

CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



PROVIDENCE EXTERNAL REVIEW AUTHORITY

January 31, 2019

Council President Sabina Matos and
Honorable Members of the City Council
Providence City Council
City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Council President Matos and Members of the City Council:

Pursuant to Section 18½-2(a) of the Providence Code of Ordinances, at a meeting held on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, the Providence External Review Authority voted to appoint Jose Batista of 133 Byfield Street, Providence, RI 02905, to the position of Executive Director of the Providence External Review Authority, beginning March 1, 2019 and for a term to expire February 28, 2021, and respectfully submit the same for your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Eichler", is written over a horizontal line.

Alison Eichler
Chair, PERA

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 21 2019

READ
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED AND APPROVED
Jose L. Martoreau CLERK
ACTING

Jose F. Batista, Esq.

133 Byfield Street, Providence RI 02905

(c) 401.533.2226 • (e) jose@jfbatistalaw.com • (w) www.jfbatistalaw.com

Bar Admission

Rhode Island

May 2015

Legal Experience

The Law Office of Jose F. Batista

October 2016-Present

Providence, RI. *Owner*

- Founded a bilingual, service-oriented, solo legal practice in South Providence, specializing in criminal defense, family law and personal injury.
- Partnered with local organizations and public schools to build effective community outreach strategies regarding critical topics, including: civil rights, landlord/tenant law, criminal justice and employment discrimination.

City of Pawtucket, Law Department

June 2017- Present

Pawtucket, RI. *Criminal Prosecutor.*

- Prosecuted hundreds of misdemeanor criminal offenses on behalf of the City of Pawtucket.
- Conducted pre-trial conferences with dozens of defense attorneys, prepared lay witnesses and law enforcement officials to testify at trial, evaluated evidence, reviewed police reports and negotiated dozens of plea agreements.

Rhode Island Public Defender

August 2015 – September 2016

Providence, RI. *Assistant Public Defender*

- Represented over 2,000 indigent clients on pre-trial and trial calendar in R.I. District Court.
- Prepared misdemeanor criminal cases from start to disposition, including reviewing police reports, negotiating plea agreements and serving as lead counsel on over two dozen bench trials.
- Conducted corresponding legal research, writing and client interviews in English and Spanish. Managed relationships with opposing counsel, judges and court personnel.

United States District Court

September 2012-May 2013

Providence, RI. *Judicial Extern for The Honorable Judge John J. McConnell Jr.*

- Conducted legal research in federal law concerning immigration, constitutional law and civil procedure. Prepared legal memoranda and drafted legal opinions regarding issues for both U.S. District Court and the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

Education

Roger Williams University School of Law

May 2014

Bristol, RI. *Juris Doctor*

Bryant University

May 2011

Smithfield, RI. *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Concentration in Business Management*

Languages

Fluent in Spanish.

Community Engagement

City of Providence Board of Licenses

March 2018 – November 2018

Providence, RI. *Commissioner*

- Member of a 5-person board charged with processing thousands of license applications, including applications for alcohol, tobacco and entertainment, conducting show cause hearings and enforcing local ordinances.

City of Providence Ethics Commission

February 2015 – February 2018

Providence, RI. *Commissioner*

- Member of a 7-person commission charged with providing a local forum for consideration and investigation of ethical concerns as well as providing guidance on the City's Code of Ethics, issuing advisory opinions and establishing a hotline for anonymous tips into potential violations.

RI Latino Civic Fund & PAC

May 2014 – September 2017

Providence, RI. *President*

- Modernized the by-laws and structure of an organization dedicated to empowering Latinos via civic and political engagement.
- Cultivated and maintained relationships with community leaders and members of the local media.
- Supervised a bi-annual endorsement process featuring three dozen candidates for various political offices in Rhode Island as well as annual 10-week training seminar for Latinas.

College Visions

July 2009-September 2014

Providence, RI. *Board of Directors*

- Alumni and founding board member for an organization that provides low-income, first-generation college-bound youth in Rhode Island with resources and mentorship needed to enroll and succeed in college. Provided oversight for governance of the organization and a \$400,000 budget.

City of Providence Charter Review Commission

January – June 2012

Providence, RI. *Commissioner*

- Member of a 9-person commission charged with the responsibility of gathering research and public opinion to ultimately submit a final report of suggested amendments to the charter of the City of Providence to the Mayor and City Council.

Current Board Service

Progreso Latino

March 2017 - Present

Central Falls, RI. *Board of Directors*

- Progreso Latino is an organization dedicated to helping Rhode Island's Latino and immigrant communities to achieve greater self-sufficiency and socio-economic progress.

Classical High School Alumni Association

October 2016 – Present

Providence, RI

- The CHSAA is an organization dedicated to supporting the alumni of Classical High School and preserving its tradition of excellence.