



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

May 24, 2023

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Mr. Carl Douglas to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors for the term ending June 30, 2026.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Douglas is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Mr. Douglas will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Heather Repenning, whose seat will be vacant on July 5, 2023, or at the time Ms. Repenning's successor is confirmed by the City Council, whichever is first.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

## COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

**Name:** Carl Douglas  
**Commission:** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors  
**End of Term:** 6/30/2026

### Appointee Information

1. **Race:** African American
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** N/A
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** N/A
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** J.D., Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley
7. **Occupation/profession:** Attorney-At-Law, Douglas / Hicks Law
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume/bio
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Appointment
10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Luna, Miguel	East LA	13	Latinx	M	12/31/2024
Petersen, Matt	N/A	N/A	Caucasian	M	6/30/2024
Quinn, Tracy	N/A	N/A	Caucasian	F	12/31/2024
Repenning, Heather	Central	4	Caucasian	F	6/30/2026
Sutley, Nancy	East LA	1	Latinx	F	12/31/2026



# DOUGLAS / HICKS



## BIOGRAPHY

### CARL E. DOUGLAS

**Carl E. Douglas** is in private practice at Douglas / Hicks Law in Los Angeles. Mr. Douglas is one of the “Top 100 Attorneys” in California for 2021 according to the staff at the Los Angeles/ San Francisco Daily Journal newspaper, the leading legal periodical in the state. (There are more than 260,000 attorneys registered to practice laws in the state. In addition, the Daily Journal named his firm *Douglas/Hicks Law* as one of the winners of their prestigious 25<sup>th</sup> Annual “California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year” (“CLAY”).

Mr. Douglas was named the Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2006 by the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, the largest local association of plaintiffs’ attorneys in the United States. The Association educates, connects, assists, and advocates for its nearly 3,000 members.

Prior to opening his own firm more than 25 years ago, Mr. Douglas is the former Managing Attorney at the Law Offices of Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr, and is best known while there for his work as the Coordinator of O.J. Simpson’s criminal defense “*Dream Team*”. His work as a member of that Dream Team is prominently featured in ESPN’s 30 for 30, 2018 Academy Award winning documentary, *O.J.: Made In America*. While at Mr. Cochran’s firm, Mr. Douglas tried dozens of cases to verdict, in a wide array of personal injury, civil rights, and criminal law matters.

After going out on his own, he has only broadened his list of accomplishments. Mr. Douglas was the attorney for the lead plaintiff in *Patricia Anderson v. General Motors Corporation*, a product liability trial where the jury returned a \$4.9 billion dollar verdict for Ms. Anderson and her family, which was then the largest personal injury verdict ever awarded in the United States.

As lead counsel in a seven-week trial against the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, concerning the police in-custody death of an unarmed African-American man, Mr. Douglas helped the victim’s family obtain a verdict of \$8,000,000.00.

In 1994 and again in 1999, Mr. Douglas was honored as the “*Loren Miller Lawyer of the Year*” by the John M. Langston Bar Association, the largest local association of African-American attorneys in California. He became only the second attorney in the more than 85-year history of that Association to be awarded that coveted honor more than once.

Prior to joining Mr. Cochran’s office, Mr. Douglas was employed from 1981 through 1987 as a trial attorney at the Federal Public Defender’s Office in Los Angeles. He began his legal career in 1980 working at the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Douglas earned his undergraduate degree at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and his law degree at the Boalt Hall School of Law of the University of California, Berkeley.



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

May 24, 2023

Dear Mr. Douglas:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors for the term ending June 30, 2026, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

To begin the appointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and undated Letters of Separation **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensure the most efficient, open, and accountable city government possible.

Mayor's Office policy requires all potential commissioners to be fingerprinted as part of the background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with Personnel's Background Unit so that you may schedule an appointment to have this done. You must schedule the appointment **within one week** of receiving this letter.

As part of the appointment process, Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, the Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee, may wish to meet with you to answer any questions she has. Our office will assist with arranging the meeting.

Additionally, you will be required to attend public meetings at City Hall where your appointment will be considered. You will be hearing from our office and a City Council Clerk who will let you know when your appointment will be considered by the Energy and Environment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified of the date when your appointment will be presented to the full City Council. Before you may begin serving, you will be required to take the Oath of Office in the City Clerk's Office located in Room 395 of City Hall. If you require parking for these meetings, please contact my Commissions team by email at [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org).

Mr. Carl Douglas  
May 24, 2023  
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Lastly, if you move at any point during your term or your contact information changes, please contact my Commissions team immediately at the email address listed below. While we hope that you complete a successful term, if for some reason you intend to resign, please do so in writing to my Commissions team at [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I  
Mr. Carl Douglas  
May 24, 2023

### Nominee Check List

**I. Within 7 days:**

- Email the below completed documents, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org) OR mail them to:

Office of the Mayor  
Attn: Commissions Team  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters (2)

- Schedule an appointment to get fingerprinted to complete a background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit.

**II. The Mayor's Office will notify the below Councilmember of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.**

- Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination

**III. Public Meetings at City Hall:**

- Energy and Environment Committee Hearing
- Full Council Hearing