

2013 MAY 20 AM 9: 22

Letter of Nomination

May 16, 2013

The Honorable City Council  
One City Hall Plaza, Second Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear President Pat Kernighan and members of the City Council:

Pursuant to City Charter section 601, the Mayor, hereby appoints the following persons as members of the following Board or Commission, subject to the City Council's confirmation:

**COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**Richard Rueda**, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning June 3, 2012 and ending on June 2, 2015, filling the seat previously held by Leticia Escalera.

**Fatimah Simmons**, Mayoral re-appointment to serve the term beginning September 3, 2012 and ending September 2, 2015, retaining the seat previously held by Betty Muholland.

**Miquette Thompson**, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning September 3, 2012 and will end September 2, 2015, filling the seat previously held by Eva Aguillard.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jean Quan  
Mayor

2013 MAY 20 AM 9:22

APPROVED FOR FORM AND LEGALITY

**DRAFT**

CITY ATTORNEY

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

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**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF  
RICHARD RUEDA, FATIMAH SIMMONS, AND MIQUETTE THOMPSON  
TO THE COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (MCPD)**

**WHEREAS**, Section 601 of the City Charter provides that members of City boards and commissions shall be appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the affirmative vote of five members of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 9968 C.M.S., adopted August 5, 1980, and amended by Ordinance No. 11864 C.M.S., adopted March 12, 1996, created the Commission on Persons with Disabilities to address issues germane to accessibility, services and civil rights for persons with disabilities; and the Commission on Persons with Disabilities consists of fifteen (15) members serving three year staggered terms with no more than two consecutive terms, and 51% of Commission members must be persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mayor Jean Quan has appointed Richard Rueda to serve the three-year term previously held by Leticia Escalera, appointed Fatimah Simmons to serve the three-year term previously held by Betty Muholland and appointed Miquette Thompson to complete the three year term previously held by Eva Aguillard, subject to confirmation by the City Council; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to City Charter section 601, the City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's appointments to the Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities for the terms set forth below:

Richard Rueda Mayoral appointment to serve the term previously held by Leticia Escalera, beginning June 3, 2012 and ending on June 2, 2015,

Fatimah Simmons, Mayoral appointment to serve the term previously held by Betty Muholland, beginning September 3, 2012 and ending September 2, 2015,

**Miquette Thompson**, Mayoral appointment to complete the term which began September 3, 2012 and will end September 2, 2015, filling the seat previously held by Eva Aguillard.

**IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,  
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**AYES – KALB, PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN, GIBSON MCELHANEY, SCHAAF, GALLO,  
BROOKS, REID AND KAPLAN**

**NOES -**

**ABSTENTION –**

**ABSENT -**

**ATTEST:**

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**LATONDA SIMMONS**

February 13, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Richard Rueda and I am seeking to apply for a Commissioner position with the Oakland Mayors Commission on Persons with Disabilities. I am a resident of Union City and my employer, Junior Blind of America ([www.juniorblind.org](http://www.juniorblind.org)) has an office in downtown Oakland at

Were I to be appointed to a Commissioner position, it would be my goal to work among the Commission to learn and together address issues that the city and its disabled citizens and customers with disabilities share. A person who is legally blind, I find myself in positions to both educate, influence as well as tactfully advocate with and on behalf of blind and disabled individuals.

Should you have any questions or want to address outstanding inquiries, I can be reached at

Best Regards,

Richard Rueda

# CITY OF OAKLAND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPLICATION



Name: Richard Rueda Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Employment: Education, Counseling "Director of Transition Services"

Employer: Junior Blind of America

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Board or Commission you wish to serve on: Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Why do you wish to serve as a member of the Board/Commission? As a person who is legally blind and low vision, I am driven and motivated to assist the city and its citizens and guests with physical and other disabilities to access city, county and other public resources to maximize quality of life. By participating on the Commission, it would be my interest to work with Commissioners and other designees to assist, advise and craft best practices to best serve Oakland community as well as seek feedback on how to continuously improve city life.

What experience do you have in this topic area? One who is low vision, I am aware of the ongoing necessity to advocate for services and accommodations for individual with vision loss.

Experience serving on Boards and/or Commissions: I am the immediate past President of the Council of Citizens with Low Vision International (CCLVI/cclvi.org) as well as a current member of the Northern California Association for the Education And Rehabilitation of the Blind & Visually Impaired (aerbvi.org)

Approximate hours available per month to spend on Board/Commission activities: 8

Organizational Memberships: Council of Citizens with Low Vision International (cclvi.org), American Council of the Blind (acb.org) and Northern California Association of Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AERBVI.org)

Volunteer Activities: California Council of the Blind (ccbnet.org)

Please list two references with telephone numbers: Lany Bunn

Tony Fletcher

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Personal information submitted (including home address and telephone number) is kept confidential

# RICHARD A. RUEDA

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## EDUCATION

Mississippi State University, Starkville MS. Certification and Specialized Training in Rehabilitation Counseling of the Blind and Low Vision. Post Employment Training for Rehabilitation Services Administration. Equivalent to 12 units in Masters Level advanced academics (2006).

