EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION CITY OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION # 2016/902: Final Determination pursuant to the Audit: Review, Evaluation and Monitoring of the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney's Employment Practices and Procedures from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015.

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Section 831(d)(2) and (5) of the New York City Charter, the Equal Employment Practices Commission is authorized to audit and evaluate the employment practices, programs, policies, and procedures of city agencies and their efforts to ensure fair and effective equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women, and to make recommendations to city agencies to insure equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women; and

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Section 831(d)(2), this Commission has adopted Uniform Standards for EEPC Audits and Minimum Equal Employment Opportunity Standards for Community Boards to assess agencies' EEO programs and policies for compliance with federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies and procedures which are designed to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination in employment within municipal government; and

Whereas, pursuant to its audit of the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney's (BCDA) Employment Practices and Procedures, the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) issued a Preliminary Determination letter, dated May 24, 2016, setting forth findings and the following required corrective actions:

- 1. Re-distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies or an agency EEO Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda an upto-date list of protected classes under NYC and NYS Human Rights Laws.
- 2. Assess recruitment efforts to determine whether such efforts adversely impact any particular group. To the extent that adverse impact is discovered, at a minimum, identify relevant professional and community organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups throughout the City, review and update listings of recruitment outreach sources, and contact these organizations when provisional positions become available or where the agency may otherwise use discretion in hiring.
- 3. Ensure that the principal EEO Professional, HR Professional and General Counsel, review the agency's statistical information (i.e. workforce, hires, promotions, and separations by race/ethnicity and gender) and the agency's employment practices on an annual basis to identify whether there are barriers to equal opportunity within the agency and determine what, if any, corrective actions are required in order to correct deficiencies (e.g. underutilization or adverse impact). If necessary, consult with the Law Department, Division of Citywide Diversity and EEO, or another resource for guidance.
- 4. Assess the manner in which candidates are selected for employment, to determine whether there is any adverse impact upon any particular racial, ethnic, disability, or

gender group. To the extent that adverse impact is discovered, determine whether the selection criteria being utilized are job-related. Discontinue using criteria that are not job-related, and adopt methods which diminish adverse impact.

- 5. If women, minorities, or other protected groups are underrepresented in titles where there is discretion in hiring, advertise in minority- or female-oriented publications; contact organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups; participate in career fairs/open houses; or use internships to attract interested persons and to develop and hire interested and qualified candidates.
- 6. If women, minorities, or other protected groups are underrepresented in civil service (list) titles, review the competencies, skills and abilities required (as presented in job vacancy notices and notices of examination) for available positions to ensure that these standards are updated, job-related and required by business necessity. (This includes working with DCAS or the Civil Service Commission if applicable). Then advertise in minority- or female-oriented publications, contact organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups; participate in career fairs or open houses; or use internships to attract interested persons and to develop and hire interested and qualified candidates.
- 7. Use and maintain an applicant/candidate log or tracking system which, at minimum, includes the position, applicants'/candidates' names, identification number, ethnicity, gender, disability or veteran status, interview date, interviewers' names, result, reason selected/not selected (or disposition) of each applicant, and recruitment source. Ensure that the process avoids the appearance of bias by delegating the responsibility for recording and maintaining this information to an individual other than the hiring manager.
- 8. Designate a professional (may be referred to as the Career Counselor) with appropriate training, knowledge and familiarity with career opportunities in City government to provide career counseling to employees upon request. Remind employees of the identity/type of guidance available from the Career Counselor at least once each year.
- 9. Ensure that all employees have access to information regarding performance evaluation standards, and training opportunities.
- 10. Maintain appropriate documentation of meetings and other communications between the agency head (or a direct report other than the General Counsel) and the principal EEO Professional regarding decisions that impact the administration and operation of the EEO program.
- 11. Establish and implement an annual managerial/non-managerial performance evaluation program (with timetable) to be used for probationary periods, promotions, assignments, incentives and training.
- 12. Ensure that the managerial performance evaluation form contains a rating for EEO (which covers responsibilities and processes for assuring their ability to make

employment decisions based on merit and equal consideration, or treat others in an equitable and impartial manner).

13. Submit to the EEPC an Annual Plan of measures and programs to provide equal employment opportunity, and quarterly reports (up to 30 days following each quarter) on efforts to implement the plan.

