

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

September 1, 2023

The Honorable Thomas E. Dernoga Chair Prince George's County Council 1301 McCormick Drive, 2nd Floor Largo, Maryland 20774

Dear Chair Dernoga:

It is my pleasure to submit to you and the County Council the appointments of Mr. Kelvin Adefehinti, Ms. Joi Bannister, Mr. Miguel A. Capers, Mr. Toyin J. Fasakin, and the reappointment of Mr. William R. Brownlee, Ms. Doris L. Jones, Ms. Natalie G. Mitchell, and Ms. Amber Woods as members of the Commission for Individuals with Disabilities for Prince George's County.

Mr. Kelvin Adefehinti, a resident of Largo, is the Assistant Counsel for Field Operations for the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) where he litigates complexes cases and serves as the Chief Negotiator for collective bargaining agreements with federal agencies. Prior to entering the legal field, he was a Special Education teacher where he taught Government and Algebra to students with learning disabilities in Prince George's County schools. Mr. Adefehinti possess a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law.

Ms. Joi L. Bannister, a resident of Accokeek, is the owner of Joyful Signing LLC. She served as a Federal Staff Sign Language Interpreter for the United States Department of Defense for nearly a decade. Professionally Ms. Bannister she has also served as an EEO Manager-Investigator with the Defense Intelligence Agency. She received an Associate of Arts degree in American Sign Language Interpreting/Transliterating from the Community College of Baltimore County and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and Management from Strayer University.

Mr. William R. Brownlee, a resident of Bowie, is a Business Services Representative/Staffing Specialist with the Maryland State Department of Education – Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). As well-versed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Network Trainer, he provides education and training to employers in understanding and complexity of hiring individuals with disabilities and advises employers accordingly. He was appointed in 2022 and will continue to serve as an Agency/Provider member.

Mr. Miguel A. Capers, a resident of District Heights, is a Disability Specialist with Georgetown University. In this role, he determines disability eligibility and engages in the interactive process with students with disabilities. He previously served as a Special Education and Content Mastery Teacher. Mr. Capers received his undergraduate degree from Fort Valley State University; his master's in education degree from Texas A&M University; and is an Education, Policy, and Leadership (EPOL) doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

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Mr. Toyin J. Fasakin, a resident of Capitol Heights, is a public servant with the United States Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education. He previously served as a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist with the District of Columbia, Department of Disability Services, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). Mr. Fasakin is Vice President of the Prince George's County Association of the Deaf. He received his undergraduate degree from George Mason University and his master's degree from Kent State University.

Ms. Doris L. Jones, a resident of Suitland, is a long-time Prince Georgian. She is currently a Professional Trainer with Graduate School USA after retiring from a federal government career spanning nearly two (2) decades. Ms. Jones has benefited from Maryland Relay services after being diagnosed with Spasmodic Dysphonia, a voice disorder. She understands firsthand how individuals with disabilities cope and public perception. Ms. Jones was appointed in 2022 and will continue to serve as a Consumer member.

Ms. Natalie G. Mitchell, a resident of Upper Marlboro, is a Program Manager I with the Division of Rehabilitation Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services. She plans, coordinates, supervise and evaluates staff in four offices in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. Mr. Mitchell, appointed in 2022, has over 30 years of experience working with people with differing abilities and will continue to serve as a general member.

Ms. Amber L. Woods, a resident of Fort Washington, is an advocate for individuals with disabilities and was appointed as a consumer member of the Commission in 2020. She is a Contractor with the Circle of Rights Incorporated. Ms. Woods served as a Contractor Closeout Contract Specialist for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sponsored by the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind. She is First Vice President for National Federation of the Blind of Maryland – National Harbor Chapter. Ms. Woods received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from University of Maryland Global Campus.

Pursuant to Section 2-431 of the Prince George's County Code and Sections 322, 402 and 504 of the Charter, I am appointing the following individuals to the Commission for Individuals with Disabilities:

Mr. Kelvin Adefehinti

Ms. Joi L. Bannister

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Mr. William R. Brownlee

Appointment General Member

Replacing: (Vacant) Christina Valenzuela

Term Expiration: 7/1/2026

Appointment Agency/Provider

Replacing: (Vacant) Grace Williams

Term Expiration: 7/1/2026

Reappointment

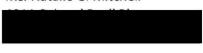
Agency/Provider Member Term Expiration: 7/01/2026 The Honorable Thomas E. Dernoga September 1, 2023 Page 3

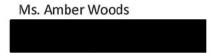
Mr. Miguel A. Capers

Mr. Toyin J. Fasakin

Ms. Doris L. Jones

Ms. Natalie G. Mitchell





Appointment

Agency/Provider Member

Replacing: (Vacant) Toni Paster-DuPree

Term Expiration: 7/01/2025

Appointment

Consumer Member

Replacing: Tony Langbehn Term Expiration: 7/1/2025

Reappointment Consumer Member

Term Expiration: 7/01/2026

Reappointment

General Member

Term Expiration: 7/1/2026

Reappointment

Consumer Member

Term Expiration: 7/1/2026

Attached for the County Council's consideration is an Appointee Data Form and resume for each nominee. Your favorable consideration of these appointments is appreciated. If I may provide you with any additional information, please contact Ms. Miriam L. Brewer, Appointments Liaison at (301) 952-4136.

Sincerely,

Angela D. Alsobrooks

County Executive

Attachments

cc: Members of the County Council
Jennifer A. Jenkins, Council Administrator
Donna J. Brown, Clerk of the Council
Rhonda L. Weaver, County Attorney