



Mayor of Providence

Angel Taveras

May 23, 2012

Honorable Members  
Providence City Council  
City Hall

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 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 Elvys Ruiz of 52 Bismark Street, Providence, RI 02904, as a member of the Human Relations Commission for a term to end January 31, 2014, and respectfully submit the same for approval. Mr. Ruiz replaces Everett Brooks who has resigned.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Angel Taveras  
Mayor

AT/gc

IN CITY COUNCIL  
JUN 21 2012

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

**ELVYS RUIZ**

52 Bismark St. Providence RI 02904  
(401) 462-6251 / 516-4745 cell  
cafeysdomino@yahoo.com

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

*February 2011 - Present*

**Highway Safety Coordinator/Minority Outreach-Racial Profiling  
RI Department of Transportation**

*Program Manager for the following projects:*

- CPS Outreach to At-Risk Populations (Minorities and Teen Parents)
- Project Title – Passenger Race Data Module Modification, New World Information Management
- Project Title – RFP for State-Owned E-Citation/Race Data Module
- Project Title – Local Law Enforcement Traffic Records Equipment
- Project Title – Data Collection, Analysis, and Recommendation RFP

*January 2009 - 2011*

**Civil Rights/Community Relations Liaison Officer  
Rhode Island Department of Human Services**

Responsible for performing liaison activities between minority and other community advocacy groups and organizations, and the Department of Human Services relative to the availability of Services provided by the department for their constituencies. Coordinator for the Implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination as It Affects Persons With Limited English Proficiency (LEP).

*October 2004-2008*

**Community Outreach / Language Interpreter  
Rhode Island Department of Human Services**

Provided interpreting and translation services to the Department for a variety of programs and assisted Spanish-speaking Child Care Providers in understanding all aspects of the Child Care Assistance Program, Procedures and Policies. Acted as a liaison between minorities and other community advocacy groups and organizations and the Department of Human Services.

*Jun 1998-2004*

**Bilingual Consultant/Community Outreach Worker  
Rhode Island Department of Human Services**

Acted as a liaison between minorities and other community advocacy groups and organizations and the Department of Human Services. Conducted extensive outreach for a variety of programs such as The Giving Tree, Project Undercover, the implementation of the EBT card, represented DHS in community meetings, board of directors and advisory councils. Wrote articles for the local Hispanic newspaper about Project Undercover. Recorded voice dubbing into Spanish for a number of DHS videos. Recorded radio announcements in WPMZ, Poder 1110 Hispanic Radio Station about Project Undercover, EBT, etc

*September 1995 - June 1997*

**Community Resource Specialist, R.I. Parent Information Network**

Developed and implemented a variety of support services for parents of children with disabilities. Supervised a team of five Resources Parents working on site at the Child Opportunity Zones in Central Falls, Providence, Pawtucket, Newport, and Woonsocket.

September 1995 - August 1996

**Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist, Road Counseling**

Conducted Community Outreach and Substance Abuse Prevention and Education for residents of two Housing Developments. Visited residents and encouraged families to participate in groups sessions aimed at the prevention of substance abuse in their respective communities.

April 1995 - July 1995

**Community Outreach Worker, R.I. Parent and Advocacy System, Inc.**

Informed and educated the Latino community on Assistive Technology. Worked with community leaders, and Human Service Agencies. Organized presentations and wrote articles for the local Hispanic Newspapers about the program.

**EDUCATION:**

May 2008

**Master of Science, CUM LAUDE**  
**Springfield College, Boston Campus**  
*Organizational Management and Leadership Concentration*

May 7, 2006

**Bachelor in Science, SUMMA CUM LAUDE**  
**Springfield College, Boston Campus**  
*Human Services Concentration*

**SKILLS:**

**Languages:**

Bilingual-Bicultural (English-Spanish.) Read Portuguese.

