

December 22, 2021

By email (hammer@coib.nyc.gov)

Christopher M. Hammer
Deputy General Counsel
NYC Conflicts of Interest Board
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010
New York, New York 10007

Re: COIB Rules §1-13(e)(1): JoAnn Kamuf Ward to the International
Association of Official Human Rights Agencies.

Dear Mr. Hammer –

This letter serves to notify the Conflicts of Interest Board (“COIB”) that, in accordance with COIB Rules §1-13(e)(1), Chair/Commissioner Annabel Palma designates JoAnn Kamuf Ward, in her official capacity as Deputy Commissioner for Policy and External Affairs, to serve as a Member-At-Large of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (“IAOHRA”).

Deputy Commissioner Ward will not be compensated for her participation in IAOHRA, but she will use reasonable and incidental City time and resources for this activity. Consistent with the Rules of the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board, “there is a demonstrated nexus” between Deputy Commissioner Ward’s City position and the anticipated work with IAOHRA, and “such work furthers the... mission [of CCHR] and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interest of the non-profit.”

IAOHRA, founded in 1949, is a voluntary association of human rights agencies. The goals of IAOHRA are: (i.) To foster human and intergroup relations; (ii.) To enhance human rights practices under law; and (iii.) To promote civil and human rights around the world. IAOHRA consists of a Board of Directors: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President. The Board also includes four Members-At-Large and four regional representatives (Atlantic, Southern, Midwestern and Western). IAOHRA’s Officers are elected at an annual meeting and serve a term of two years beginning with the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they have been elected and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

CCHR is charged with the enforcement of the New York City Human Rights Law (NYC HRL) and with educating the public and encouraging positive community relations.

As a Member-At-Large of IAOHRA, Deputy Commissioner Ward will maintain an ongoing contribution to one of the world's leading venues for promotion of civil and human rights to all people. The IAOHRA's mission is consistent with the City's interests in the rule of law, an informed populace and response to local, national, and international human rights issues. The Deputy Commissioner's leadership role will also further the City's purpose of elevating the visibility of its senior agency officials and their work on behalf of the City.

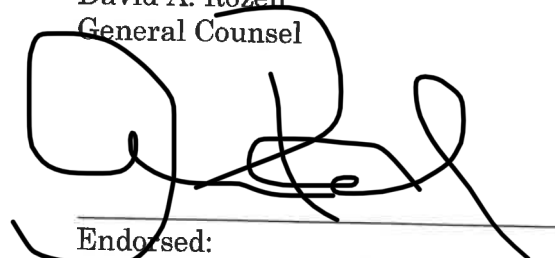
Deputy Commissioner Ward is bound by all the restrictions imposed by Chapter 68 of the New York City Charter. She has been informed of applicable prohibitions, including but not limited to: (a.) not to participate in any business dealings between the City and the IAOHRA, including funding requests and lobbying of City elective officials; and (b.) not advocate or appear before any City agency, entity, or elected official in favor of IAOHRA. The Commission does not anticipate any conflicts between Deputy Commissioner Ward's day-to-day responsibilities at CCHR and involvement with IAOHRA. Chair and Commissioner Annabel Palma is supportive of Deputy Commissioner Ward serving in this role, subject to any required stipulations and/or recusals on her part.

If you have any further questions or need additional information, please contact me at (212) 416-0135 or by email at drozen@cchr.nyc.gov.

Best regards,



David A. Rozen
General Counsel



Endorsed:
Commissioner
Annabel Palma