#38

CF314197

City of Seattle
Notice of Appointment

Name: **Sarah Lippek**		☐ **Executive Appointment** ☐ **Reappointment** ☒ **Legislative Appointment** ☐ **Agency Appointment** ☐ **PDA Council** ☐ **PDA Constituency**
Residential Neighborhood: **Seattle, WA**	**98104**	**Contact Phone No.:** N/A
Appointed to: Seattle Human Rights Commission		**Date of Appointment:**
Authority (Ord., Res.): 118392		**Term of Office:** **From:** Confirmation **To: 7/22/15**

Background:

Sarah is a native Seattleite, raised in various neighborhoods around the city, who has also lived in New York City and Budapest. She is deeply concerned with issues of poverty, justice, and the creation of liberating, non-hierarchical systems. Sarah is an attorney with The Public Advocate, a nonprofit law firm, where she is a general practitioner with particular interests in immigration, civil rights, and prisoners' rights. She is a certified mediator and is involved in the restorative justice movement.

Before becoming a lawyer, Sarah was active in the struggle against AIDS, doing underground needle exchange, implementing some of the first street-based HIV testing in Seattle, and working closely with homeless youth to design youth-centric medical programs at the 45th Street Clinic. Sarah also directed the University Youth Shelter. When she moved to New York City, she worked as a public defense investigator, and as a medical outreach worker for crack users who had HIV/AIDS. She was involved with the campaign for anti-overdose legislation in New York State. Sarah's proudest achievement in New York was spearheading the first needle exchange in the borough of Queens, an innovative program that is still thriving and serving thousands of drug users.

Sarah holds a JD from the University of Washington School of Law, an MA in from Central European University's History Department, and a BA from City University of New York's Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies. She is also a proud alumnus of Seattle Central Community College.

Authorizing Signature: Bruce A. Harrell	**Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment:** Bruce Harrell, Seattle City Council

Revised 4/14

SARAH LIPPEK

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Public Advocate: Seattle
Launching Project Director, August 2013 – present

- General practice lawyering for low- and moderate-income clients, including immigration, employment, post-prison re-entry, and family law issues.
- Civil rights law, especially police and corrections accountability, prisoners' rights, and discrimination.
- Visioning, strategy, and organizational design for a new system reform project.
- Start-up legal planning: Incorporation, writing by-laws, designing decision-making procedures
- Outreach and relationship-building with ally organizations.
- Research on methodologies, legislative history, and best practices.

Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP): New York, Amman, Beirut, and Seattle
Northwest Chapter Director and Co-Founder, September 2011 - present
Legal Intern & National Policy Council Representative, June - September 2011

- Co-Founded the Northwest Chapter of IRAP: networked with local and national law firms to secure pro-bono attorneys and case funding; created governance structure and bylaws; recruited, trained and supervised student legal teams; coordinated translation services; and provided CLEs and other trainings.
- Represented extraterritorial refugees seeking resettlement as a member of the IRAP team
- Conducted legal research supporting impact litigation to establish refugee rights, including the right to retain counsel, during the resettlement application process
- Advocated for refugee access to counsel; federal compliance with Congressional visa processing mandates; and emergency measures to prevent the interruption of visa processing in situations of war or civil unrest.
- Interviewed refugee survivors of trauma and torture, and prepared them for future interviews with government officials; coordinated refugee document collection and helped create requests for reconsideration in resettlement cases.
- Investigated sex trafficking in Beirut; interviewed trafficked sex workers.
- Responded to media developments; wrote opinion editorials and press briefs; created promotional and fundraising materials.

Columbia Legal Services - Institutions Project: Seattle
Law Clerk, June 2012 – April 2013

- Defended the civil rights of incarcerated people through multi-forum advocacy.
- Reduced barriers to employment for people with criminal records by helping to pass the Jobs Assistance city ordinance (adopted by Seattle City Council in June 2013).
- Conducted legal research and legislative analysis to further state-level legislative reform of juvenile sentencing practices, and to leverage the provisions of the Prison Rape Elimination Act.
- Provided legal advice to low-income clients in a community legal clinic.
- Investigated Washington County Clerks' debt collection practices for statutory compliance and fairness.

