



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

August 12, 2019

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Ms. Alisa Schlesinger to the Commission on Disability for the term ending June 30, 2024. Ms. Schlesinger's current term expired on June 30, 2019.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Schlesinger is qualified for the work that will devolve upon her, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Alisa Schlesinger
Commission: Commission on Disability
End of Term: 6/30/2024

Appointee Information

1. **Race/ethnicity:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** Female
3. **Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 2 - South Valley
4. **Are you a registered voter?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:** Commission on Disability
6. **Highest level of education completed:** J.D., University of California at Berkeley
7. **Occupation/profession:** Counsel/Director of Agency, Writers Guild of America, West
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission:**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Ethnicity	Gender	Term End
Bitonte, Robert	Central	14	Caucasian	M	30-Jun-21
de Vera, Theresa May	East	14	Asian Pacific Islander	F	30-Jun-20
Hopkins, Iran	South Valley	4	Latina	F	30-Jun-23
Rothenberg, Richard	Central	5	Caucasian	M	30-Jun-22
Schlesinger, Alisa	South Valley	2	Caucasian	F	30-Jun-19
Williams, Robert	Central	4	Caucasian	M	30-Jun-22
Wilson, Betty R.	East	14	African American	F	30-Jun-23
Cabanban, Myrna	Harbor	15	Asian Pacific Islander	F	30-Jun-21
Wolf, David E.	North Valley	12	Caucasian	M	30-Jun-22

ALISA C. SCHLESINGER

EXPERIENCE

Writers Guild of America, West, Los Angeles, CA

January 2015 – present

Counsel/Director of Agency

Represent the WGAW and professional television and film writers in cases involving complex issues under the WGAW collective bargaining agreement and individual writers' contracts. Handle arbitrations and litigation in connection with the WGAW's contract enforcement and organizing activities. Investigate facts and prepare cases for hearing by interviewing potential witnesses, compiling and analyzing contracts, financial records, statistical information, bargaining history, and other documentary evidence. Negotiate and draft settlements of disputes.

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, Los Angeles, CA

October 2005 – January 2015

Associate

Practice focused on complex civil, government enforcement, and environmental litigation, including litigation and investigations brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Department of Justice. Trial counsel in federal and state court proceedings. Conducted numerous expert and fact witness depositions. Drafted briefs and motions in federal and state court proceedings. Managed case teams and directed general case management. Representative matters and responsibilities included:

- Trial counsel for multiple environmental hearings in federal bankruptcy court; responsible for managing discovery, pre-trial motion practice, trial preparation, presentation of expert testimony and cross-examinations, opening and closing statements and argument before the court.
- Trial counsel for hearings in which \$1.4 million judgment was obtained for client on \$144 million claim, and \$20,000 judgment was obtained for client on \$40 million claim.
- Litigation counsel for animal rights organization in False Claims Act suit brought against slaughterhouse owners and operators for role in illegally slaughtered meat operation, leading to \$155 million settlement.
- Litigation counsel in complex securities fraud case brought by the SEC; responsible for all areas of litigation including drafting and responding to initial pleadings and discovery, pre-trial motions; fact and expert witness deposition; general case management and strategy.
- Responsible for day-to-day management of \$10 billion environmental litigation portfolio involving more than 100 environmental cleanup sites across the United States.
- Directed wide-scale client response to SEC investigation of allegations of trading violations, managed investigation team, and conducted legal analysis.
- Mediation and settlement counsel for resolution of CERCLA claims at multiple environmental sites.
- Counsel for human trafficking victim; gathered and analyzed evidence, conducted interviews of human trafficking victim and social services-provider, and worked with law enforcement officers to obtain T-Visa.

Member of Milbank's Recruiting Committee and Green Task Force. Recipient of 2005/2006, 2011/2012, and 2012/2013 Pro Bono Achievement Awards. National Institute for Trial Advocacy Trial Skills and National Session participant, June 2013, July 2014.

Disability Rights California, Los Angeles, CA

April 2010 – August 2010

Pro Bono Fellow

Served as litigation counsel and advocate to minors and adults with developmental, physical, and mental disabilities at California's Protection and Advocacy agency. Responsibilities included:

- Provided legal representation to juveniles with developmental disabilities who were not receiving adequate medical or mental health care or habilitation services in the Los Angeles County juvenile hall system.
- Represented individual client in administrative hearing related to denial of Medi-Cal benefits.
- Conducted plaintiff interviews and helped develop strategy related to due process violations for Regional Center clients.
- Provided advocacy services to mental health patients in California state hospitals and to parent of

child receiving special education services in connection with a school expulsion meeting.
Recipient of 2010 Pro Bono Achievement Award and 2010 Advocacy Achievement Award.

Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne, Paris, France

August 2005 – October 2005

Associate Attorney

Researched legal issues related to human trafficking and diplomatic immunity from prosecution for trafficking violations. Initiated civil litigation and administrative complaints against human traffickers. Liaised with European Union nations to implement a coordinated European response to human trafficking.

U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR

September 2003 – July 2005

Law Clerk to the Honorable José A. Fusté

Authored opinions and orders in federal civil and criminal law issues, including a complex death penalty case.

Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS), Buenos Aires, Argentina

May 2001 – August 2001

Intern

Researched judicial proceedings involving Argentina's Dirty War, including legal and political barriers to prosecution for dictatorial crimes. Investigated judicial proceedings brought against military dictators under the jurisdiction of Spain's Judge Baltazar Garzon. Authored and translated reference materials for use in international conferences.

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA

December 1999 – May 2000

Neurological Researcher

Investigated the molecular pathogenesis of neurodegenerative movement disorders in the Department of Neurology, published in Hiroki Shibata, Duong P. Huynh and Stefan-M. Pulst, "A Novel Protein with RNA-Binding Motifs Interacts with Ataxin-2," Human Molecular Genetics, Vol. 9, No. 9 (2000) 1303-1313.

Los Angeles Conservancy, Los Angeles, CA

October 1998 – December 1999

Conservation Advocate

Researched and drafted written reports regarding the history of historic sites in Los Angeles County. Composed correspondence to top city official concerning city preservation issues. Met with business, civic, and political leaders regarding historical redevelopment projects.

Dubnoff Ctr. for Child Dev. & Educ. Therapy, North Hollywood, CA

June 1997 – August 1997

Secondary School Instructor

Taught and supervised junior high school students with learning and behavioral disabilities.

HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy, Philadelphia, PA

January 1997 – May 1997

Life Skills Assistant

Supervised, instructed, and cared for school children with cerebral palsy.

EDUCATION

University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, Juris Doctor, 2003

- Senior Executive Editor, *California Law Review*
- Moot Court Advocacy Award

University of Pennsylvania, Bachelor of Arts in French, Minor in Art History, *summa cum laude*, 1998

- Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List
- American University of Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France, Spring 1998
- Université Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco, Fall 1997

ADMISSIONS

State Bar of California; United States District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Southern, and Northern Districts of California and the District of Puerto Rico; First and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals

PUBLICATIONS

Daniel Perry and Alisa Schlesinger, *Advice to Debtors – and Creditors – for Valuation Disputes in Bankruptcy Litigation*, Business Valuation Update, Vol. 17, No. 2, Feb. 2011.

LANGUAGES

Proficient in spoken and written French and Spanish.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability, Commissioner**, 2014 – present. Advocate for people with disabilities and serve in advisory capacity to City of Los Angeles Department on Disability.
- **ReelAbilities Film Festival, Los Angeles, Founding Member/Executive Committee Member**, 2017 - present. Provide strategic direction, secure sponsorship, develop programming, and build community partnerships for disability film festival.
- **Hollyhock House, Docent**, 1994 – present. Lead tours through Frank Lloyd Wright's historic home, named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Housing Rights Center, Board Member**, 2011 – present. Serve on Board of California's largest private, nonprofit organization dedicated to securing fair housing.
- **New Leaders Project, Fellow** – December 2014 – November 2015. Participant in civic leadership program aimed to enhance leadership capabilities while working with community leaders to address critical issues facing Los Angeles.
- **Metropolitan Detention Center Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, Prison Educator**, 2004 – 2005. Taught high school equivalency exam coursework to inmates.



August 12, 2019

Dear Ms. Schlesinger:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby reappoint you to the Commission on Disability for the term ending June 30, 2024. In order to complete the process as quickly as possible, there are several steps that must be taken, many of which require visiting City Hall. If you require parking during these procedures, please call Claudia Luna in my Office at (213) 978-0621 to make arrangements for you.

To begin the reappointment process, please review, sign and return the enclosed Remuneration Form, Undated Separation Forms, Background Check Release and Information Sheet **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensuring the most efficient, open and accountable City government possible.

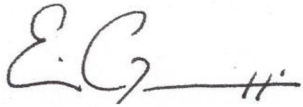
As part of the City Council confirmation process, you will need to meet with Paul Krekorian, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, the Chair of the Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River Committee, to answer any questions they may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be considered by the Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River Committee. Some time thereafter, you will be notified by the committee clerk when your reappointment will be presented to the full City Council for confirmation. Once you are confirmed, you will be required to take the oath of office in the City Clerk's Office in Room 395 of City Hall. Claudia Luna will assist you during the confirmation process if you have questions.

Ms. Alisa Schlesinger
August 12, 2019
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If you move at any point during your term, have any changes in your telephone numbers, or in the future plan to resign (resignation must be put in writing), please contact my office immediately.

Congratulations and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Garcetti", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment I
Ms. Alisa Schlesinger
August 12, 2019

Nominee Check List

I. Within seven days:

Mail or email the following forms to: Claudia Luna, Office of the Mayor, City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: Claudia.Luna@lacity.org.

_____ **Remuneration Form**

_____ **Undated Separation Forms**

_____ **Background Check Release**

_____ **Commissioner Information Sheet/Voluntary Statistics**

II. As soon as possible, the Mayor's Office will schedule a meeting with you and:

_____ **Your City Councilmember Paul Krekorian**

_____ **Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination**

Staff in the Mayor's Office of Legislative and External Affairs will assist you with these arrangements.