Education and Equity Task Force**
- **46th District Democrats Board Member**
- **Public Policy and Leadership Board, UNLV Graduate & Professional Student Association**
- **Mentor, UNLV Graduate & Professional Student Association**
- **Mentor, CSN Promise Scholarship**
- **Program Assistant, HOPE Scholars**
- **Homelessness and Hunger Coordinator, UNLVolunteers**
- **Outreach Coordinator, UNLV Young Democrats**
- **President, Student Sustainability Council & Rebel Green Team**

OTHER INTERESTS

- Ironman 70.3 Finisher (2024)
- Level 1 Sommelier
- Invitee, USA Olympic Bobsled Team
- Certified Coach, CrossFit Level 1
- Leadership Training Program, Climate Reality Project

Seattle Human Rights Commission

21 Members: Pursuant to *SMC 3.14.920,* all members subject to City Council confirmation, *2*-year terms except for the Get Engaged member who will serve a 1-year term pursuant to SMC 3.51:

- *8* City Council-appointed
- *9* Mayor-appointed (includes 1 Get-engaged Mayor position)
- *4* Other Appointing Authority-appointed: Commission-appointed

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
1	F		1.	Member	Bryennah Quander	7/23/23	7/22/25	1	City Council
	M		2.	Member	Trevor Duston	7/23/23	7/22/25	1	Mayor
	F		3.	Member	Amy Bailey	7/23/23	7/22/25	1	City Council
	F		4.	Member	Gwen McCullough	7/23/23	7/22/25	1	Mayor
	M		5.	Member	James Munger	7/23/23	7/22/25	1	City Council
	M		6.	Member	Kyle Tibbs	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	Mayor
	F		7.	Member	Mariam Sulayman Koss	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	City Council
	M		8.	Member	Calvin Lassiter	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	Commission
	F		9.	Member	Beverly Smith	7/23/24	7/22/26	1	Mayor
			10.	Member	VACANT	7/23/24	7/22/26		City Council
	M		11.	Member	Brandon Monson	7/23/24	7/22/26	1	Mayor
			12.	Member	VACANT	7/23/24	7/22/26		City Council
	F		13.	Member	Kristina Sawyckyj	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	Mayor
			14.	Member	VACANT	1/23/24	1/22/26		City Council
	F		15.	Member	Diana Ortega-Chance	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	Mayor
3	M	4	16.	Get Engaged	Hector Garcia	9/1/25	8/31/26	1	Mayor
	M		17.	Member	Phillip Lewis	7/23/24	7/22/26	1	City Council
	F		18.	Member	Katie Gonser	1/23/24	1/22/26	3	Mayor
			19.	Member	VACANT	7/23/24	7/22/26		Commission
	M		20.	Member	Nicholas Leydon	1/23/24	1/22/26	1	Commission
	F		21.	Member	Miranda Catsambas	7/23/24	7/22/26	1	Commission

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	Male (1)	Female (2)	Transgender (3)	NB/ O/U (4)	Asian (5)	Black/ African American (6)	Hispanic/ Latino (7)	American Indian/ Alaska Native (8)	Other (9)	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	4	5											
Council	2	3											
Comm	2	1											
Total	8	9											

Key: ***D** District number 1 through 7 or N/A -Diversity info is self-identified and voluntary.
List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9) ****G** List *gender*, **M**= Male, **F**= Female, **T**= Transgender, **NB=** Non-Binary **O=** Other **U**= Unknown ****RD** Residential Council