

George Latimer
County Executive

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the membership of the Westchester County Local Development Corporation due to the resignation of Reverend Julius Walls, Jr.:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George Latimer, County Executive of Westchester County, in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Westchester County Charter, appoint Melvin Norris, 360 Huguenot Street, Apt. 1406, New Rochelle, New York as a member of the Westchester County Local Development Corporation, for the term beginning April 20, 2022 to serve at "my pleasure".

Given under my hand
and seal this 20th day
of April, 2022.


George Latimer
County Executive



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County Executive

April 20, 2022

Mr. Melvin Norris
360 Huguenot Street, Apt. 1406
New Rochelle, NY 10801

Mr. Norris,

It is my pleasure to appoint you to serve as a member of the Westchester County Local Development Corporation Board. Your term is effective today, Wednesday, April 20, 2022 and is for service at "my pleasure" as County Executive.

Your appointment is subject to confirmation by the Westchester County Board of Legislators, but your service begins immediately. You must complete the Oath of Office and file it with the County Clerk prior to the next Local Development Corporation meeting, and provide this office with a copy within 30 days. Please contact the Local Development Corporation at 914-995-2936 for the date, place, and time of the Local Development Corporation's upcoming meeting for your participation.

When you have filed your Oath of Office, a Resolution to confirm your appointment will be submitted to the County Board of Legislators. As part of the confirmation process, you may be called before the Board to be interviewed.

Pursuant to Local Law, as a member of a Westchester County board or commission you are responsible for adhering to the requirements of our Code of Ethics, and you are also responsible for adhering to the Local Development Corporation Code of Ethics.

Warmest wishes for a successful tenure.

Very Truly Yours,

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

GL/ts

cc: **Honorable Board of Legislators**
Joan McDonald, Director of Operations
Bridget Gibbons, Director of Economic Development

Office of the County Executive

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Melvin I. Norris

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Executive Profile

Accomplished government affairs professional with 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors. Adept in public policy, politics, and economic development on the federal, state and municipal levels. Proven manager with consistent record of success and achievement.

Professional Capabilities Highlights

- Political Strategy
- Intergovernmental Affairs
- Strategic Planning
- Policy Negotiations
- Project Management
- Team Building

Professional Experience

The Business Council of New York State, Albany, NY

2019-Present

Senior Director of Government Affairs

Manage legislative advocacy on economic development, transportation, small business, M/WBE and construction policy affecting the membership of the leading business advocacy organization in New York State. Leverage government experience and existing relationships to attain positive outcomes for membership. Strengthen relationships with existing members and recruit prospective members in collaboration with the membership services division.

- Developed budgeting strategy for the Business Council's Political Action Committee in support of individual legislators.
- Authored legislative memorandums to support membership interests based on analysis of Executive Budget.
- Provided members throughout New York State with critical resources related to the CARES Act and Covid-19 recovery.

Harlem Community Development Corporation, New York, NY

2014-2019

Executive Vice President

Appointed by Governor Cuomo to lead during a transitional period for the organization. Developed and implemented internal operational policies to ensure productivity and minimize political exposure. Managed the activities of all divisions of the Corporation.

- Directed the Corporation's \$1.4M annual budget and relations with the Executive Chamber.
- Increased the corporation's overall efficiency by implementing a reorganization leading to the establishment of new internal policies, increased programmatic scope and revised staff roles.
- Launched the Corporation's new small business seminar series resulting in over 75 workshops and one-on-one sessions attended by over 4,000 business owners and residents.
- Oversaw and managed the expansion of the New York State M/WBE Certification program.
- Established guidelines for and provided oversight of a \$25M grant program funded through Columbia University geared toward local community and economic development projects resulting in 189 grants totaling \$2.9 M to local organizations for events and programs.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Queens, NY

2011-2014

Director, Office of Environmental Justice

Managed the day-to-day operations of the Office of Environmental Justice including the supervision of staff and oversight of office budget. Served as policy advisor to the Commissioner and Executive Chamber on environmental justice matters.

- Expanded pilot program focusing on environmental law enforcement to Long Island, New York City, the Capital Region and Western New York.
- Led revisions to the Department's Green Infrastructure Policy that addressed storm water management and storm surge because of Hurricane Sandy.
- Implemented and managed environmental justice policy related to the Power New York Act.
- Managed strategy and execution of the Environmental Justice Grant Program which awarded \$1.2M annually.

Yoswein New York, New York, NY

2008-2011

Senior Account Executive

Provided strategic advice regarding funding opportunities to non-profit and private sector clients. Conferred with legislators and officials to cultivate support or opposition to specific bills to influence passage, defeat or amendment of the measure. Managed stakeholder participation related to legislative issues on behalf of clients.

- Secured \$1.2M in member-item funding from New York State and New York City legislators for clients.
- Clients and projects included non-profit groups, development groups and national corporations including the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Two-Trees Management, Related Companies, and National Grid.

Verizon Communications, New York, NY

2006-2008

Deputy Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs

Effectively lobbied on behalf of Verizon Communications. Created and implemented Verizon's New York State legislative agenda. Managed complaint escalations from NYC and Westchester County government offices. Served as a liaison between the General Counsel's office and internal business unit representatives. Identified and analyzed policy issues and drafted legislation to preempt or respond to regulatory challenges. Managed corporate contributions and external affairs.

- Successfully lobbied against the enactment of the Telecommunications Reform Act of 2007 and a Service Quality Penalty Plan proposed by the New York State legislature against telephone and cable companies which would have required a build-out of high-speed internet throughout the state as a condition of any statewide franchise.
- Secured U.S. House and Senate support in ending an International Trade Court investigation related to a ban on the import of Qualcomm's chipsets into the United States.
- Rallied and built consensus of the NYC Council's Black, Puerto Rican and Asian Caucus for the introduction of FiOS television, phone and internet in New York City.

Office of Congressman Charles Rangel, New York, NY

2000-2006

Deputy Chief of Staff

Provided guidance and support to the Chief of Staff on a wide range of Congressional and district priorities. Managed office functions including supervision of staff and advising the Congressman on certain district matters and projects. Worked closely with external stakeholders and national organizations. Briefed the Congressman on district events and updated office policy and procedures. Strategized with the Chief of Staff to ensure that policy initiatives were communicated effectively with relevant partners.

- Authored Minority Business Development Agency Proposal regarding access to capital and new markets for Harlem-based businesses.
- Provided policy resolutions related to Immigrations and Customs Enforcement and the NYPD regarding the arrest of legal and illegal immigrants and fostered communication between those two agencies.
- Selected the final design for preservation of the Harlem Hospital Women's Pavilion murals during the RFP process for the Harlem Hospital Master Plan
- Procured local minority business participation for the construction of the new hospital with the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation.

Education

Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY) B.A. Policy Studies

Affiliations

- Alpha Phi Alpha, Fraternity, Inc.
- Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons

Board Memberships

- Boys and Girls Club of Harlem
- Fidelis Federal Credit Union

