



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

March 21, 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. James Johnson to the Board of Animal Services for the term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Johnson will fill the vacancy created by Jill Cohen, whom I removed effective May 5, 2023 or at the time Ms. Cohen's successor is confirmed by the City Council.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Johnson is qualified for the work that will devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

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: James Johnson
Commission: Board of Animal Services
End of Term: 6/30/2026

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** African American
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 1 - East LA
4. **Are you a registered voter?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:**
7. **Occupation/profession:** Southern California Liaison / Family Engagement Coordinator, California Dept. of Education & Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation
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):**

James Johnson, Jr.



Southern California Liaison/Family Engagement Coordinator October 2019 – Present
California Dept of Education & Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation

Assist and represent the Superintendent in working with school districts, advocacy groups and the communities of Southern California.

Independent Consultant November 2018- October 2019
Just Politics

Develop big picture strategy and provide hands-on advocacy for issue and political campaigns. Clients include the California Water Foundation and Jackie Goldberg for School Board.

Political Director May 2016 – November 2018
California League of Conservation Voters

Leader in the environmental movement's recent successful efforts to create a clear pro-environmental majority in the California Legislature. Led legislative efforts to secure the passage of critical climate legislation and environmental justice initiatives.

Chief Political Coordinator July 2011 –May 2016
SEIU Local 721 February 2007 –January 2010

Directed the government relations activities in more than 20 represented cities. Played an active role in the Coalition of City Unions during multiple contract campaigns.

Political Coordinator February 2010 - June 2011
SEIU Local 1000

Supervised Southern California political staff and led the Union's efforts in Southern California which resulted in the election of Jerry Brown as Governor, making California the only state in the union with all democratic constitutional officers.

Program Director October 2005 –January 2007
SEIU Local 535

Directed the Union's program staff including political, communications, research, and other special programs.

Political & Legislative Affairs Director July 2000 – October 2005
SEIU Local 535

Directed the statewide political and legislative program of the union. Developed relationships with legislative and community leaders to further the union's program goals and objectives.

Senior Field Representative October 1996 – July 2000
SEIU Local 535

Represent members in grievance and arbitration procedures. Mentored union activists and leaders. Served as chief contract negotiator for the social services bargaining unit. Facilitated L.A. County Audit Protective Services and IHSS Caseload committees. Initiated and coordinated Chapter COPE drives. Union liaison to community and political leaders.

**Senior Field Representative
SEIU Local 660**

November 1987 - October 1995

Assisted members in grievance and arbitration procedures. Recruited members and stewards and developed worksite plans for members' participation. Chief contract negotiator representing 15,000 members in the clerical bargaining unit in the 1989, 1991, and 1993 negotiations with L.A. County.

**Project Organizer/Senior Organizer
SEIU, AFL-CIO**

July 1985 – November 1987

As Project Organizer, I played a key role in the 1985 SEIU Local 99 and 660 contract campaigns uniting more than 4,000 workers into the union which garnered the best union contracts since the passage of Proposition 13. In October 1986 I was promoted to Senior Organizer. In this position I researched, developed and implemented the Local 99 Teachers Assistant Organizing campaign.

**Organizer
Democratic Campaign**

July 1983 – November 1984

Recruited activists to participate in the 1984 Presidential General Election and Jobs with Peace Campaign.

**Youth Coordinator
Southern Christian Leadership Conference**

June 1982 – July 1983

Served as liaison with LA Chapter NAACP Youth & College Division and other youth organizations throughout Los Angeles.

ORGANIZATIONS/AWARDS

2022-Present	Board Member, Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy
2017-2022	Board member, River LA
2017-2021	Member, California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee
2012-2017	Board Member, Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California
2014	Activist of the Year, 32 nd Congressional District-Congressmember Judy Chu
2003-2010	Chair, Southern California Americans for Democratic Action Foundation
1996-2016	Delegate and COPE board member, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
1994	Democrat of the Year, 45 th Assembly District, Los Angeles County Democratic Party

EDUCATION

1983 -1984 Political Science; El Camino College, Torrance, CA

1981 – 1983 Political Science and African American Studies; Los Angeles City College

1981 – Graduate Dorsey High School, Los Angeles, CA.

- Student Body Political Affairs Officer
- Founder, Dorsey High School Chapter, Junior Statesmen of America
- 1980 – Junior Statesmen Symposium on Politics & Government; University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
- 1980 – Junior Statesmen Summer School, UC Davis, Davis, CA.
- 1980 -1981 Co-Chair, Council of Inner-City Student Leaders, South Los Angeles, CA.

References available upon request.



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

March 21, 2023

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Board of Animal Services for the term ending June 30, 2026, subject to confirmation by the City Council. 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 contact my Commissions team by email at myr-commissions@lacity.org, to make arrangements for you.

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

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 at 200 North Spring Street, City Hall, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Nicole Enriquez at the Ethics Commission by email at nicole.enriquez@lacity.org.

Mr. James Johnson
March 21, 2023
Page 2

As part of the City Council confirmation process, meetings will be offered to Eunisses Hernandez, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, the Chair of the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment 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 Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will 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 in Room 395 of City Hall.

Per the City Charter, 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 (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 that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I
Mr. James Johnson
March 21, 2023

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days:

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

_____ Email the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org OR mail them to: Commissions Team, Office of the Mayor, City Hall – Room 303, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters

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 Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.

_____ Your City Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez

_____ Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination