



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
**MAYOR**

June 8, 2021

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Ms. Cielo Castro to the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Board of Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2025. Ms. Castro's current term expires on June 30, 2021.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Castro 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:** Cielo Castro  
**Commission:** Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Board of Commissioners  
**End of Term:** June 30, 2025

### Appointee Information

- 1. Race/ethnicity:** Latina
- 2. Gender:** Female
- 3. Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 14 - East Los Angeles
- 4. Are you a registered voter?** Yes
- 5. Prior commission experience:** Board Fire and Police Pension Commissioners
- 6. Highest level of education completed:** M.P.A., Harvard University
- 7. Occupation/profession:** Chief of Staff, Fairplex
- 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
Castro, Cielo	East	14	Latina	F	30-Jun-21
Bryan, Ana	East	14	Latina	F	30-Jun-21
Tenenbaum, Daniel	West	11	Caucasian	M	30-Jun-23
Cadena, Noramay	North Valley	7	Latina	F	30-Jun-21
Hooper, Lucelia	Harbor	15	African American	F	30-Jun-24
De La Cruz, Delfino	North Valley	7	Latino	M	30-Jun-24
Bakewell, Taelor	East	14	African American	F	30-Jun-22

# Cielo V. Castro

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## EDUCATION

### **Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government**

Master in Public Administration – June 2009

*Coursework in: adaptive leadership, behavioral economics, budgeting, non-profit management and benchmarking, social capital and public affairs research seminar, urban politics and planning*

### **Boston University, School of Management**

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration – May 2001

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Washington, DC**

*Special Assistant – Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD)*

*October 2009 – Present*

*Los Angeles Field Office*

*July 2012 – Present*

- Advise the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs and Assistant Secretary of CPD on policy and political matters relating to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), CDBG-Disaster Recovery, HOME Investment Partnerships, and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP); assisting with management of a \$50 billion program portfolio and over 1,200 grantees
- Manage relationships with external stakeholders to effectively influence CPD policy, including National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of Counties, National Community Development Association, Enterprise Community Partners, PolicyLink and National Council of La Raza
- Organize and implement strategy for priority initiatives, including: Agency-wide amplification plan for Project Rebuild, part of the American Jobs Act; crisis management in response to oversight of the HOME program; and outreach to mayors regarding American Community Survey adverse impacts on CDBG
- Engage with Congressional offices and local governments to resolve community development concerns and constituent requests with the HUD Office of Congressional Intergovernmental Affairs
- Oversaw workflow, resolved problems, and managed projects for Assistant Secretary Mercedes Márquez; developed briefing materials and provided staff support for meetings, conferences, and trips, for an average 10 meetings per week and 2 trips per month; coordinated national outreach with LGBT, women, and community development organizations; directed Latino stakeholder and press outreach, arranging all relevant meetings and press opportunities in collaboration with the HUD Office of Public Affairs
- Successfully negotiated the Department's first public private partnership agreement with the National Community Stabilization Trust for the National First Look Program for NSP grantees, and an interagency agreement with SBA for HUD policies on Federal disaster assistance to avoid duplication of benefits
- In Los Angeles: coordinate HUD response to State of California dissolution of redevelopment agencies; manage 34 NSP local government and non-profit grantees, representing over \$500 million in grant funds, to assure effective program delivery and outcomes

### **National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund – Los Angeles, CA**

*Director of Constituency Services*

*October 2006 – July 2008*

- Led the development, implementation, and evaluation of NALEO's Policy Institutes on Sustainable Communities, Healthy Communities Initiative, and National Education Leadership Initiative
- Determined vision and strategy for the NALEO Educational Fund's training opportunities for the 5,000 Latino elected and appointed officials across the nation, at the school, city, county and state levels
- Directed the programmatic components of NALEO Annual Conference, attracting over 1,000 participants
- Edited and produced all department publications: policy briefs, tool-kits, and membership e-newsletter
- Established and managed relationships with caucuses of elected officials, including the Big 7, partner organizations, and representatives from the public, private, philanthropic and nonprofit sectors
- Managed \$1.5 million annual budget, one-fourth of the organization's total annual budget, and facilitated programmatic fundraising efforts, generating \$875,000 in new revenues over two years
- Supervised a team of nine, including three Deputy Directors

**Deputy Director of Constituency Services**

August 2003 – October 2006

- Created NALEO Policy Institutes on Sustainable Communities, for municipal and county level officials
- Managed additional professional development Institutes on various topics including health and education
- Represented NALEO at other organization's conferences and workshops
- Produced informational material for use in reports to the NALEO Board of Directors, foundation proposals, e-newsletters and updating the NALEO website
- Collaboratively worked with NALEO advisory committees, municipal organizations, and policy experts

**National League of Cities – Washington, DC**

**Program Assistant, Outreach – Institute for Youth, Education, and Families** January 2003 – August 2003

- Promoted the Institute's work to municipal officials, state municipal leagues, NLC constituency groups, and external organizations through conferences, publications, newsletters, and website information
- Edited and provided writing support to staff on news articles, working papers, and foundation proposals

**Staff Assistant – Center for Member Programs**

July 2001 – December 2002

- Coordinated conference planning, including workshop development, identifying diverse speakers, preparing correspondence and assisting on-site with six constituency groups, including the Hispanic Elected Local Officials (HELO) and Women in Municipal Government (WIMG)
- Designed quarterly newsletters for constituency groups and created additional publications including press releases, programs, informational flyers and regular articles for the *Nation's Cities Weekly*
- Served as liaison with members, external organizations, and corporate partners

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

- **National Development Council**, Washington DC  
Economic Development Finance course – September 2013  
New Market Tax Credits & Housing Development Finance course – December 2010
- **Center for Creative Leadership**, San Diego, CA  
Leadership Development Program – May 2007
- **National Hispana Leadership Institute**, Washington, DC  
Executive Fellowship Program, 2007

**PRESENTATIONS**

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Childhood Obesity Grantee Meeting, *Engaging Policymakers to Address Childhood Obesity*, November 15, 2007
- The Summit on the Built Environment and Children's Health – A New Vision for San Antonio, *Designing Communities for Active Living and Healthy Eating*, September 7, 2007
- New Partners for Smart Growth: Building Safe, Healthy and Livable Communities Conference, opening plenary, *The Next Chapter for Smart Growth: Capacity Building to Institutionalization*, February 8, 2007
- Advancing Regional Equity: The Second National Summit on Equitable Development, Social Justice, and Smart Growth, *The Leadership Role of Public Officials*, May 23, 2005

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- **Las Comadres para Las Americas** – Los Angeles Coordinator, 2013 - present
- **Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.**  
Professional Development Advisor 2012-Present; Vice President of Alumnae Affairs, 2006-2007; Chair, Pi Beta Professional/Graduate Chapter, 2001-2003; Member, 2000 – present
- **Organizing for America - Colorado** – Latino vote volunteer in Pueblo, November 2012
- **Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government**  
Class of 2009 Reunion Planning Committee Coordinator, 2014; Mid-Career Coordinating Committee Co-Chair, 2009; Women and Public Policy, Oval Office Political Campaign Practicum, 2008-2009; Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy, Senior Editor for Interviews, 2009; Dean's Ambassador, 2008-2009
- **Boston University Alumni Club** - Alumni Admissions Volunteer, 2001-Present

**SKILLS**

Fluent in Spanish, knowledge of French. Extensive public speaking experience.



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
**MAYOR**

June 8, 2021

Dear Ms. Castro:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby reappoint you to the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Board of Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2025. 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.

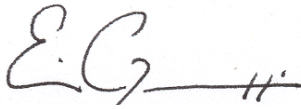
As part of the City Council confirmation process, you will need to meet with Kevin de León, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo, the Chair of the Housing Committee, to answer any questions they may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be considered by the Housing 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. Cielo Castro  
June 8, 2021  
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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 "E. Garcetti", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor

EG:dlg

Attachment I  
Ms. Cielo Castro  
June 8, 2021

### **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 Kevin de León**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination**

Staff in the Mayor's Office will assist you with these arrangements.