



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

March 15, 2013

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have today appointed Ms. Betsy Handler to the Rent Adjustment Commission for the term ending May 20, 2014. Ms. Handler will fill the vacancy created by JC Lacey, who has resigned.

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

Very truly yours,

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
Mayor

ARV:sd

Attachment

## COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

**Name:** Betsy Handler  
**Commission:** Rent Adjustment Commission  
**End of Term:** May 20, 2014

### Appointee Information

1. Race/ethnicity: Caucasian
2. Gender: Female
3. Council district and neighborhood of residence: 11 - West
4. Are you a registered voter? Yes
5. Prior commission experience:
6. Attendance record of past commission appointment(s):
7. Highest level of education completed: JD, Univ. of Wisconsin
8. Occupation/profession: Retired Attorney
9. Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment: See attached resume
10. Purpose of this appointment: Replacing resigned commissioner
11. Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):

| Commissioner       | APC          | CD | Ethnicity              | Gender | Date Appointed | Term Ends |
|--------------------|--------------|----|------------------------|--------|----------------|-----------|
| Cha, Alex          | Central      | 1  | Asian Pacific Islander | M      | 22-Sep-09      | 20-May-14 |
| Daar, Jeffrey J.   | North Valley | 12 | Caucasian              | M      | 18-Feb-03      | 20-May-14 |
| Lacey, JC          | East LA      | 14 | Latino                 | M      | 23-Aug-10      | 20-May-14 |
| Leftwich, Paula G. | South        | 8  | African American       | F      | 02-Nov-94      | 20-May-14 |
| Muniz, Ramon       | East         | 1  | Latino                 | M      | 29-Oct-03      | 20-May-14 |
| Townsend, Maria    | North Valley | 12 | Latina                 | F      | 26-Sep-07      | 20-May-14 |

## RESUME OF BETSY HANDLER

### LEGAL EDUCATION

School: University of Wisconsin Law School  
Degree: J.D., May 1977  
Average: 86.78  
Honors: Order of the Coif; Dean's List (5 of 6 semesters)  
Admitted: State Bar of California, July 1987 (SBN 129255); U.S. Courts of  
Appeal for the Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, and D.C. Circuits

### GRADUATE EDUCATION

School: University of Wisconsin  
Degree: M.A., June 1968 (American History); admitted to Ph.D. program,  
November 1968

### UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

School: SUNY, Albany, N.Y., September 1961-June 1963; Long Island  
University, Brooklyn, N.Y., September 1963-June 1965  
Degree: B.A., June 1965 (American history)  
Honors: Graduated Cum Laude; Dean's List; Academic scholarship, 1965;  
President, History Honor Society

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

5-04 to 5-11: Director of Legal Services, Inner City Law Center  
10-06 to 5-07: Interim Executive Director, Inner City Law Center  
June 1993: Established solo practice, with emphasis on business litigation; Of  
Counsel to Mayer, Coble & Palmer, Long Beach, California since  
June 1994; Of Counsel to Guzin & Steier, Los Angeles, California  
11-91 to 1-93: Senior Associate, Wolver & Wolver, Woodland Hills, California

- 2-88 to 10-91: Senior Associate, Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, Los Angeles, California
- 7-85 to 2-88: Assistant United States Attorney, Central District of California
- 7-83 to 6-85: Assistant Director, Torts Branch, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- 10-80 to 7-83: Trial Attorney, Torts Branch, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- 9-79 to 8-80: Project Manager/Research Attorney, Civil Litigation Research Project, University of Wisconsin; Instructor, University of Wisconsin Law School
- 9-77 to 8-79: Trial Attorney, Federal Programs Branch, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- 1975 to 1976: Intern, Legal Assistance To Inmates Program, University of Wisconsin Law School
- 9-72 to 9-74: Project Assistant, Lawyers and the Pursuit of Legal Rights (Academic Press 1978)
- 9-70 to 6-72: Instructor, American and British history, Northland College, Ashland, Wisconsin
- 6-68 to 9-70: Editor, University of Wisconsin Press
- Other: Assistant Archivist, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Research assistant during graduate school

