



Mayor of Providence

Jorge O. Elorza

February 28, 2017

Honorable Members  
Providence City Hall  
City Hall

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 415 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, I am this day appointing Garry Bliss of 8 Rhode Island Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02906, as a member of the Salary Review Commission, for a term to expire January 1, 2019, and respectfully submit the same for your approval. Mr. Bliss fills a current vacancy on the Commission due to a term expiration.

Sincerely,

Jorge O. Elorza  
Mayor

**IN CITY COUNCIL**  
**APR 06 2017**

READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED AND APPROVED  
  
CLERK

**Garrett Bliss**  
**8 Rhode Island Avenue**  
**Providence, RI 02906**

**Professional Experience**

**Integra Community Care Network, Providence, RI** 2015-Present  
*Program Director, Medicaid Accountable Entity:* Responsible for program development for a Medicaid ACO serving approximately 35,000 individuals, reporting directly to Executive Vice President, Physician Enterprise & Chief Clinical Officer, Care New England/Chief Clinical Officer, Integra Community Care Network. Responsible for working relationship with Managed Care Organizations and Executive Office of Health and Human Services for the State of Rhode Island. Responsible for all required reporting, communications, and marketing. Assist with developing community partnerships, and creating and leading the Community Advisory to the Medicaid AE. Represent the Medicaid AE at stakeholder meetings, including statewide efforts to develop and align outcome measures for accountable care.

**The Providence Center, Providence, RI** 2013-2015  
*Director of Government and External Relations:* Responsible for all government, community, and media relations for The Providence Center, the largest Community Mental Health Center in Rhode Island. Responsibilities include: maintaining and building strategic partnerships with community-based organizations that expand the mission, scope, and reach of The Providence Center; ensuring effective communication with federal, state, and local government officials; maintaining relationships with state departments which fund, regulate, and monitor TPC; promoting TPC programs, services, and community benefits through print, digital, and broadcast media.

Major projects to date include: creating and launching Recovery Works Coalition, a multi-member coalition uniting business, providers, government, and community leaders behind expanding support for recovery services; representing TPC in outcome-focused reform initiatives, including Chronic Care Sustainability Initiative, Patient Centered Medical Home, and Community Health Teams; assisting with internal and external planning for payment reform, moving toward integrated care, holistic, outcome-based systems; State Board of Education renewal of TPC's pilot "Recovery High School," serving high school youth in recovery from substance abuse or addiction; extensive coverage of TPC's community-based recovery services and resources available to address accidental overdose epidemic in the state (Rhode Island Monthly, NBC10, WRNI, Providence Journal); managed internal and external communications for in-progress affiliation between TPC and Care New England.

**Department of Planning and Development, Providence, RI** 2008-2013  
*Director of Community Development, Deputy Director Planning & Development:* Oversee \$6 million annual Community Development program. Reformed grant-making program, replacing traditional funding practice with an outcomes-based model. Created the Comprehensive Neighborhood Opportunity Grant, a coordinated investment of federal funds for comprehensive, place-based neighborhood revitalization strategies.

Other major projects:

- Developed and managed a \$2.3 million, +130 housing unit Green & Healthy Homes pilot delivering whole-home assessments, rehabilitation, and resident education

- Created a unique, statewide partnership for the coordinated administration of federal homelessness prevention funds
- Convened multiple city departments and community partners to increase the City's enforcement of State lead paint laws and secured a \$500,000 grant to create a "Lead Court." Efforts resulted in a 24% decrease in the number of children in Providence with elevated blood levels.
- Managed the City's \$3.1 million Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

**Mayor David N. Cicilline**, Providence, RI

**2004-2008**

*Chief of Policy and Legislative Affairs:* Responsible for developing and communicating policy priorities for administration of Mayor David N. Cicilline. Legislative Affairs responsibilities included developing the City's annual legislative package, coordinating the City's State House lobbying, and working with the Congressional delegation.

Major projects:

- Convening Mayor's Poverty, Work and Opportunity Task Force and responsible for drafting and implementation of the *Pathways to Opportunity* report
- Creating and launching *Bank on Providence*, an initiative designed to connect un-banked individuals with mainstream financial services
- Coordinating the City's environmental sustainability strategy and overseeing the development of *A GreenPrint for Providence*
- Facilitating Transit 2020 Working Group and writing the report *Growing Smart With Transit*
- Serving as Mayor's liaison for the Providence After School Alliance (PASA) and overseeing initial development of a High School Out-of-School initiative

Mayor's primary liaison to National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Brookings Institute, Pew Charitable Trusts, Clinton Foundation, Wallace Foundation, Soros Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, JEHT Foundation, the Rhode Island Foundation and more.

In support of this work, wrote op-eds, speeches, and letters for the Mayor and was a frequent speaker at local, regional and national forums on financial empowerment, out-of-school time, transit, and environmental sustainability.

**Rhode Island General Treasurer Paul J. Tavares**, Providence, RI

**1999-2004**

*Policy Director:* Responsible for drafting, tracking, and testifying on Treasury-related legislation. Designed "CollegeBoundfund 5 & 10" program which provided matching grants to low-income Rhode Islanders who open and contribute to accounts for young children. Developed outreach programs on saving for higher education, retirement planning, and responsible banking. Treasurer's designee to Board of Commissioners for Rhode Island Housing Mortgage Finance Corporation.

**Textron Inc.**, Providence, RI

**1997-1999**

*Senior Communications Specialist:* Editor and writer of award-winning, worldwide employee newsletter. **Writer for Textron web site. Other writing assignments included corporate capabilities brochure, recruiting brochure, and video scripts.**

**Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy**, Washington, DC

**1995-1997**

*Senior Legislative Assistant:* Principal speechwriter. Responsible for drafting and tracking legislation, briefing Congressman on issues before the House, writing op-eds, meeting with corporate and trade group representatives and other constituents.

**Patrick Kennedy for Congress**, East Providence, RI

**1993-1994**

*Issues Director:* Responsible for advising on campaign strategy, drafting position papers, preparing candidate for debates, writing speeches.

**Moses Brown School**, Providence, RI **1990-1994**  
*Director of Public Relations*: Responsible for all media relations and major publications; edited, designed and wrote parent newsletter, alumni magazine, and annual report. Supported development and fund raising.

*Teacher*: Taught eleventh grade US History, ninth grade World History, developed courses on relations between Third World and First World, and on African-American History.

### **Education**

**University of Rhode Island**, Kingston, RI **1990**  
Teaching Certificate Program

**Brown University**, Providence, RI **1985-1987**  
Graduate study in Art History.

**Connecticut College**, New London, CT **1985**  
BA in History and Art History. Honors and department prize in Art History. Dean's List.

**Moses Brown School**, Providence, RI **1981**

### **Other**

Board of Directors, Chair, City Arts (Current)  
Community Investment Advisory Committee, United Way of Rhode Island (Current)  
Leadership Rhode Island, Kappa II Class, 2014  
Board of Directors, Chair, JUMP! Dance Company  
Board of Directors, Chair, Sophia Academy  
Board of Directors, Chair, The Genesis Center  
Board of Directors, Southside Community Land Trust

Awards: 2011 *Above & Beyond Award*, Childhood Lead Action Project; 1998 Crystal Communicator; Overall Excellence Internal Communications, *The Textron Link*; 1999 Summit Award, Bronze, *The Textron Link*.