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb IL. Specialized Training in Rehabilitation Counseling of Deaf-Blind persons. Post Employment Training for Rehabilitation Services Administration. Equivalent to 15 units in Masters Level advanced academics (2003).

California State University Los Angeles CA, Bachelor of Science. Area of Study: Vocational Counseling with an emphasis on employment of persons with disabilities (June 2001).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Transition Services, Junior Blind of America, Oakland, CA (November 2011 – present)

Management role supervising staff, volunteers and youth through developmental and leadership programming workshops and seminars in central and northern California. Facilitation of collaborations with State of California Department of Rehabilitation and community social service agencies and private for profit businesses.

Director of Community Services, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, San Francisco CA (March 2010 – October 2012)

Management role supervising six staff of multiple program areas working with youth, adult and elderly blind and low vision persons that include, Wellness, Employment and Recreational settings. These program areas encompass oversight of a total active client population of 150 persons. Collaboration between Department of Rehabilitation and the LightHouse with referred consumers through Work Adjustment Training addressing "barriers to employment".

Consultation to public and private businesses workplace accommodation resources and technology. Manage interns and work study students.

Statewide Employment Transition Coordinator, Department of Rehabilitation, Division of Specialized Services, Based, Oakland CA, (February 2005 – March 2010)

Facilitated workshops, seminars and student focused presentations on career options, rehabilitation services, peer and professional mentoring as well as independent living and adaptive technology opportunities for blind and visually impaired teens and young adults. In 2006 established the Business Enterprises Program – Youth Employment Program (BEP-YEP) that continues to provide summer work options for blind teens in Sacramento, San Francisco, Oakland, Fresno and Los Angeles. Initiated long term and strategic alliances between rehabilitation specialists, community agencies and for profit businesses through a Transition Council serving to align best practices when serving blind teens and young adults entering into the workforce.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Department of Rehabilitation, Menlo Park CA, (August 2001 – February 2005)

Case manager to over 100 blind, low vision and multi disabled persons assisting in the preparation and education to reenter into the workforce after onset of disability. Worked with academic institutions, community establishments and employers to negotiate internships, informational interviews and seasonal work opportunities.

Program Coordinator, Community Alliance for the Blind, Whittier CA (July 1997 – December 2000)

Coordinator role supervising office assistant and program interns on a variety of assignments including community volunteer work with other non-profit organizations, working with under served populations identifying barriers to independence and pre-employment options.

Youth Program Coordinator, Intercommunity Blind Center, Whittier CA (September 1992 – July 1997)

Coordinator of youth and family recreational and educational programs. Initiated ongoing collaborations with Foundation for the Junior Blind and Braille Institute of Orange County and San Diego. Supervised high-school and college student volunteers assisting these programs. Supervised Orientation and Mobility students volunteering from California State University of Los Angeles.

RICHARD A. RUEDA

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Recreation Department (VISIONS) staff and Camp Bloomfield Counselor, Los Angeles CA (On Call/Seasonal – June 1993 to April 1997)

Worked at the Foundation for the Junior Blind's Los Angeles and Malibu locations in the capacity of VISIONS/Recreation Dept. staff assisting campers in day and weekend programs on and offsite. Worked at Camp Bloomfield as camp counselor and camp audio-video specialist and other duties as designated.

## **CONCURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Consultation and keynote address on "Achieving Success in Employment of the Blind" to the Taiwan Digital Talking books Association (TDTB), Taipei City, Taiwan (September 2010)
- President, Council of Citizens with Low Vision International (2010 – 2012)
- Board of Directors, Northern California Association of Education And Rehabilitation of the Blind And Visually Impaired (2008 – present)
- Presenter and speaker at annual California Transcribers and Educators of the Blind and Visually Impaired (CTEBVI) conference (2005 – present)
- Board of Directors, California Council of the Blind (2002 – 2009)
- Chair, Rehabilitation Services Committee of California Council of the Blind (2004 - 2007)
- Member of Community Advisory Committee – California state School for the Blind (2006 – present)
- Member of California Deaf-Blind Services Committee – (2008 to present)

