

Remarks by Theodore Hart

July 15, 2024

Howard County Maryland Council

Appointment to Serve on Ethics Commission

Good evening, members of the Howard County Council,

My name is Ted Hart, and I have lived in Howard County since 1995. I am honored to have been nominated by County Executive Calvin Ball for service on the Howard County Ethics Commission. I am grateful for the opportunity to speak with you remotely and apologize for not being able to meet in person.

I bring over 30 years of professional executive experience in the American nonprofit sector, along with my role as President of the Gables at Columbia Association, a 56-unit Townhome Condo Community in Long Reach. We have focused on maintaining our reserve account, curb appeal, and natural environment while managing expenditures effectively. As a certified diversity executive, I am committed to inclusivity and ethical leadership.

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to fostering high standards of ethical behavior. Most recently, I served as the CEO of a major donor-advised fund, where I helped create and implement ethical standards, reinforcing the importance of transparency, accountability, and moral conduct.

I am deeply interested in serving on the Howard County Ethics Commission because I believe that ethical governance is essential for maintaining public trust. The Commission's role in advisory opinions, reviewing financial disclosure statements, investigating complaints, and overseeing lobbyist activities is vital for our local government's integrity.

My leadership and ethical framework development background has equipped me with the skills to contribute effectively on the Commission. My experience with the Gables at Columbia Association has provided valuable insights into community engagement and ethical oversight at the local level.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the Howard County Ethics Commission's important work and serve our community.

I am happy to answer any questions the County Council may have.