County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session Legislative day # 12

RESOLUTION NO. 175 - 2026

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment– Quinton Askew - Adult-Use Cannabis Advisory Panel

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Quinton Askew to the Adult-Use Cannabis Advisory Panel.

Introduced and read first time on Oct 5, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on Oct 19, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ✓, Adopted with amendments ___, Failed ___, Withdrawn ___ by the County Council on Oct 30, 2026.

Certified by Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

WHEREAS, Section 404 of the Howard County Charter and Section 6.300 of the Howard County Code provide for the County Executive to appoint and for the County Council to confirm nominees to Howard County Boards and Commissions created by law; and

WHEREAS, Sections 6.350 and Subtitle 24 of Title 12 of the Howard County Code provide for an Adult-Use Cannabis Advisory Panel in Howard County; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has proposed the appointment of Quinton Askew as a member of the Adult-Use Cannabis Advisory Panel; and

WHEREAS, the County Council ratifies the County Executive's special trust and confidence in the abilities of the nominee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this 30 day of October, 2026 that the following person is appointed as a member of the Adult-Use Cannabis Advisory Panel to serve from the passage of this Resolution to October 30, 2029 or until a successor is appointed and confirmed:

Quinton Askew
Columbia, Maryland

QUINTON ASKEW

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

With over 20 years of executive management experience in government and nonprofit sectors, I excel in navigating service delivery complexities and driving organizational growth. Known for introducing innovative solutions and pioneering transformational leadership, with a strong track record of guiding organizations through complex changes and fostering growth through strategic innovation.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Conscious Minds Foundation, /Founder
Member of Leadership Howard County
Member of Advisors, Ulman Young Professionals Cancer Fund
Fuel Fund of Maryland Board Member

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS:

2024 JustLiving Advocacy, Inc Community Hands of Hope
2018 The Poverty Eradication Award
2015 Audrey Robinson Team of The Year
2014 The Lewis Washington Woodson Community Service Award

SUPER POWERS:

Transformational Leadership
Change Management
Partnership Development
Policy Development
Community Organizing
Six Sigma Green Belt

EDUCATION|TRAINING|CERTIFICATIONS

2022

Mastering Negotiation & Influence Certification; MIT Sloan School of Management

2017
Certified, Lean Six Sigma Green Belt
(Howard County Public School System), Howard County, MD

2014
Certified, Traumatic Stress and Trauma Informed Care, Baltimore, MD

2013
Aha Process, Inc –Certified National Trainer, Baltimore, MD

2012
Industrial Areas Foundation, Certified Community Organizer, Baltimore, MD

2004
Police and Correctional Training Certification
Police & Corrections Training Academy, Sykesville MD

2000
University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice

Chief Executive Officer & President

2019- 2025

Maryland Information Network (211 Maryland),

Provided executive leadership at 211 Maryland, a statewide nonprofit organization that supports connections 24/7 for over 400, 000 individuals and families annually in Maryland to health and human services.

- Secured over $10 million in funding to enhance mental health and human services for Maryland residents.
- Led the legislative advocacy that resulted in the establishment of the groundbreaking statewide Mental Health Phone Check program (Raskin Act), now operated by 211MD
- Led a strategic reorganization that resulted in a 300% revenue growth within two years.
- Developed and implemented innovative solutions for state agencies to coordinate human services, with a focus on equity and inclusion, leading to increased organizational revenue.
- Work closely with the Board of Directors to enhance the reach and impact of 211 Maryland.
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Director of Community Engagement

2007 – 2019

Howard County Government

Directed a team that provided services to Howard County residents, collaborating with fourteen government and nonprofit agencies. These organizations included the Howard County Coordination of Homeless Services, Family & Children Services, FIRN Immigration Services, Legal Aid, Grassroots, Domestic Violence Center, Department of Social Services, Making Change Financial Services, Workforce Development, Community Action Council, Healthy Howard, Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, and the Howard County Detention Center-Reentry program.

- Spearheaded the strategic planning and execution of Howard County's inaugural multi-agency human services collaboration.
- Led the implementation of the county-wide "Bridges Out of Poverty" initiative, significantly improving resource accessibility and community integration for underrepresented populations.
- Directed strategic county initiatives focused on poverty reduction and promoting self-sufficiency for individuals and families.
- Provided comprehensive training on best practices and evidence-based community engagement strategies.
- Chaired multiple advisory boards, steering initiatives to enhance economic stability and reduce poverty
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Classifications Counselor II
2004 – 2007
Cecil County Department of Corrections

Conducted comprehensive assessments for the entire inmate population to determine the appropriate security level for institutional placement..

- Offered crisis counseling, conflict resolution, legal support, and specialized treatment resources to address mental health issues and remove barriers for inmates.
- Developed and executed rehabilitative treatment plans and programs tailored to individual needs, including drug and alcohol addiction.
- Oversaw institution volunteers and special project programs.
- Supervised Workforce Development program that allowed inmates to work and earn good time for early release.

2001 – 2004
Baltimore City Housing Authority
Management Analyst

Lead strategic direction for the Baltimore Housing grant funded initiative "Work-Matters", an employment and training continuum that offered employment and support services to the "Hardest-to-Employ" welfare recipients in Baltimore City.

- Directed staff who provided case management, counseling, and other support services to program participants.
- Facilitated Entrepreneurial workshops for individuals interested in starting their own business.
- Developed and managed the Non-Custodial Parent Program (focused on fatherhood) within the Baltimore Housing Authority's Work-Matters initiative

1997 – 2001
Division of Pretrial Services
Clinical Supervisor

Developed and implemented the Baltimore City Detention Center Re-entry program.

- Managed the supervision of juvenile and adult inmates participating in the Addicts Changing Together (A.C.T.) Program, focusing on substance misuse and drug-related offenses.
- Approved and reviewed the development of treatment plans for clients in treatment.
- Provided counseling and case management services to adult and juvenile offenders.