# Fatimah M. Simmons, MPP

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## EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley - Goldman School of Public Policy  
Master of Public Policy - GPA 3.95/4.0 May 2011  
Courses: Microeconomic Analysis, Quantitative Methods, Leadership, Law & Public Policy,  
Domestic Violence Practicum, Strategic Nonprofit Management, Race & Ethnic Relations, African  
American Political Life in the US, Women & Politics

Northwestern University - Evanston, Illinois  
Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies, Minor in Business Institutions, June 2003

## SKILLS SUMMARY

Excellent Written & Oral Communication	Exceptional Interpersonal Skills
Community Organizing & Commitment	Strong Public Speaking Ability
Policy & Quantitative Analysis	STATA, Microsoft Office
Conversational Spanish	Sense of Humor

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. San Francisco Alumnae Chapter  
Vice President (Sept 2012-Present)  
Social Action Committee (Sept 2012-Present)  
Delta GEMS Mentor (Sept 2010-June 2011)

## NONPROFIT EXPERIENCE

IGNITE - Political Power In Every Young Woman, Oakland, California Nov 2011 – Present  
National Director of Programs & California Program Director

- Oversee all programmatic and organizational elements of IGNITE activities including:
  - o Write, update and edit the national high school and college curriculums
  - o Train, onboard and support IGNITE Texas program staff
  - o Plan, oversee and execute annual young women's political leadership conference for 350 Bay Area high school and college students, featuring access to 25+ local women elected officials
  - o Hire, train and supervise California high school facilitators, college trainers and interns
  - o Act as primary college curriculum facilitator in California
  - o Manage relationships with California high school teachers, afterschool coordinators and principals at existing and new sites

## POLITICAL EXPERIENCE

Herb Perez for City Council, 2011, Foster City, California July 2011 – Nov 2011  
Campaign Coordinator

- Coordinated campaign interns and volunteers for canvassing, phone banking and mobilization efforts
- Oversaw media relations, including press releases, social media and profiles on behalf of candidate
- Wrote all candidate related copy that appeared on website, blog, speeches and campaign literature
- Supervised production of all printed campaign literature, such as letters, signs, door hangers and banners

## POLICY & LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

Department of the Status of Women, City & County of San Francisco, California Jan 2011 – May 2011  
• Policy Consultant – Profiled the City's domestic violence batterer intervention programs & recommended policies that promote a more cohesive community and criminal justice response to domestic violence; presented findings to the Commission of the Status of Women

Supervisor Bevan Dufty (District 8), City & County of San Francisco, California Sept 2010 – Dec 2010



- **Legislative Aide Intern** – Acted as a constituent liaison by answering phone calls, handling and responding to constituent concerns, responsible for routine daily office duties, participated in district political events

Mayor's Office (Gavin Newsom), City & County of San Francisco, California Summer 2010  
**Liaison to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) Intern**

- Conducted legislative research and analysis, including a policy memo on "Laura's Law," which proposed mandated involuntary outpatient services for the chronically mentally ill
- Drafted policy position memos for the Mayor & his top policy aides on various charter amendments and ballot initiatives (slated for November 2010)
- Tracked legislation by following each layer of necessary committee/board approval, vote, debate & public comment, then reported details back to Mayor's Liaison to BOS
- Compiled a weekly summary of the coming week's legislative calendar, which covered agenda items for all scheduled committee & fufi board meetings as a quick reference for Mayor's senior staff
- Supervised undergraduate intern by monitoring her time management, editing her memos and delegating smaller research projects

Supervisor Bevan Dufty (District 8), City & County of San Francisco, California Jan 2010 – May 2010  
**Policy Analyst Team Member**

- Researched and analyzed Department of Public Works (DPW) data for a policy report that recommended strategies for financing maintenance and repair of San Francisco's "unaccepted" public stairways
- Produced written report as well as an oral presentation to fellow classmates, professors and DPW staff

International Institute of the Bay Area, Oakland, California Jan 2010 – May 2010  
**Law Clerk/Policy Aide** - Legal services agency specializing in immigration and domestic violence

- Lead policy-driven projects, partnering with Senior Managing Attorney to complete analysis and reports for grant proposals and other funding resources, for example:
  - Crafted an advocacy presentation aimed at local law enforcement to both educate and encourage more streamlined policies regarding U Visa & Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) cases
- Managed a three client caseload, preparing paperwork, legal documents and declarations for eventual United States Immigration Visa applications

## RETAIL, ADMINISTRATIVE & CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Mark Ingram Bridal Atelier, New York, New York Jan 2007 – July 2009

- **Style Consultant** - Advised future brides at prestigious Manhattan Bridal Salon on designer gown selection and purchase, and creatively styled clients including all bridal accessories

The B. Lynn Group, Englewood, NJ & New York; New York Dec 2004 – Nov 2006

- **Executive Assistant/Office Manager** – Supervised the daily operations for a 15 client wardrobe, makeup and hair styling agency, maintained portfolios, coordinated travel and bookings and managed a three person staff

