

From: Amro Radwan [mailto:amro@shaketech.com]
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 10:42 AM
To: Pon, Adrienne (ADM) <adrienne.pon@sfgov.org>
Subject: Statement to Board of Supervisors

-----STATEMENT-----

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Amro Radwan and I've applied to sit on the Immigrant Rights Commission.

I'm a person of color, who's Muslim and one of seven children of immigrants of Egypt. My wife is also an immigrant who was just recently naturalized. Like many of you, I also have extended family members, friends and colleagues who are immigrants.

As you all know we are at a crossroads both nationally and locally. Immigrants, documented and undocumented are often portrayed as "villains and criminals". I plan on working with the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs to reframe our stories and to shed light on the many contributions immigrants make everyday.

I am a big believer of the importance of family. It breaks my heart that there are communities here in San Francisco and nationally who are fearful of some of the rhetoric and tactics being used against them. I will stand up and fight against the breaking up of families. I will help amplify the voices of those who want to be part of our nation.

I believe in values like compassion, love and inclusion and I will fight against discrimination, bans and walls.

It would be an honor and a challenge, I'm willing to take head on, to advise the Mayor and Board of Supervisors of the great city of San Francisco on issue and policies related to our immigrant communities.

----- END OF MESSAGE -----

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Statement for reappointment hearing: Michelle Wong

I was first appointed by the Board of Supervisors in January, 2017 to fill an unexpired term. Since then I've attended and participated in every Commission meeting and, most recently, served on the Planning Committee for the Commission's 20th Anniversary celebration.

If re-appointed to a full term, I hope to be part of some bigger ideas for the Commission to accomplish as an advisory body for immigration policy to the Board of Supervisors.

First, I believe we can make a huge impact by serving as a clearinghouse for information to immigrant rights advocacy groups by developing a database. This endeavor would have a prominent national impact.

Next, I would like to propose that the Commission considers taking on the role of serving as a facilitator for collaboration between the business community, particularly the high tech industry but also the restaurant industry and other industries affected by immigration policy to match their resources with the efforts of immigrant advocacy groups.

In closing, let me just say that such initiatives meet the values of our City and will enhance our leadership role nationwide.

STATEMENT OF CELINE KENNELLY

Chair Asha Safai
Supervisor Sandra Fewer
Supervisor Norman Yee,

I apologize for not being there in person today, but our Executive Director did inform the staff of the Rules Committee several weeks ago that I would be out of the country at this time.

I have faithfully served on the Immigrant Rights Commission since 2012 and as Chair since 2015, and humbly request your consideration of my reappointment to the Immigrant Rights Commission.

Born and raised in Ireland, I immigrated to San Francisco in 1999 and have worked in the nonprofit immigrant rights and community service sector since that time.

In my role as Executive Director of the San Francisco Irish Immigration Pastoral Center (IIPC), I coordinate with numerous immigrant assistance networks across the City and nation. I have designed, implemented and developed health, human service, education and employment programs for an immigrant community 30,000 strong and have effectively build strong partnerships across City agencies and community networks, as well as agencies such as Healthy San Francisco, St. Mary's Hospital and Catholic Charities.

The IIPC partners regularly on immigrant rights issues with fellow San Francisco organizations, including the San Francisco Organizing Project (SFOP) and San Francisco Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights. On a national level, we collaborate with the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops' Justice for Immigrants Campaign, America's Voice, and the National Immigration Forum. These collaborations have included both local grassroots organizing and advocacy on Capitol Hill.

Over the past several years, my work on immigrant rights has been recognized at the local and state levels by government leaders. In 2010, I was recognized by former San Francisco Supervisor Sean Elsbernd for contributions to the broader San Francisco Immigrant Community and 2011 was awarded Woman of the Year for the 12th Assembly District by former California State Assemblymember Fiona Ma.

In 2012, I was appointed to Seat 7 of the Immigrant Rights Commission by the Board of Supervisors and elected to the position of Vice Chair, then Chair in 2015. In the past year, the Commission has held several neighborhood and citywide hearings, gathering testimony from the diverse San Francisco immigrant population on Quality of Life issues and impacts of federal immigration policy and executive actions. We have also held roundtables with members of the Consular Corps to coordinate efforts.

As an immigrant, a service provider, and a community activist and organizer, I believe I bring a diverse, broad and valuable perspective and strong, inclusive leadership skills to the Immigrant Rights Commission. It would be an honor to continue serving the people of San Francisco, particularly our most underserved and invisible.

Thank you for your consideration.



March 28, 2017

To: Board of Supervisors Rules Committee
From: Mario Paz
Re: Reappointment to the Immigrant Rights Commission

Honorable Supervisors,

Thank you for your consideration of my reappointment to the San Francisco's Immigrant Rights Commission. I have strived to achieve the mission of the Immigrants Rights Commission (IRC) to improve, enhance and preserve the quality of life and civic participation of all immigrants in the City and County of San Francisco. To this end, I have worked with my colleagues to ensure that our City recognize that immigrants are a vibrant force in San Francisco's economic and cultural life, and contribute substantially to our City. As the City and County of San Francisco rebounded from the worst economic recession in many years, San Francisco's immigrants played a vital role in our city's recovery.

Today, we must work harder to support policies that ensure full immigrant integration and promote the success for all its residents. In these difficult political times, fear and uncertainty is severely impacting many immigrants in our city and it is important that we stand united to protect all our immigrants. I will continue to work with my fellow commissioners to assure we uphold our City's values of inclusivity and sanctuary for all, and promote the many contributions our immigrant communities give to our city each day.

Thank you.