**Computer Competency:**

Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher, Access, Front Page, Internet

**SEMINARS:**

March 2012 Managing Federal Finances / National Highway Traffic Safety Administration USDOT  
*Boston, Massachusetts.*

May 2011 Program Manager Training / National Highway Traffic Safety Administration USDOT  
*Orland Park, Illinois.*

March 2011 National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program

February 25, 1997 "Using Microsoft Office" SkillPath Seminars

October 31, 1997 "Training the Trainer" Fred Pryor Seminars

September 25, 1996 "How to Make Presentations with Confidence and Power"  
Fred Pryor Seminar

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

July 2009 Member

**African Alliance of Rhode Island**

May 2006 – 2009 board member

**The DaVinci Center**

June 2006 – 2009

President/Founder

**Centro de Estudios Dominicanos de RI (Dominican Studies Center of RI)**

November 2002 – 2004 President

**Instituto Duarte of Rhode Island Inc.**

A Dominican: civic and cultural organization.

August 1998 – Present, Board Member, and Past President 2000-2003

**RI National Guard, Multi cultural Advisory Council**

Mission: "To advise the Adjutant General on how to make all levels of the Rhode Island National Guard representative of the entire Rhode Island Community."

January 1998 – 2005 Past Member Board of Directors

**Rhode Island Coalition for Immigrants and Refugees**

A group of community based organizations and individuals members who advocate for economic, social, and political justice for immigrants and refugees in the state of Rhode Island.

October 1997-1999 / 1999- 2001

**President (two terms of two years) Board of Directors of Quisqueya In Action, Inc.**

A community based organization that promotes the culture and traditions of the Dominican Republic. Supervised a Citizenship Initiative Program. Responsible for planning the Dominican Festival of Rhode Island, that attracts approximately 25,000 people to Roger Williams Park. Provide opportunities and training for young people to become leaders.

August 1999 – Past Member Board of Directors

**Providence Community Mediation Center, Inc.**

December 1997 – 2002 Past Member Board of Directors

**Dominican-American National Roundtable.**

A national movement aimed to bring together the voices of all Dominican-American residing in the United States.

June 1996 - 1998

**Member Board of Directors, Center for Hispanic Policy and Advocacy (CHisPA)**

A community based organization that provide advocacy, lead and influence changes for Latinos in the Sate of Rhode Island.

June 1997 - 1998

**Member Board of Directors, Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL)**

Provides peer support and counseling services, advocacy services, skills training, information referral to individuals who have disability in order to enable them to achieve their fullest level of independence.

## FELLOWSHIPS:

2005-2006

**Selected as one of the grantees for the Sixth RI Foundation Fellowship program**

Researched on the African Presence in the Dominican Culture. Studies conducted both in the Dominican Republic and Providence, Rhode Island.

## WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS:

- December 3, 2009 **Panelist.** Panel discussion titled: "Dominicans In Rhode Island" The Latino Policy Institute at Roger Williams University's First Speaker series event. Bristol, RI.
- April 29, 2009 **Presented talk titled:** "The Black Imagination in the Dominican Collective Memory." Bryant University. MRC Lecture Hall 1.
- February 8, 2008 **Presented talk titled:** "The Black Imagination in the Dominican's Collective Memory." Organized by the Dominican Studies Center of RI. Place: Elmwood Community Center. Providence, RI.
- March 10, 2007 **Presented talk titled:** "El tema de la identidad en el teatro latinoamericano." Held at Providence City Hall. Organized by ECAS in celebration of the International theatre month.
- October 12-15' 06 **Organized:** 1<sup>st</sup> Dominican Peasant Cultural Exposition  
Dominican Studies Center of RI, Dominican American Association.
- August 16, 2006 **Presented Conference titled:**  
State of the Dominican community in Rhode Island. Organized by the Dominican Studies Center of RI.
- February 22, 2003 **Brown University**  
Providence, RI The New England Latino Leadership Conference  
**Presenter Panelist:** "The Color Continuum: Race Issues Among Latinos"
- August 24, 2002 **Community College of Rhode Island**  
Providence, RI First Annual Black and Brown Alliance Summit  
**Presenter Panelist:** Cultural Enrichment  
"Similar Cultural Aspects. How do we break through barriers"?
- May 12, 2002 **Algonquin House**  
Providence, RI **Presenter Panelist:** Conference Entitled: " Taboo and Magic-Religious Beliefs in the Dominican Republic's Popular Culture"
- May 11, 12, 2000 **Radisson Hotel**  
Milford, Mass Conference: New Citizens in Action. Voices of the Future  
**Presenter.** Panel Entitled: "Mobilizing to Advocate for Change"
- April 11, 2000 **Brown University**  
Providence, RI **Presenter.** Panel Entitled: "Speaking Truth to Power: Providence Communities in Action"