The Public Advocate: Seattle
Director of Special Projects, 2009 – 2011

- Provided free and reduced-cost legal services for small businesses and vulnerable individuals.
- Orchestrated community organizing efforts in the Stillaguamish to create dialogue between farmers, tribes, and environmental groups.
- Promoted environmentally responsible farmland preservation through research projects and local outreach.
- Secured a grant from the Stillaguamish Tribe to fund technical assistance for the Flood Control District's development of restoration strategies.
- Conducted legal research on elder law issues, § 1983 Civil Rights Act violations, and tribal social service and membership policies.
- Offered case support for vulnerable individuals, including home visits.

AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC) – Syringe Exchange Program: New York City
Syringe Exchange Supervisor, 2004-2007

- Led the first needle exchange in the uniquely diverse borough of Queens County; created a peer-to-peer health education network among active injection drug users.
- Designed and implemented top-to-bottom service model innovations, including grant management and outcome measurement initiatives.
- Spearheaded outreach and engagement efforts with community members, religious congregations, police, neighbors, and local governments.
- Trained and supervised 4+ full-time staff, teams of peer outreach workers, and volunteers.
- Designed the curriculum for health education and harm reduction trainings.
- Advocated for improved drug policies as part of a citywide coalition, including direct outreach and issue advocacy with New York City Council members and state regulatory agencies.

45th Street Clinic – Homeless Youth Clinic: Seattle
Youth Clinic Assistant Coordinator/Outreach Lead, 1997-2003

- Piloted a street-based oral HIV testing program, providing counseling and testing services.
- Led peer-to-peer outreach team; coordinated the scheduling of volunteer medical providers.
- Represented the interests of homeless youth in interagency coalitions

EDUCATION

University of Washington School of Law, Seattle
Juris Doctor, June 2013 | William H. Gates Public Service Law Scholar

University of Washington Extension, Seattle
Investigation certification, June 2010

Central European University, Budapest
Master of Arts in History, June 2009 | Graduated with Distinction (highest honors)

CUNY Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies, New York
Bachelor of Arts, June 2008 | Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List

Selected Volunteering and Professional Associations

Tenant's Union, volunteer legal researcher.
Publication Studio, featured author.
Washington Women Lawyers, member.
People's Harm Reduction Alliance, board member.
Health Care for the Homeless Network, advisory board member.
SAMHSA Federal HIV/AIDS services grant reviewer.
International Harm Reduction Conferences, presenter/moderator.
Harlem Community and Academic Partnership/ CUES/ New York Academy of Medicine, consultant.
free103point9, transmission arts organization, educator/coordinator of RadioLab.
Visual AIDS, arts organization, guest curator.
Service Links for Youth case-management program, consultant/trainer.

Seattle Human Rights Commission

November, 2014

- 15 members, confirmed by City Council, who serve a term of 2-years:
  - 7 appointed by Mayor, confirmed by City Council
  - 7 appointed by City Council
  - 1 appointed by the Commission, confirmed by City Council
- 1 Get Engaged Member, confirmed by City Council who serves a single term of 1-year

D	G	Position #	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Position	Appointed By
1		1	**Amy Huang**		07-22-16			Mayor
6	F	7	Sarah Bishop	8/4/14	07-22-16	1st	Vice-Chair	Mayor
1	M	3	Rich Stolz	5/6/13	07-22-16	2nd		Mayor
3	F	2	Andrea Negrete	12/10/12	07-22-16	2nd		Mayor
	F	5	**Vacant**		07-22-15	1st		Mayor
2		6	**Ken Nsimbi**		07-22-15			Mayor
1	F	4	Anita Khandelwal	12/9/13	07-22-15	1st		Mayor
2		8	**Jamila Farole**		07-22-16			City Council
6	M	9	Alex Becker	2/10/14	07-22-16	1st		City Council
6		10	**Danielle Wallace**		07-22-16			City Council
4	F	14	Ethel Branch	09-30-13	07-22-15	1st	Chair	City Council
6		11	**Sarah Lippek**		07-22-15			City Council
3	F	12	Alejandra Gonza	2/10/14	07-22-15	2nd	Secretary	City Council
6		13	**Lara Diaconu**		07-22-15			City Council
2	M	15	Jason Poydras		07-22-16	1st		Commission
2	F	16	**Juliana Tesfu**		09-30-15		Get Engaged	Mayor

Diversity

	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	(1) Asian-American	(2) African-American	(3) Hispanic Latin@	(4) Native-American	(5) Other	(6) Caucasian
Council	1	6	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	4
Commission	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mayor	3	3	1	4	2	0	1	0		1
Get Engaged	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	***4***	***11***	***1***	***9***	***2***	***3***	***2***	***1***	***0***	***5***