



PRESS RELEASE

District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency
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DCHFA Welcomes Its Newly Reconstituted Board of Directors

Derek Ford Joins Returning Members, Michael L. Wheet, Buwa Binitie and Jacque D. Patterson to Provide Strategic and Financial Oversight for the Agency's \$1.35 Billion in Assets

(Washington, D.C.) – The District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency (DCHFA) announces the reappointment of three Board Members and welcomes another as the four were approved by the City Council then sworn in by the Mayor. On Friday May 8th, Mayor Adrian M. Fenty presided over the swearing-in ceremony for returning Board member, Michael L. Wheet and newly confirmed member, Derek Ford. Two other returning members were, subsequently, sworn-in yesterday to the delight of the Agency's Executive Director and Board Secretary, Harry D. Sewell. "I couldn't be more excited to have this strong, capable Board firmly in place as the Agency navigates the current economic climate. Agency staff is prepared to think innovatively and present creative ideas to this Board as we seek solutions to fill the financing gaps that exist in our deals as a result of the downturn." Sewell commented.

Mr. Ford brings strong analytical skills to the Agency and currently serves as Senior Auditor with the DC Office of the Inspector General. Mr. Ford earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from North Carolina A&T State University and has more than 13 years of progressive financial experience with both private and government sector entities. A Ward 7 resident, Ford served as Campaign Treasurer for both the Committee to Elect and the Committee to Re-elect Ward 7 Councilmember Yvette Alexander (D). Additionally, Ford is currently serving as Treasurer for the Ward 7 Democrats.

For biographical information for any of the three returning Board members, email a request to tcopeland@dchfa.org.

DCHFA was established in 1979 to stimulate and expand homeownership and rental housing opportunities in Washington, D.C. It accomplishes its mission by issuing mortgage revenue bonds that lower the homebuyers' costs of purchasing homes and the developers' costs of acquiring, constructing and rehabilitating rental housing. DCHFA embraces its responsibility with conviction and pledges its best efforts to serve as the city's champion for homeowners and renters and to act as the city's principal catalyst for neighborhood investment.

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