Whereas, the agency submitted its response to the EEPC's Preliminary Determination letter, on June 6, 2016; and with documentation of its actions to rectify required corrective action nos. 1, 9, 12 and 13; and

Whereas, in accordance with Chapter 36, Section 832(c) of the New York City Charter, the EEPC considered the agency's response and issued a Final Determination on June 16, 2016 which agreed and indicated that corrective action(s) nos., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 require compliance monitoring; and

Whereas, in accordance with Chapter 36, Section 832 (c) of the City Charter, the EEPC is required to monitor the agency for a period not to exceed six months, from July 2016 through December 2016, to determine whether it implemented remaining required corrective actions; and

Whereas, in accordance with Chapter 36, Section 832 (c) of the City Charter, the agency is required to respond in 30 days and make monthly reports thereafter to the Commission on the progress of implementation of such corrective actions; and

Whereas, all of the EEPC's corrective actions are required by, or are consistent with, federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies and procedures which are designed to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination in employment within municipal government; Now Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Commission will forward this Final Determination to District Attorney Darcel D. Clark, of the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney.

Approved unanimously on June 16, 2016.

Angela Cabrera

Commissioner

Arva Rice

Commissioner

Malini Cadambi Daniel

Commissioner

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq.

Commissioner

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMISSION CITY OF NEW YORK

RESOLUTION #2016AP/902C-21: Determination of **Compliance** (Monitoring Period Required) by the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney with the Equal Employment Practices Commission's required corrective actions pursuant to the Review, Evaluation and Monitoring of the agency's Employment Practices and Procedures from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015.

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Section 831(d)(2) and (5) of the New York City Charter, the Equal Employment Practices Commission is authorized to audit and evaluate the employment practices, programs, policies, and procedures of city agencies and their efforts to ensure fair and effective equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women, and to make recommendations to city agencies to insure equal employment opportunity for minority group members and women; and

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 36, Section 831(d)(2), this Commission has adopted *Uniform Standards for EEPC Audits* and *Minimum Equal Employment Opportunity Standards for Community Boards* to assess agencies' EEO programs and policies for compliance with federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies and procedures which are designed to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination in employment within municipal government; and

Whereas, pursuant to its audit and analysis of the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney's (BCDA) Employment Practices and Procedures, the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) issued a Preliminary Determination letter, dated May 24, 2016, setting forth findings and the following required corrective actions:

- Re-distribute/Post a paper or electronic copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Standards and Procedures to Be Utilized by City Agencies – or an agency EEO Policy that conforms to city, state and federal laws – for use by managers, supervisors, and legal, human resources and EEO professionals. Include, or attach as addenda an up-to-date list of protected classes under NYC and NYS Human Rights Laws.
- 2. Assess recruitment efforts to determine whether such efforts adversely impact any particular group. To the extent that adverse impact is discovered, at a minimum, identify relevant professional and community organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups throughout the City, review and update listings of recruitment outreach sources, and contact these organizations when provisional positions become available or where the agency may otherwise use discretion in hiring.
- 3. Ensure that the principal EEO Professional, HR Professional and General Counsel, review the agency's statistical information (i.e. workforce, hires, promotions, and separations by race/ethnicity and gender) and the agency's employment practices on an annual basis to identify whether there are barriers to equal opportunity within the agency and determine what, if any, corrective actions are required in order to correct deficiencies (e.g. underutilization or adverse impact). If necessary, consult with the Law Department, Division of Citywide Diversity and EEO, or another resource for guidance.
- 4. Assess the manner in which candidates are selected for employment, to determine whether there is any adverse impact upon any particular racial, ethnic, disability, or gender group. To the extent that adverse impact is discovered, determine whether the selection criteria being utilized

- are job-related. Discontinue using criteria that are not job-related, and adopt methods which diminish adverse impact.
- 5. If women, minorities, or other protected groups are underrepresented in titles where there is discretion in hiring, advertise in minority- or female-oriented publications; contact organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups; participate in career fairs/open houses; or use internships to attract interested persons and to develop and hire interested and qualified candidates.
- 6. If women, minorities, or other protected groups are underrepresented in civil service (list) titles, review the competencies, skills and abilities required (as presented in job vacancy notices and notices of examination) for available positions to ensure that these standards are updated, job-related and required by business necessity. (This includes working with DCAS or the Civil Service Commission if applicable.) Then advertise in minority- or female-oriented publications, contact organizations serving women, minorities, and other protected groups; participate in career fairs or open houses; or use internships to attract interested persons and to develop and hire interested and qualified candidates.
- 7. Use and maintain an applicant/candidate log or tracking system which, at minimum, includes the position, applicants'/candidates' names, identification number, ethnicity, gender, disability or veteran status, interview date, interviewers' names, result, reason selected/not selected (or disposition) of each applicant, and recruitment source. Ensure that the process avoids the appearance of bias by delegating the responsibility for recording and maintaining this information to an individual other than the hiring manager.
- 8. Designate a professional (may be referred to as the Career Counselor) with appropriate training, knowledge and familiarity with career opportunities in City government to provide career counseling to employees upon request. Remind employees of the identity/type of guidance available from the Career Counselor at least once each year.
- 9. Ensure that all employees have access to information regarding performance evaluation standards, and training opportunities.
- 10. Maintain appropriate documentation of meetings and other communications between the agency head (or a direct report other than the General Counsel) and the principal EEO Professional regarding decisions that impact the administration and operation of the EEO program.
- 11. Establish and implement an annual managerial/non-managerial performance evaluation program (with timetable) to be used for probationary periods, promotions, assignments, incentives and training.
- 12. Ensure that the managerial performance evaluation form contains a rating for EEO (which covers responsibilities and processes for assuring their ability to make employment decisions based on merit and equal consideration, or treat others in an equitable and impartial manner).
- 13. Submit to the EEPC an Annual Plan of measures and programs to provide equal employment opportunity, and quarterly reports (up to 30 days following each quarter) on efforts to implement the plan.

