

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 2

RESOLUTION NO. 14 - 2016

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Peter Hwang to the Human Rights Commission.

Introduced and read first time on February 1, 2016.

By order

Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on February 16, 2016.

By order

Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, 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This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments \_\_, Failed \_\_, Withdrawn \_\_ by the County Council on March 7, 2016.

Certified by

Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, 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.



CR 14-2016

## 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.

**FILE COPY**

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

**Council Resolution 14-2016**  
**Introduced:** February 1, 2016  
**LA:** Jeff Meyers  
**Auditor:** n/a

**Legislative Intent:** This Resolution would approve the appointment of Peter Hwang to the Human Rights Commission.

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**ANALYSIS**

**Who would be replaced by the nominee?**

H. Taylor Walls, Term expires: 3/1/16<sup>1</sup>.

**Is that person still actively serving?**

Yes.

**Is that person eligible for reappointment?**

Yes.

**If eligible for reappointment, does that person wish to continue to serve?**

No. Ms. Walls indicates that she “would like to resign my seat at the end of my term. It has been a wonderful and rewarding experience.”

**If the board has specific qualifications for different members, which criteria does this nominee fulfill?**

[County Code Sec. 12.202. - Human Rights Commission.](#)

...

III. Qualifications:

- (a) All members shall be residents of Howard County.
- (b) Members of the Commission shall be broadly representative of the citizens of Howard County.
- (c) Members may serve no more than two successive full terms.

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<sup>1</sup> CR39-2011

**Council Resolution 14-2016**  
**Introduced:** February 1, 2015  
**LA:** Jeff Meyers  
**Auditor:** n/a

**Legislative Intent:** This Resolution would approve the appointment of Peter Hwang to the Human Rights Commission.

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**ANALYSIS**

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<sup>1</sup> CR39-2011

## PETER K. HWANG

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Phone: (410) 772-2324 • Email: phwang@sungandhwang.com

### EXPERIENCE

#### **Sung & Hwang LLP**

*Partner*

Columbia, Maryland

November 2009 – Present

- Co-founded law firm that has grown into a general practice with five attorneys providing legal services primarily in civil and criminal litigation, business transactions, immigration and personal injury
- Manage all of the firm's litigation matters
- Serve as lead counsel in litigation matters involving a wide range of substantive areas, including intellectual property, fraud, banking, securities, employment, personal injury, and insurance, in state and federal courts across the country

#### **Baker Botts LLP**

*Associate, Trial Group*

Washington, DC

September 2008 – August 2009

- Focused on white-collar criminal, securities and general civil litigation matters
- Assisted with defense of various companies under investigation by the United States Department of Justice and United States Securities and Exchange Commission
- Drafted pleadings and motions for various shareholder derivative and class action lawsuits in state and federal courts across the country
- Co-authored publication entitled "Ethical and Professional Problems in Law Enforcement Investigations: Recent Developments" with the former General Counsel to the Securities and Exchange Commission

*Summer Associate*

May 2007 - August 2007

- Prepared research memoranda regarding fraudulent inducement claims, validity of confidentiality agreements, ineffective assistance of counsel and state assistance requirements, among other issues
- Researched for and assisted in drafting of petition for a writ of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court regarding whether a trademark owner must show willfulness to recover the portions of an infringer's profits that a jury reasonably finds attributable to the infringement under federal law
- Assisted in preparing for hearing for a motion for new trial following a state criminal trial

#### **Dickstein Shapiro LLP**

*Summer Associate*

Washington, DC

May 2006 – August 2006

- Researched various issues regarding securities law, white-collar crime and general business litigation
- Drafted motion to dismiss for insider trading claim
- Prepared research memoranda regarding breach of fiduciary duty claims, failure to supervise under NASD Rules, admissibility of post-trial evidence and required disclosures under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, among other issues
- Prepared summary reports regarding advisory fees charged by mutual fund complexes

### EDUCATION

#### **American University, Washington College of Law**

*Juris Doctor, May 2008*

#### **Johns Hopkins University**

*Bachelor of Arts in Economics, May 2002*

*Minors in History and Computer Science*