



THE HONORABLE SHENG THAO • MAYOR OF OAKLAND

CITY HALL • 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612 • (510) 238-3141 • SThao@OaklandCA.Gov

Letter of Appointment

July 18, 2023

Dear President Bas and members of the City Council:

Pursuant to City Charter Section 601, the Mayor has appointed the following persons as members of the following board or commission, subject to City Council confirmation:

Housing, Residential Rent and Relocation Board

Kara Brodfuehrer, Landlord Representative, Term: February 12, 2023 - February 11, 2026. Filling the seat that was formerly held by Terrence Williams.

Christopher Jackson, Alternate Landlord Representative, Term: February 12, 2022 - February 11, 2025. Filling the seat that was formerly held by Benjamin Scott.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheng Thao".

Mayor Sheng Thao

Profile

Chris _____ Jackson _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Home: (510) _____
Primary Phone

Home: (510) _____
Alternate Phone

Oakland Unified School District _____
Employer

Special Education Teacher _____
Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Housing, Residential Rent and Relocation Board: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us how your qualifications and participation will relate to the requested board and/or commission's mission.

As a resident born and raised in Oakland, I have seen the changes that have transformed the Town I know and love. I am a teacher in East Oakland and I see firsthand how housing instability can impact a student's educational progress. I have seen families with multi-generational roots in Oakland destabilized in a matter of weeks due to housing issues. No child's academics should suffer due to the lack of quality, affordable housing. As a landlord, I know that I am blessed to be in a position to provide housing, and I do not take that responsibility lightly. I am proud to provide housing to voucher holders, single parents and long-time residents of Oakland. As a small landlord, I know many small landlords that want to continue to provide quality housing to their tenants. I also know that small landlords and tenants both need support to continue to live and thrive here in Oakland. Thank You, Chris Jackson

Please submit your resume or curriculum vitae. You may upload a document. (A Word format is preferred.) Alternatively, you may paste the text of your resume in the field provided below.

[Chris Jackson Resume .doc](#)
Upload a Resume

Please paste the text of your resume or curriculum vitae below.

Please click the acknowledgement below.

Service on City of Oakland boards, commissions, and committees may require filings of the FPPC's Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700). Upon appointment and determination of filing status, I will comply with all filing obligations.

I Agree *

Chris Jackson

email: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

phone: 510-[REDACTED]

WORK EXPERIENCE

Current Projects and Work

1/18 – *Current* **Oakland Unified School District:** Special Education Teacher

- Create and execute individual education (IEP) plans for each of the students in your care
- Communicate with other staff and family members about each student's progress and struggles
- Participate in IEP (individual education plan) meetings as scheduled by the school
- Co Taught Algebra and Science classes to use individualized reinforcement techniques to keep each student on the path toward greatness
- Invite family members to participate in each student's educational progress

7/2016 – 9/2018 **Oakland Private Industry Council:** Job Developer/Case Manager

- Built relationships with employers, social service agencies and community based organizations to develop job orders and individuals with employment opportunities.
- Managed contracts with OHA residents and the formerly incarcerated to help connect them with job orders that are a fit for their skills and work experience.
- Coordinated job orders from network of employers, supported job seekers with qualified skills with pre-interviews, resume review and application support.
- Organized On-Site hiring fairs and job fairs for employers and job seekers
- Prepared reports to various agencies to show performance on contract.
- Met or exceeded performance goals each quarter for the duration of contracts that I managed.

2/2013- 7/2016 **Center for Employment Opportunities:** Recruiter/Account Manager

- Built and maintained an effective network of employer, workforce programs and social service agencies to secure job orders and support formerly incarcerated job seekers obtain employment.
- Organized job fairs to connect employers with job seekers
- Managed network of employers and job seekers using Sales Force software.
- Exceeded recruitment goals every month.
- Was #2 in our company for placement performance.