- October 11, 1999  
Providence, RI      **Quisqueya In Action, Inc.**  
Presenter. "Dominican Culture and Identity, 500 years of Resistance"
- March 7, 1998  
RI Hospital      **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Critical Issues in Child Care:**  
Presenter. "Creating an Atmosphere of Belonging for the Children in your Care"
- October 9, 1997  
Providence  
Marriott Hotel      **Rhode Island Support Employment Conference**  
Presenter. Workshop Entitled: "Cultural Diversity in Supported Employment Programs"
- March 3, 1997  
RI Hospital      **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Critical Issues in Child Care:**  
Presenter. "How different cultures define discipline"

## JOURNALISM

- 2004 - 2007+      Staff writer for "Tiempo Social" Magazine. Monthly Columnist.  
1984 - Present      Writer. Have published articles in a variety of magazines and newspapers.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Author of the books:

- "El Imaginario Negro en la Memoria Colectiva Dominicana"*  
*"Coffee and Dominoes" (Bilingual Plays)*  
*"Latin American Theatre of the Diaspora" (Spanish Plays)*

## AWARDS AND MERITS RECEIVED

- February 28, 2009      City of Providence. David N. Cicilline, Mayor.  
"For your dedication and commitment to the social and political advancement of Providence's Dominican-American community as an outspoken leader and advocate for equality and social justice, and your efforts to preserve and celebrate all aspects of Dominican history, heritage and culture, as recognized on this memorable occasion by Quisqueya In Action on the anniversary of the Dominican Republic, earning you the respect and collective applause of all the people of Providence who join me in congratulating you and wishing you the very best in all your future endeavors."
- February 28, 2009      **Providence City Council Citation**
- February 28, 2009      **The Rhode Island House of Representatives Citation**
- February 28, 2009      **Department of Attorney General Citation**  
"For your outstanding contribution to the preservation of the Dominican culture."
- February 28, 2009      **"Independence Day Silver Bowl Award" Quisqueya In Action, Inc.**  
"For contributions to the preservation of the Dominican culture."
- May 11, 2008      **Springfield College, Boston Campus**  
Graduate AWARD. Acknowledging achieving and contributions to the School of Human Services.

- October 25, 2007 **Educational Center for Arts and Science (ECAS)**  
"Creative Excellence Award"
- May 7, 2006 **Springfield College, Boston Campus**  
Undergraduate Award acknowledging achieving and contributions to the School of Human Services
- February 27, 2005 **Instituto Duarte of Rhode Island**
- February 17, 2005 **Educational Center for Arts and Science (ECAS)**
- February 27, 2003 **The Rhode Island House of Representatives 'Citation'**
- February 27, 2003 **City of Providence, Rhode Island "Citizen Citation"**
- January 22, 2003 **State of Rhode Island "Rhode Island Diversity Ambassador"**
- August 23, 2002 **The Rhode Island National Guard  
Office of the Adjutant General**  
"For Outstanding Service to the RI National Guard as a member of the Multicultural Advisory Council"
- March 23, 2002 **The Rhode Island House of Representatives "Recognition for my  
Play and Book "Coffee and Dominoes"**
- November 17, 2001 **Sol Gallery Group**  
'Valuable Contribution'
- February 26, 2001 **The Latin American Student Organization (LASO) CCRI.**
- November 30, 2001 **Mary E. Fogarty Magnet School**  
'Contribution Award'
- October 22, 2000 **US House of Representatives**  
"Congressional Citation"
- August 24, 2000 **Pawtucket Red Sox**  
Pawtucket, RI "Hometown Hero Award" McCoy Stadium
- August 13, 2000 **Rhode Island National Guard**  
"For continued support and dedication to the Adjutant General's Multi-Cultural Advisory Council"
- July 6, 2000 **The Rhode Island Department of Human Services**  
"Feather Award"
- December 20, '97 **City of Providence "Citizen Citation"**

References available upon request