

CR13-2016

Human Rights Commission's Position on the Appointments of Joan Hash & Peter Hwang

Sands, Barbara J.

Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 2:31 PM

To: CouncilMail

Cc: Kittleman, Allan; Robbins, Lonnie; Wilson, Diane; Schrader, Sandy; Lee, David K.

Dear County Council Members,

I wanted to provide some clarification as to the Human Rights Commission's position on the appointments of Joan Hash and Peter Hwang to the Commission. Both are equally qualified to serve on the Commission and represent the diversity of our County.

Mr. Opel Jones testified in opposition to those appointments, but did not have the authority to speak on behalf of the Commission when he testified on February 16. He indicated to you that he was speaking in an individual capacity, but later in his testimony, requested on behalf of the Commission that you table the resolutions.

The Commission was not aware of Mr. Jones' testimony until it was brought to their attention at their meeting on February 18. Members of the Commission expressed their dismay that Mr. Jones would misrepresent the Commission. The Commission never authorized Mr. Jones to testify on the Commission's behalf and is interested in seeing all of our vacancies filled. Delays in confirming these appointments impede the progress of the work of the Commission, and I ask you not to delay these appointments.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Barbara Sands