



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. R165

RESOLUTION

R – 2016

Introduced by City Council on October 13, 2016

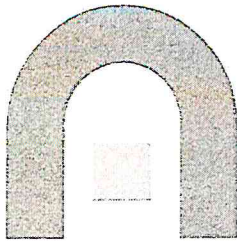
**Approves Appointment of Michael A. Walker as Director of Community and Economic Development
at the current budgeted salary of \$104,000**

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Section 503 of the Home Rule Charter requires City Council approval of Department Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor submitted Michael A. Walker for consideration and confirmation for the position of Director of Community and Economic Development in a memo dated September 16, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council hereby approves the appointment of Michael A. Walker as Director of Community and Economic Development at the current budgeted salary of \$104,000.



Allentown
City without limits.

Ed Pawlowski, Mayor
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To: The Honorable Ray O'Connell, President
And Members of City Council

From: Mayor Ed Pawlowski *E.P.*

Re: Nomination of Craig Messinger and Michael Walker

Date: September 16, 2016

It is with great enthusiasm that I am submitting the names of Craig Messinger and Michael A. Walker, Esq. to City Council to become Director of Public Works and Director of Community & Economic Development respectively.

Craig Messinger: Director of Public Works

Craig Messinger has been with the city for 27 years and has done a fantastic job in each step of his promotions along the way. He has proven himself by handling increased responsibility at every turn. The Department of Public Works has been in excellent hands under his leadership as Interim Director and he is very worthy of assuming this job on a permanent basis.

Craig began full-time employment with the city in the Streets Department in 1989. He became Operations Administrator in the Streets Department in 2000; was promoted to Assistant Streets Superintendent in 2005 and became Streets Superintendent in 2006. He was promoted to Deputy Public Works Director in 2012 and has served as interim director of the department since April 2014.

The Public Works department administers a variety of annual programs that affect the health, convenience and comfort of city residents and the community, including the maintenance and repair of all city streets, bridges, stormwater lines and sidewalks, as well as a comprehensive traffic signal and signing network; the design of public works projects and review of related construction; the maintenance and repair of all city motorized equipment; the collection and disposal of solid waste; and the maintenance and repair of city owned buildings.

The department either on the whole or in part has tackled a number of significant projects during Craig's interim tenure, including the construction of the American Parkway Bridge, the reconstruction of the South Albert Street Bridge, the start of improvements to the Livingston Watershed, the downtown traffic signal adaptive system and the advent of single stream recycling.

Michael Walker: Director of Community and Economic Development

Michael Walker comes to the position with extensive experience in both private and public sector.

Michael was most recently the president and chief executive officer at Community Services for Children Inc., in Allentown, an early education management agency serving 18 Pennsylvania counties. He had bottom line responsibility of managing government contracts with general oversight of compliance with federal and state regulations. He also had general oversight of 300 employees.

Before that he served for four years as Senior Legal Counsel for the Ranking Democrat on the U.S. House Appropriations Committee. His duties included responsibility for key legal issues affecting new legislation and working with House Counsel to interpret the impact and legal ramifications to constituents. He was chiefly responsible for providing input and counsel in areas relating to economic development, education, poverty, justice and housing.

Michael also worked in private practice as legal counsel for various firms and has extensive experience in matters dealing with product liability, real estate, professional liability and workers compensation.

He served as President and CEO of the Urban League of Pikes Peak Region, Colorado Springs and Vice President and General Counsel for the Urban League of Philadelphia. In those positions he oversaw organizational budgets, secured funding for various initiatives and directed the management of various programs dealing with housing counseling, economic development and education.

Michael also served as Director of Operations for KenCrest Services of Southeast PA. KenCrest is a 111-year-old non-profit that is one of the largest providers of community-based services and support for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities and autism. In that position Michael led a multidisciplinary staff of 400 including 7 Directors, 35 Managers and more than 300 front line staffers in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Bucks counties.

Michael holds a Juris Doctorate from Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH and a Bachelor of Sciences from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL. He is currently pursuing an MBA from Pennsylvania State University, Great Valley, PA.

The director of DCED supervises a number of city bureaus, including planning, health, building standards and safety, economic development, community development and the city's federal Community Development Block Grant program. Among other responsibilities, the director develops an annual operating and capital budget for the department and serves on various commissions, like Allentown Economic Development Corporation.

Michael's wide range of experiences with government programs, community development, management and legal expertise make him extremely well qualified for this position. I am confident that he will be an outstanding leader of this vital city department.

I am honored to submit both Craig Messinger and Michael Walker to you for confirmation as Director of Public Works and Director of Community and Economic Development respectively.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding Keith or his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

MICHAEL A. WALKER, ESQ.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE • CHIEF COUNSEL • VICE PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE PROFILE & EXPERTISE

Quintessential senior executive with deep roots in servant leadership. Verifiable results-oriented entrepreneurial leader with a strong track record of performance with infrastructure and capacity building in large organizations. Keen analysis and insights in turnaround situations and team approach to drive organizational improvements and implementation of best practices.