#### ORGANIZATIONS

- 9-08 to present: Member, Commission On Access To Justice, Right To Counsel Committee
- 5-07 to 12-10: Member, Board of the State Bar of California Committee On The Delivery Of Legal Services (SCDLS)
- 1-06 to 5-11: Member, Board of Legal Aid Association of California (LAAC)

1-11 to 5-11: Vice-President of Board of LAAC

9-09 to 1/11: Secretary and member of the Executive Committee, LAAC

11-06-08: Board member, Odyssey Theater

4-04 to 12-06: Board member, Alcott Mental Health Center

### PUBLICATIONS

Organizations and Legal Rights Activities (University of Wisconsin Institute For Research on Poverty, 1974), No. 232 (with J. F. Handler and E. J. Hollingsworth)

"The Public Interest Law Sector," in Public Interest Law (University of California Press, 1978) (with J. F. Handler and A. Snow)

Review of Gerald Sorin, The New York Abolitionists, 55 Wisconsin Magazine of History 164 (Winter 1971-72) (with J. B. Ginsberg)



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

March 15, 2013

Ms. Betsy Handler

Dear Ms. Handler:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Rent Adjustment Commission for the term ending May 20, 2014. In order to complete the process as quickly as possible, there are several steps that must be taken, many of which require a trip downtown. If you require parking during these procedures, please call Sui Duong in my Office at (213) 978-0724 and he will arrange it for you.

To begin the appointment process, please review, sign and return the enclosed City Commissioner Ethics Pledge, Commission Remuneration Form, Undated Separation Form and Background Release **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to help us ensure the most efficient, open and accountable City government possible. Further, Mayor's Office policy requires you to be fingerprinted as part of the background check that is done on all potential Commissioners. To do so, please bring this letter to the Background Unit of Employment Services Division, Personnel Department Building, 700 East Temple Street, Room 235, Los Angeles, (213) 473-9343. Fingerprints must be taken **within three working days** from the **receipt** of this letter.

Under separate cover 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. City law requires that you complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission, 200 North Spring Street, City Hall, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Shannon Prior at the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960.



Ms. Betsy Handler  
March 15, 2013  
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As part of City Council confirmation process, you will need to arrange a meeting with Bill Rosendahl, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Tony Cardenas, the Chair of the Housing, Community and Economic Development 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 appointment will be considered by the Housing, Community and Economic Development Committee. Some time thereafter, you will also be notified by the committee clerk when your appointment 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, Room 395, City Hall. Deputy Mayor Mercedes Marquez's staff will be responsible to assist you during the confirmation process if you have questions.

Commissioners must be residents of the City of Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, have any changes in your telephone numbers, or in the future plan to resign (resignations must be put in writing), please contact my office immediately.

Warmest congratulations and thank you for agreeing to continue helping in my efforts to serve the people of the City of Los Angeles.

Very truly yours,



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
Mayor

ARV:sd

Attachment I  
Ms. Betsy Handler  
March 15, 2013

## Nominee Check List

### I. Within three days:

- Get fingerprinted to complete background check.**  
No appointment is necessary. Bring the Mayor's letter to:  
Background Unit of Employment Services Division, Personnel  
Department Building, 700 East Temple Street, Room 235, Los Angeles,  
(213) 473-9343.

### II. Within one week:

Mail or fax the following forms to: Office of the Mayor, Attn: Sui Duong, Office of  
Legal Counsel, 200 N. Spring St., # 303, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Fax: (213)  
978-0720.

- Ethics Pledge**
- Remuneration Form**
- Undated Separation Forms**
- Background Check Release**
- Commissioner Information Sheet/Voluntary Statistics**

### III. Within 21 days:

File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. *If you are required to  
file, you will receive these forms in the mail 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.
- Residence Verification Form**

### IV. As soon as possible, schedule a meeting with:

- Your City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl** (contact at 213-473-7011).
- Councilmember Tony Cardenas, Chair of the Council Committee  
considering your nomination** (contact at 213-473-7006).

A member of Deputy Mayor Mercedes Marquez's staff can assist you with these  
arrangements. (Mayor's Office: 213-978-0600)