



Howard County Council

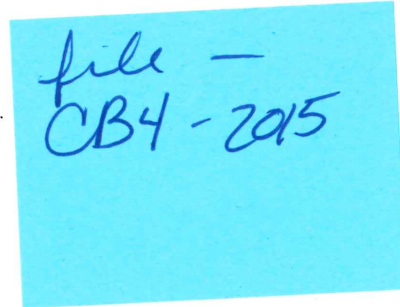
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3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043-4392

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February 19, 2015

The Honorable Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive
Lonnie Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043



Dear Executive Kittleman and Mr. Robbins:

I am writing to express the Council's profound disappointment in the Administration's apparent disregard for the role of the Human Rights Commission.

At our public hearing Tuesday evening, we were reminded that the County Code calls for the Commission to "assist the Chief Administrative Officer and the County Executive on the appointment of the Human Rights Administrator." Imagine our surprise to learn that not only had the Commission not been consulted regarding the appointment of Dr. Barbara Sands, but the Commission had not even been informed of her appointment before members read about it in the newspaper.

This failure to properly engage the Commission in the appointment process has unfortunately sent a message of disrespect which the Council finds troubling. The Commission consists of dedicated volunteers who invest their time and energy to ensure that the rights of all Howard County residents are protected. As elected officials, we owe them our respect and appreciation.

As Dr. Sands prepares to begin in the role of Human Rights Administrator, we are concerned that the foundation has been laid for a potentially contentious relationship. It is the Council's hope and expectation that you will rectify this situation as quickly as possible. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance to you in that process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kay Sigaty".

Mary Kay Sigaty
Chairperson

cc: Howard County Human Rights Commission