Strategy, Vision & Mission Planning
Regulatory Affairs
Profitability & Cost Analysis
Quality Assurance
Community Engagement
Contract Negotiations & Strategic Alliances

Finance, Budgeting & Cost Management
Diversity Management
Board Development
Government Regulations & Relations
Human Resources Management
Team Building & Performance Improvement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & HISTORY

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, INC., ALLENTOWN, PA

- Provide Executive leadership for a \$50 million dollar early education management agency serving 18 counties throughout Pennsylvania.
 - Lead operations and strategic direction with full responsibility for bottom line factors including long range planning, growth management, fundraising and fiscal management. Provide cross functional management of six VP's including EVP, VP of Finance, VP of HR, COO, 30 district managers and general oversight of 300 employees.
 - Bottom line responsibility of managing Federal and State contracts with general oversight of compliance with federal and state regulations.

CHIEF COUNSEL

UNITED STATES CONGRESS, 2301 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515; 2011- 2015

- Senior Legal Counsel for Ranking Democrat on House Appropriations Committee serving the second district of Pennsylvania. Trusted advisor on legal positions affecting congressional and legislative issues for work on sub-committees in Commerce, Justices and Sciences.
 - Manage strategic goals for constituent engagement through transitional redistricting and leveraged sustained relationships to build new coalitions and business partnerships.
 - Responsible for key legal issues affecting new legislation and working with House Counsel to interpret the impact and legal ramifications to constituents.

MICHAEL A. WALKER, ESQ.

- Chiefly responsible for areas of Economic Development, Education, Poverty, Justice and Housing

PRINCIPLE ATTORNEY

THE WALKER FIRM, 11 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA 19401; 2008 -2011

- Serving as Principle of government relations law firm supporting issues of civil rights, health & wellness and diversity engagement for corporate and non-profit sectors
 - Advocate with hundreds of hours of in court and jury trial experience in District, Common Pleas and Federal Court
 - Pro bono caseload assisting indigent clients in family law and special education law
 - Sought after panelists on civil rights, political viewpoint and exercising civil liberties
 - Created infrastructure and contract negotiation for KRA Corporation working directly with Department of Human Services and Philadelphia Works

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

URBAN LEAGUE OF THE PIKES PEAK REGIONS, COLORADO, SPRINGS (2007-2007)

- Spearheaded newly defined vision and mission through community engagement and board recruitment. Won endorsement of community stakeholders broadening ULPP footprint and program presence while increasing membership.
 - Stemmed Organizational losses and increased fundraising by 60% raising \$200,000 in six month campaign
 - Secured new corporate partnerships with Comcast, JP Morgan Chase, Southwest Airlines, Eli Lilly, Colorado Downtown Partners, State Farm, Federal Express, Pepsi & the Broadmoor Hotel
 - Successfully brokered first annual ULPP Golf Outing at the famous Broadmoor (Gratis) netting \$60,000 in receipts
 - Partnered with Walmart & State Farm and secured over \$10,000 in funding, supplies and books in the ULPP first annual back to school community book bag drive
 - Published and featured in the African American Voice & Colorado Business Journal
 - Successfully secured approximately \$80,000 in receipts from annual gala

VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

URBAN LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA, PA (2004-2007)

- As VP was instrumental in organization expansion and creating sustainable programs. Maintained approachable community friendly image promoting ULP message and mission. Capitalized on National reputation to promote brand through coalition building and community engagement. Grew budget by 35% to become one of the most respected affiliates in the movement.
 - Direct oversight of budget of \$20 million
 - Chiefly responsible for government relations, developing corporate and government partnerships local, state and federal
 - Program management of Housing Counseling, economic development, educational programming

MICHAEL A. WALKER, ESQ.

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL

MARSHALL, DENNEHEY, WARNER, COLEMAN & GOGGIN, PHILA., PA, (2003-2004)

- Associate counsel in litigation & professional liability group for regional defense firm with offices in PA, NJ, FL, DE & WV. Worked directly under partner with corporate clients like Honda, Walmart and Kodak.
 - Products liability, real estate, professional liability, workers compensation
 - Draft Motions, depositions & legal research

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS FOR SOUTHEASTERN PA

KEN CREST SERVICES, PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA, (1995-1999)

- Helmed large Human Services Organization through unprecedented change and growth and as DOO led a multidisciplinary staff of 400 including 7 Directors, 35 Managers and over 300 front line staffers in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Bucks County Pennsylvania.
 - As DOO maintained P & L responsibility of \$25 million budget
 - Achievements include managing organization through systems change merging all 5 counties that historically were separate; streamlining procedures, protocol, service deliverables and staffing.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

MBA, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, Great Valley PA (Current)
JURIS DOCTORATE, OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY, ADA OH
Moot Court Executive Board; Burke E Smith Trial Competition Finalist; Anthony J. Celebrezze
Appellate Advocacy Competition Finalist; National Moot Court Competition
BACHELOR OF SCIENCES UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, FL
Emphasis in Psychology/Special Education

BOARDS

- Board Member Eastern National Cooperative Association with United States National Parks
- Board Member Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce African American Business Council
- Former Board Member Philadelphia Parks Alliance
- Former Board Member of the Friends Hospital
- Former Board Member of Education Compact with the United Way of SE Pennsylvania

REFERENCES AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BY REQUEST