

**City of Seattle  
Notice of Appointment**

<b>Name: Habtamu M. Abdi</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive Reappointment</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Legislative Appointment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Agency Appointment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PDA Council</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PDA Constituency</b>
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Seward Park	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98118	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b>  (206) 334-3876
<b>Appointed to:</b> Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission		<b>Date of Appointment:</b> 1/31/2013
<b>Authority (Ord., Res.):</b> Ordinance 122441 Ordinance 123822		<b>Term of Office:</b> <b>From: Confirmation</b> <b>To: 01/31/2015</b>
<b>Comments:</b>		
<p><b>Habtamu M. Abdi</b> earned his L.L. M. in Law of International Sustainable Development from the University of Washington and a Master's degree in Human Rights Law from St. Thomas University in Florida.</p> <p>As a public outreach and engagement liaison for East African refugees, Habtamu founded and currently serves as the Director of the Center for East African Community Affairs, a community organization dedicated to working with East African immigrants and refugees in areas of immigration, housing, employment, and computer literacy.</p> <p>Habtamu is committed to alleviating the problems faced by immigrants and refugees, as well as addressing the information and technology gap many members of this community have experienced.</p>		
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  		<b>Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment:</b> Councilmember Bruce A. Harrell

## **HABTAMU M. ABDI**

Seattle, WA 98118  
206-334-3876

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### **Objective:**

Well trained and experienced social worker seeking to secure a position as the Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board (CTTAB).

### **EDUCATION:**

<b>University of Washington</b> , Seattle WA, L.L. M: Law of International Sustainable Development	June, 2010
<b>St. Thomas University</b> , Miami Gardens, FL MA: Human Right Law	September 2008
<b>ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY</b> , Addis Ababa, Ethiopia B.A: Sociology and Social Anthropology	August 2006

### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- 5+ years experienced in dynamic, result-oriented, human rights law and sociology educated in multi-lingual professional;
- Multilingual Proficient in (English, and two East African languages)
- In-depth knowledge of community capacity building, social work, community engagement and public outreach coordination.
- Well aware of city government, procedures, strategies and city policies
- Key advocate for the needs of immigrants and refugee youths and their families.
- Excellent analytical, detail oriented, multi-task, communication, teamwork and able to work well independently.
- Experience in policy development; management of policy implementation, advocacy and community development.
- Analyzes and investigates diverse and complex quantitative and qualitative data from a wide range of sources.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

***CENTER FOR EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (CEACA); October 2010- Present***  
***Founder & Director community-based not-for profit organization;***

- Closely working with East African immigrants and refugees in areas of immigration, housing, after school tutoring and crime prevention.
- Providing mentoring programs to vulnerable refugees and immigrants in coordination with different city departments and agencies.
- Supervise day-to-day activities of the center and overlook financial affairs
- Provide business training to women; Community planning and empowerment.
- Determine impacts of domestic violence and suggest remedial actions and preventive framework among refugees
- Operates a computers, maintain records and generate reports using excel and words
- Organize special events, including volunteer participation, plan and coordinate outreach programs.

**Seattle Neighborhood Group (SNG) February 2012- Present**

Public Outreach and Engagement Liaison (POEL) for the city of Seattle.

- Closely working with the Department of Neighborhood on various projects where community outreach is needed
- Serve as the community liaison with East African refugees and Immigrants to promote timely information exchange, coordinate collaborative efforts, and establish resource links and community partnerships.
- Closely working with Seattle Office of Civil Rights on fair housing.
- Closely working with Seattle Parks and recreation on "Parks Legacy Plan."

**King County Superior Court**

**East African Languages Interpreter and Translator**

January 2011-Present

- Closely working with the king County Superior Court for the interpretations of East African languages
- Conduct legal and general interpreting for courthouse, and their clients.
- Assess and monitor clients' understanding of information conveyed.
- Record and monitor interpretation activities according to courts' standards.
- Maintain confidentiality in all matters related to cases

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF LAW**

**Research Assistant**

September 2009-October 2010

- Closely worked with the head of Asian Law Center professor Jonathan Eddy
- Coordinated and performed a range of stuff as well as operational support activities for the department
- Provided administrative/secretarial support for the department/division such as answering telephones, assisting visitors, and resolving and referring a range of administrative problems and inquiries.

