



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

3430 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-2195

Stanley J. Milesky, Director
smilesky@howardcountymd.gov

FAX 410-313-4433
TDD 410-313-2323

February 19, 2015

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Stanley J. Milesky
Director of Finance

Holly Sun
County Budget Administrator

Linda Watts
Assistant Director of Finance
Office of Business & Customer Services

Subject: Testimony - Recommendations for Howard County
Supervisor of Assessments

As prescribed by the Annotated Code of Maryland (Section 2-105 of the Tax Property Article), the County Executive was formally advised of the recent retirement and departure of the Supervisor of Assessments for Howard County; and requested by the Director of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, Mr. Robert E. Young, to provide a list of up to five qualified applicants to be considered by SDAT for the post of Supervisor of Assessments for Howard County. The selection of the Supervisor of Assessments is the responsibility of the Director of Assessments, however, much weight is given to the County's preference(s). We have recently been advised that Mr. Young retired from State service as of January 1, 2015. Mr. Owen Charles, the Deputy Director of Assessments is presently leading the SDAT.

The County Executive has both a responsibility and a prerogative in this matter as the Supervisor of Assessments for Howard County plays a consequential role in the outcome of determining the tax value of real property and corporate personal property and thus the assessable base of the County's most important revenue source.

The County Executive, with approval of the County Council, is requested to submit the list of up to five qualified candidates within 60-days of the receipt of the letter from the Director of Assessments. The County received the letter on December 3, 2014, our response was due on February 1, 2015.

The Annotated Code also requires the list of candidates be submitted by both the County Executive and the County Council. In the past, a resolution passed by the County Council and signed by the County Executive has been provided for this purpose.

The Department of Finance placed recruitment advertisements in local newspapers and on the County's NEOGOV Recruitment website. After reviewing the qualifications of interested candidates we identified five candidates with the necessary qualifications for this position. An interview panel consisting of Dr. Holly Sun, the County Budget Administrator, Ms. Linda Watts, the Assistant Director of Finance for the Office of Business & Customer Service, and Mr. Stanley J. Milesky, the County Director of Finance

interviewed three candidates on January 21, 2015; Dr. Sun and Mr. Milesky interviewed the remaining two candidates on February 9, 2015 and February 11, 2015.

The candidates interviewed include:

Ms. Manya Archie
Mr. Donald Trent
Mr. Charles Curry
Mr. Tony L. George
Mr. Thomas G. Rohmann

The interview panel has not been requested to express a preference or rank the candidates recommended and has not done so as part of the interview and selection process. We are agreed, however, that the five candidates interviewed and included in this summary possess the prerequisite skills for this position and recommend their inclusion for consideration by the County Executive and County Council to be recommended to SDAT for the position of Howard County Supervisor of Assessments.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we are able to provide any additional information to assist you in this matter.

cc: Jennifer Sager