EDUCATION

8/2001-5/2006 *San Francisco State University* San Francisco, CA

- BA in Communications and a minor in Urban Studies (concentration in Race, Poverty and the Urban Environment)

Profile

Kara _____ E _____ Brodfuehrer _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Home: (510) _____
Primary Phone

Home: (510) _____
Alternate Phone

California Civil Rights
Department _____
Employer

Senior Counsel _____
Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Housing, Residential Rent and Relocation Board: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us how your qualifications and participation will relate to the requested board and/or commission's mission.

I have over 16 years of experience in housing law advocating for fair housing and tenants' rights. This has allowed me to develop a knowledge of the Oakland rent board process and the applicable ordinances and laws. I am also a landlord in the City of Oakland.

Please submit your resume or curriculum vitae. You may upload a document. (A Word format is preferred.) Alternatively, you may paste the text of your resume in the field provided below.

[Kara Brodfuehrer Resume 6.14.23.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Please paste the text of your resume or curriculum vitae below.

Please click the acknowledgement below.

Service on City of Oakland boards, commissions, and committees may require filings of the FPPC's Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700). Upon appointment and determination of filing status, I will comply with all filing obligations.

I Agree *

Kara Brodfuehrer

Phone: 510 [REDACTED] E-Mail: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Bar Membership

State Bar of California, December 2008

Experience

Senior Counsel - California Civil Rights Department

September 2020 to Present

- Performs education and outreach activities, which includes analyzing the Fair Employment and Housing Act and other laws enforced by CRD, drafting and updating educational materials interpreting and synthesizing civil rights laws, and drafting and updating content for the CRD website, social media, online apps, and other external and internal resources.
- Researches, develops, and produces trainings and presentations related to the civil rights laws enforced by CRD; conducts trainings and presentations for a variety of stakeholders on the most complex aspects of California civil rights law.
- Researches, develops, and manages education and outreach initiatives, which may include DFEH's fair housing testing program, research on housing discrimination, and the Fair Chance Act and Housing Equity Compliance program.
- Monitors and reviews issues pending before or finalized by the legislature, the courts, state and local agencies, and the federal government that impact DFEH to advise CRD management.
- Acts as the departmental liaison with a broad range of public organizations, advocacy groups, state/local agencies, and members of the public.

Staff Attorney - National Housing Law Project

April 2017 to September 2020

- Engaged in California and national policy advocacy to improve tenant's rights and to increase the availability of affordable housing.
- Provided significant support and legal expertise to legal services attorneys in the areas of fair housing, housing opportunities for people with disabilities, eviction defense, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program, rent control and just cause ordinances, housing opportunities for people re-entering from jail and prison, and the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program.
- Participated in significant statewide and national impact litigation aimed at preserving affordable housing and strengthening and enforcing the rights of tenants.
- Prepared and conducted trainings aimed at a variety of stakeholders regarding fair housing, reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities, the rights of survivors of domestic violence, and the federally subsidized housing programs.

Bar Exam Grader - State Bar of California

July 2015 to Present

- Grades essays for the California Bar exam consistent with legal expertise and State Bar guidelines

Senior Attorney - Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

June 2013 to March 2017

- Advocated on behalf of low-income persons with disabilities in all areas of landlord-tenant law including evictions, housing discrimination, subsidized housing, and habitability.
- Supervised pro bono attorneys and law clerks.

Kara Brodfuehrer

Phone: 510-██████████ E-Mail: ██████████@gmail.com

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- Conducted policy advocacy aimed at passing and improving rent control and just cause ordinances in the cities of San Jose and Mountain View.
- Represented clients in fair housing impact litigation, including *Huynh v. Harasz*, 2016 WL 2757219, at *9 (N.D. Cal. May 12, 2016), a class action housing discrimination case on behalf of section 8 voucher holders with disabilities.
- Investigated and developed cases, interviewed witnesses, reviewed evidence, drafted and responded to discovery, prepared pleadings and motions, conducted depositions, represented clients in mediations and settlement negotiations, made court appearances, and acted as lead on eleven unlawful detainer trials.

Volunteer Attorney - Bay Area Legal Aid

March 2013 to June 2013

- Represented clients with disabilities in appealing wrongful denials of SSI and SSDI benefits.