**OROMO COMMUNITY CENTER OF SEATTLE**

**Head of Communication Affairs**

June 2009- September 2010

- Worked as head of communication affairs for the community
- Responsible for coordinating various community forums among East African Refugees and Immigrants.
- Closely worked with Seattle School district , department of neighborhoods and City of Seattle in general
- Organized special events, including volunteer participation, plan and coordinate outreach programs.
- Secured grants from Seattle School district and wisely administered for the intended purpose.
- Provided rigorous trainings and family night forums for East African youths and immigrants.

**CATHOLIC CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, ETHIOPIA**  
**Development Project Facilitator**

January 2003- March 2006

- Responsible to keep track of any violation of human rights laws by any organization
- Coordinate with children and woman welfare groups to fight against cases of women and child abuses and injustice
- Supervised the work of the police and law enforcement unit to ensure the suspects under trial are treated well and are not subject to any physical and mental abuse
- Reviewed the recruitment polices and employee benefits schemes of the organization and checked its compliance with the human right regulations
- Conducted seminars and programs on human rights and equal opportunity laws
- Recommended suitable solutions to minimize the impacts of droughts hazards, inter –ethnic conflicts and mass displacement.
- Responsible for managing a portfolio of support groups and special events requiring the highest level of customer service and event expertise.

***HONORS, AWARDS & AFFILIATION***

- William Gates Scholarship winner of the year (2010), University of Washington School of Law, Seattle WA.
- The Siegfried Wiessner Intercultural Human Rights Essay Award winner, St. Thomas University School of Law, Florida.
- The Crouch-Kielsgard Human Rights Scholarship winner, St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami Florida.
- Arya Laghaie Human right award winner of the year, St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami FL.

**REFERENCES:**

1. **Sebhat Tena**  
City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods  
Neighborhood Plan Update Strategic Advisor  
206-733-9977
2. **Magdaleno Rose -Avila**  
Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs  
City Hall 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
P.O.Box 94745  
Seattle, WA 98124-4745  
(206) 233-3886

# Immigrant and Refugee Commission

April 2013

15 Members: Who are confirmed by City Council and serve a term of two years. **3 term maximum.**

- 8 appointed by Mayor
- 7 appointed by City Council

D		Member	I/R	Y	Term #	First Appointed	Term Ends	Position #	Appointing Body
1	M	Shree Ram Dahal	Y		2	7/11/11	1/31/15	2	Council
2	M	Habtamu M. Abdi	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	4	Council
4	F	Dori C. Cahn			1	1/31/13	1/31/15	10	Council
1	M	Simon M-S Khin	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	8	Council
6	F	Mariya Kochubey	Y	Y	1	1/31/13	1/31/15	14	Council
6	F	Natasha A. Savage	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	6	Council
		Vacant						12	Council
1	M	Justin Chan		Y	1	1/31/13	1/31/15	3	Mayor
1	F	Maria E (Maru) Mora Villalpando	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	11	Mayor
2	F	Tsegaba Woldehaimanot	Y	Y	2	5/13/11	1/31/15	1	Mayor
1	F	Jennifer Calleja	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	5	Mayor
4	F	Devon Alisa Abdallah, Ph.D			3	12/13/07	1/31/14	9	Mayor
4	F	Roxana Norouzi			1	1/31/13	1/31/15	7	Mayor
2	M	Mohamed Sheikh Hassan	Y		2	12/22/10	1/31/14	15	Mayor
2	M	Michael Neguse	Y		2	12/22/10	1/31/14	13	Mayor

## *Diversity\*before vacancies*

Appointed by:	Total		Youth				*I/R		US Born Minority		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	Vacancies				
	Women	Men	W	M	W	M	W	M	M	W	W	M	W	M	W	M		E European			
Subtotal	14		3		10		4		5	4	2	3	0	2	1						
Gender	Women	Men	W	M	W	M	W	M	M	W	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M			
Mayor	5	3	1	1	3	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0		
Council	3	3	1	0	2	3	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	
Total	8	6	2	1	5	5	3	1	3	2	1	3	2	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	1