Whereas, BCDA submitted its response to the EEPC's Preliminary Determination letter, on June 6, 2016, with documentation of its actions to rectify required corrective actions Nos. 1, 9, 12, and 13; and

Whereas, in accordance with Chapter 36, Section 832(c) of the New York City Charter, the EEPC considered the agency's response and issued a Final Determination on June 16, 2016 which indicated that corrective actions Nos. 2 – 8, 10 and 11 require compliance monitoring; and

Whereas, BCDA submitted its response to the EEPC's Final Determination letter, on July 18, 2016; and

Whereas, in accordance with Chapter 36, Section 832(c) of the New York City Charter, the EEPC monitored the agency's implementation of the corrective actions from July 2016 – December 2016, with no extension of the monitoring period; and

Whereas, at the EEPC's request pursuant to Section 815.a.(15) of the New York City Charter, BCDA submitted a copy of the agency head's memorandum to staff, dated January 11, 2017, which outlined the corrective actions implemented in response to the EEPC's audit and reiterated her commitment to the agency's EEO Program; and

Whereas, all of the EEPC's corrective actions are required by, or are consistent with, federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies and procedures which are designed to increase equality of opportunity for women, minorities, and other employees and job applicants identified for protection from discrimination in employment within municipal government; Now Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney has implemented the required corrective actions deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the equal employment opportunity standards of this Commission and requirements of Chapters 35 and 36 of the City Charter.

Be It Resolved, that the Commission will forward this Final Determination to District Attorney Darcel D. Clark of the Office of the Bronx County District Attorney.

Approved unanimously on January 19, 2017.

Angela Cabrera

Commissioner

Arva Rice

Commissioner

Malini Cadambi Daniel

Commissioner

Elaine S. Reiss, Esq.

Commissioner

DISTRICT ATTORNEY - BRONX COUNTY MEMORANDUM

To:

All Staff

From:

Darcel D. Clark, Bronx District Attorney

Regarding:

Equal Employment Opportunity Program

Date:

January 11, 2017

The Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) completed an audit of our office's employment practices and procedures with a review of the period from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015, to ensure compliance with federal, state and local laws, regulations, policies and procedures which are designed to increase equality of opportunity for municipal government employees and job applicants.

I am pleased to report that we are now in full compliance with the audit standards. The following changes have been implemented to the agency's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) program:

- All of our employment recruitment literature indicates that the Office of the Bronx District Attorney is an equal opportunity employer and committed to diversity and inclusion.
- Our office implemented a new hiring website, Applicant Stack. It provides a central and concise way to track and maintain all of our hiring data for staff and legal candidates.
- To ensure program continuity, EEO meetings between the EEO Officer and the District Attorney regarding decisions that impact the administration and operation of the EEO program are being documented.
- The Office remains committed to supporting and advancing our current employees. Career Counselors Cicely Harris and Frank Ramos will be available to discuss any staff members' professional development questions.
- The person responsible for handling reasonable accommodation requests and ensuring compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, as well as City and agency policies pertaining to persons with disabilities is:

All Staff:

Cicely Harris, EEO Officer

198 East 161st Street, Room 913

718-838-6505

Detailed information regarding the Bronx District Attorney's EEO Program, its policies and procedures may be found on the office intranet at: http://bxdashare/pdf/humanresources/eeo policy.pdf

Employees with EEO questions or concerns are advised to contact Cicely Harris, our EEO Officer and Career Counselor, or any of the six EEO Coordinators who are listed in our EEO policy manual.

I wish to reaffirm our office's strong commitment to maintaining fair employment practices for all of our employees. We are firmly committed to preventing discrimination by ensuring that all employees are aware of their rights and obligations under the EEO policy and by encouraging a work environment that tolerates and appreciates differences among employees. I thank you for sharing this commitment.