



PRESS RELEASE

District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency
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DCHFA WELCOMES LEILA BATTIES TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leila Batties Joins Michael L. Wheat, Buwa Binitie, Jacque D. Patterson and Derek Ford to Provide Strategic and Financial Oversight for the Agency

(Washington, D.C.) – Today, the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency (DCHFA) announces the reappointment of two Board Members and welcomes another as the three were confirmed by the City Council and subsequently sworn in by Mayor Adrian M. Fenty in a brief ceremony at the John A. Wilson building this morning. The swearing in of Leila Batties, a partner at the law firm of Holland and Knight, completes the five-member Board of Directors. For nearly 15 years, Batties' career has focused on real estate development, primarily through her practice as a land use and zoning lawyer. As a result, she brings a wealth of real estate industry experience to the agency.

Additionally, Michael L. Wheat and Derek Ford were also sworn in today for new terms. Mr. Wheat, Managing Director of Frasca and Associates, has more than 30 years of experience in the municipal securities field. Wheat has served as the DCHFA Board Chair for the past 2 years, providing substantial direction through challenging economic climates. Derek Ford rejoins the Board to begin his second year of service. Ford, a consultant and Ward 7 resident, brings strong analytical skills from more than 14 years of progressive financial experience within the private, governmental and nonprofit sectors.

The agency's executive director, Harry D. Sewell, stated with enthusiasm how excited he is to have a full contingent as he continues to guide his staff in closing what promises to be a record number of deals in 2010. "We now have an even stronger Board to complement our accomplished management team as we continue toward our goal of spending the \$193 million afforded DCHFA by the Obama Administration's New Issue Bond Program (NIBP)."

For biographical information for any of the Board members, visit www.dchfa.org or 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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