



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

August 9, 2023

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Ms. Abigail Zelenski to the Commission on Civil Rights for the term ending June 30, 2028. Ms. Zelenski's current term expired on June 30, 2023.

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

Sincerely,

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Abigail Zelenski
Commission: Commission on Civil Rights
End of Term: 6/30/2028

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** API
2. **Gender:** Female
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 13 - East LA
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** J.D., UCLA School of Law
7. **Occupation/profession:** Principal, Zelenski Law, PC
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume/bio
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission:**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Panuco, Cindy	East LA	1	Latinx	F	6/30/2028
Lewis, Kandee	Harbor	15	African American	F	6/30/2027
Samarjian, Natalie	North Valley	12	Caucasian	F	6/30/2024
Zelenski, Abigail	East LA	13	API	F	6/30/2023
Lee, Mary	South LA	10	African American	F	6/30/2024
Robertson, Diane	South LA	10	African American	F	6/30/2027
Nguyen, Hoang	Central	13	API	M	6/30/2024



ABIGAIL TAPANG ZELENSKI

Principal, Zelenski Law, PC

Commissioner, Los Angeles Commission on Civil Rights

Abigail Tapang Zelenski is the Principal of Zelenski Law, PC. For two decades, she has focused on labor and employment matters. She provides employment-law advice and counsel to businesses of all sizes, and has successfully represented clients in matters involving wage-and-hour matters, harassment, discrimination, and wrongful termination. Throughout her career, Abigail has been appointed as class counsel in over forty class actions, recovering on behalf of employees in the motion-picture, security, healthcare, food, retail, and banking industries, as well as on behalf of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

In 2019, Abigail was appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti, and confirmed by Los Angeles City Council, to serve as a Commissioner on the inaugural Civil and Human Rights Commission. In 2023, she was elected to serve as the Vice Chair, and was reappointed by Mayor Karen Bass to serve another term on the Commission. During her service on the Commission, Abigail has worked closely with LA Civil Rights and the Director of Enforcement on major tasks leading up to the launch of the Discrimination Enforcement Division, including providing input on the Civil Rights Commission Bylaws, the Administrative Rules and Procedure, and the online complaint platform. Abigail also served on an Ad Hoc Committee to create training resources for the Commission and the Department. In response to the unfortunate rise of anti-Asian hate, she worked with LA Civil Rights and the Philippine American Bar Association to organize and present on each of their Know Your Rights Trainings and Community Forums to educate the public on combatting discrimination and harassment.

Abigail currently serves as the Vice President on the Board of the non-profit organization Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, which produces programs for youth and families, including case management and counseling, senior programs, small-business development, cultural enrichment, and affordable housing in Greater Los Angeles. She also serves on the Board of Governors of the Philippine American Bar Association—the largest local association of Filipino American attorneys in the United States—and has held several roles on its Executive Board, including President in 2021 and Chair in 2022. Previously, Abigail served on the Governing Board of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council. She also served as Vice President and a Board Member of the Filipino American Library and Filipino American Heritage Institute.

Abigail has been selected as a Southern California Super Lawyer for the past five years, 2019 through 2023—an honor given to only 5% of attorneys in California. For the six previous years, she was recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star. Each year, no more than 2.5% of young lawyers in California are selected to receive this recognition.

Abigail earned her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Southern California, magna cum laude, with a B.A. in Political Science.

Abigail resides in Los Angeles with her husband, child, and two rescue dogs.



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

August 9, 2023

Dear Ms. Zelenski:

I am pleased to inform you that I am reappointing you to the Commission on Civil Rights for the term ending June 30, 2028, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

To begin the reappointment 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.

As part of the reappointment process, Hugo Soto-Martinez, your Councilmember and the Chair of the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging, and Disability Committee, may wish to meet with you to answer any questions he has. Our office will assist with arranging these meetings.

Should this apply to your commission, you will be receiving a packet from the City Ethics Commission containing information about the City's conflict of interest laws, and a copy of the State Form 700/Statement of Economic Interests. You are required to complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission via the California Fair Political Practices Commission's eDisclosure website, or by mailing the forms to City Hall at 200 N. Spring Street, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Nicole Enriquez at the City Ethics Commission by email at nicole.enriquez@lacity.org.

Additionally, you will be required to attend public meetings at City Hall where your reappointment will be considered. You will be hearing from our office and a City Council Clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be considered by the Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging, and Disability Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified of the date when your reappointment will be presented to the full City Council. Immediately following the meeting, you will again 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.

Ms. Abigail Zelenski
August 9, 2023
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Per the City Charter, most commissioners must be registered voters of the City of Los Angeles, and must therefore reside within Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, or your contact information changes, please contact my Commissions team immediately at the email 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.

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 fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and the last name "Bass" clearly distinguishable.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I
Ms. Abigail Zelenski
August 9, 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 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. Within 21 days:

- ☐ File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. If you are required to file, you will receive these forms via email from that office.
 - Statement of Economic Interest ("Form 700")
IMPORTANT: The City Council will not consider your nomination until your completed form is reviewed by the Ethics Commission.
 - CEC Form 60

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

- ☐ Your City Councilmember, and Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination Hugo Soto-Martinez

IV. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- ☐ Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging, and Disability Committee Hearing
- ☐ Full Council Hearing