Club Monaco Corporate, New York, New York Feb 2004 – Dec 2004

- **Women's Merchandising Assistant** – Oversaw purchase order writing, revising and updating process, managed inventory by updating and reconciling buy sheets, participated in fittings & status meeting with design & product development

Saks Fifth Avenue, New York, New York Sept 2003 – Jan 2004

- **Management Intern/Women's Contemporary Sportswear** – Supervised daily operations of one of the store's top grossing departments, including a team of over 20 associates, developed a Saks credit card incentive program

# MIQUETTE A. THOMPSON

## OBJECTIVE

To volunteer my professional and personal expertise and time to The City of Oakland Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

## EDUCATION

**2002-2006** Notre Dame de Namur University, Bachelor of Arts in English & Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

**2011-2013** University of San Francisco, Master of Nonprofit Administration Candidate (December 2013)

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Residential Counselor, Seneca Center for Children and Families, Center for Family Connections May 2006-October 2007

San Francisco, CA

- Assisted in developing, implementing, and evaluating individualized treatment plans for adolescents from the foster care, mental health and probation systems.
- Assessed and evaluated each youth's personal functioning on a daily basis.
- Maintained all necessary records and documentation, including Medi-Cal Progress and Day Treatment notes, incident reports, medication charts, petty cash, clothing distribution, and allowance distribution.

Wraparound Support Counselor, Seneca Center for Children and Families, Connections Wraparound Program October 2007-January 2008

San Francisco, CA

- Provided behaviorally focused, outpatient mental health support services to adolescent clients and their families.
- Researched and connected clients with external community support services to promote continuation of care after termination of services.
- Participated in in-depth permanency planning on behalf of clients transitioning out of foster care.
- Developed working partnerships with Bay Area foster youth and Transition Aged Youth service providers.

Resource Development Associate, Seneca Center for Children and Families, Connections Wraparound Program January 2008-December 2009

San Francisco, CA

- Evaluated, maintained and expanded partnerships with a network of foster youth, probation youth, mental health, vocational, educational and enrichment service providers in the San Francisco Bay Area and surrounding counties.
- Coordinated the Quarterly Community Partner Forum, in which Connections partnering agencies/service providers convene to network and work on long term collaborative projects utilizing Asset-Based Community Development principles and framework.
- Assessed and streamlined inter-agency referral processes, with special attention to the needs and capacities of partnering agencies.
- Gathered and organized information regarding community partnership activities for program funding reports.
- Planned and directed Seneca Center's San Francisco Summer Day Camp 2009, a collaborative project of San Francisco Community Behavioral Health Services, Seneca Center and Family Mosaic Project.

Volunteer Coordinator, Women's Daytime Drop-in Center  
Berkeley, CA

September 2010-May 2012

- Maintained WDDC donor database, donor acknowledgements and assists with seasonal appeal mailings.
- Coordinated donation drives within the community and manages donation distribution.
- Published WDDC's quarterly e-newsletter and managed WDDC Facebook page.
- Maintained WDDC website using Adobe Dreamweaver.
- In conjunction with the WDDC Board of Directors and Assistant to the Director, assisted with the planning and execution of WDDC's annual fundraiser.
- Facilitated community outreach, donor cultivation and networking on behalf of WDDC.
- Oversaw all volunteer recruitment, training and management.
- Coordinated with more than five local universities as a co-educator and site supervisor for service learners and interns.

Development Associate, REDF (Roberts Enterprise Development Fund)  
San Francisco, CA

June 2012-Present

- Supports institutional donor solicitation and cultivation by identifying prospects, managing corporate, public and private foundation grants from proposal creation to reporting.
- Oversees individual gift processing, including preparing online and direct mail solicitations, receiving and acknowledging.
- Assists in preparing and disseminating external communications as related to fundraising activities.
- Assists REDF's Events Manager in the planning and execution of REDF's annual benefit, funder-focused events and young professional group events.

#### AWARDS

- 2004, 2005, 2006 Excellence in Student Leadership, presented by the Notre Dame de Namur University Center for Student Leadership.
- 2006 Notre Dame de Namur University School of Education and Leadership Service Award.
- April 2007 Employee of the Month, Seneca Center for Children and Families.

#### PRESENTATIONS

- 2003, Campus Compact Continuums of Service Conference, Bellevue, Washington. Presenter, *From Community Service Day to Community Collaborations Today and Every Day.*
- 2011, Bay Area Leadership and Social Justice Conference, UC Berkeley, California. Presenter, *Asset-Based Community Development & Homelessness/Poverty: Tools for Inclusive Community Building.*