Volunteer Attorney - San Francisco Tenant's Union

July 2012 to June 2013

- Counseled San Francisco tenants on issues regarding all aspects of landlord/tenant law, including San Francisco's rent control and just cause ordinances.

Staff Attorney-California Rural Legal Assistance

January 2009 to May 2012

- Represented clients in fair housing, civil rights, and environmental justice impact litigation and policy advocacy.
- Developed legal theories, conducted research, drafted and responded to discovery, prepared pleadings and motions, participated in settlement negotiations, and made court appearances.
- Acted as lead counsel for a successful, precedent setting decision in California's Fifth District Court of Appeals on behalf of 17 communities with contaminated drinking water. (*Newton-Enloe v. Horton*, 193 Cal. App. 4th 1480 (2011).)
- Prepared and conducted trainings aimed at a variety of stakeholders.
- Supervised law clerks and fair housing testing staff.

Law Clerk - Justice Now

August 2007 to May 2008

- Advocated for people in California Women's prisons regarding poor medical treatment, child custody, and alternative sentencing.

Law Student Equal Justice Works Katrina Fellow - Mississippi Center for Justice

May 2007 to August 2007

- Managed a caseload of clients with various legal issues arising out of Hurricane Katrina, such as housing, public benefits, and financial exploitation.

Law Clerk - San Francisco Office of the Public Defender

January 2007 to May 2007

- Prepared pleadings and research, drafted questions for voir dire, interviewed witnesses, and conducted intakes of indigent defendants.

Education

Doctor of Jurisprudence – Golden Gate University School of Law May 2008 (Public Interest Law Certificate)

- Honors: Merit Scholarship Recipient; Dean’s List; Public Interest Scholar; Public Interest Law Foundation Grant Recipient; CALI Award 2007; Masud Mehran Endowed Fellowship; Paul S. Jordon Award for Service and Contribution.

Foundation Grant Recipient, 2006 and 2007; Equal Justice Works-Katrina Corps Grant

Recipient 2007; CALI Award 2007- Katrina and the Law Seminar; Masud Mehran

Bachelor of Science – State University of New York at Albany May 2000

Publications

- *Furthering the Fight to Make Clean Drinking Water a Right*, Shriver Clearinghouse Journal of Poverty Law and Policy, (Volume 45; September/October 2011.)
- *When Opportunity Knocks: Working with State Housing Agencies to Promote Desegregation in the LIHTC Program*, 27 J. Affordable Housing & Commun. Dev. L. 67 (2018.)


CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY
MAYOR SHENG THAO

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT
OF KARA BRODFUEHRER AS A LANDLORD
REPRESENTATIVE AND CHRISTOPHER JACKSON AS AN
ALTERNATE LANDLORD REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
HOUSING, RESIDENTIAL RENT AND RELOCATION BOARD**

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. 11954 C.M.S., adopted December 17, 1996, and amended by Ordinance No. 12030 C.M.S., adopted December 16, 1997, and further amended by Ordinance 12273 C.M.S., adopted July 25, 2000, Ordinance No. 12399 C.M.S., adopted January 23, 2003, and Ordinance No. 13373 C.M.S., adopted June 7, 2016, creates the Housing, Residential Rent and Relocation Board ("Board") to assume all duties and functions heretofore exercised by the Housing Advisory and Appeals Board, Relocation Appeals Board, and the Housing Advisory and Appeals Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board consists of seven (7) members, two tenants, two landlords, and three undesignated members, serving not more than two consecutive three-year staggered terms and two alternates for each of the three classes of members; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Mayor Sheng Thao has appointed Christopher Jackson and Kara Brodfuehrer to serve three-year terms 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 Housing, Residential Rent and Relocation Board:

Kara Brodfuehrer, Landlord Representative, Term: February 12, 2023 - February 11, 2026, filling the seat that was formerly held by Terrence Williams.

Christopher Jackson, Alternate Landlord Representative, Term: February 12, 2022 - February 11, 2025, filling the seat that was formerly held by Benjamin Scott.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, JENKINS, KALB, KAPLAN, RAMACHANDRAN,
REID AND PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____

ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California