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PHILADELPHIA CITY COMMISSIONERS
RETURN BOARD CERTIFICATION MEETING

- - -

Friday, November 8, 2024

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- OMAR SABIR, CHAIRMAN
- KHALIF CHESTNUT, DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR
- SETH BLUESTEIN, COMMISSIONER
- ERIC KAPENSTEIN, DEPUTY TO COMMISSIONER
- NICHOLAS CUSTODIO, DEPUTY TO VICE-CHAIR
- LISA DEELEY, VICE-CHAIR

HELD AT:

City Commissioners Warehouse
11311 Roosevelt Boulevard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19154

REPORTED BY: Michelle A. Landman
Lexitas Legal/Philadelphia
215-504-4622

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Good

3 morning. I call to order the meeting of
4 the Philadelphia City Commissioners Return
5 to Board for Friday, November 8, 2024.

6 This meeting is in compliance
7 with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The
8 Philadelphia City Commissioners are a
9 three-member bipartisan board of elected
10 officials in charge of elections and voter
11 registration for the City of Philadelphia.

12 Each Commissioner is elected to
13 serve a four-year term that coincides with
14 the municipal election cycle for Mayor and
15 City Council. The Commissioners set and
16 enforce departmental policies and
17 administer voter registration and conduct
18 elections in accordance with federal,
19 state and voter registration election
20 laws.

21 The City Commissioners were
22 created by the Pennsylvania Assembly in
23 1711 with a focus on taxation and held
24 various regulatory powers throughout the

1 centuries. The Commissioners started
2 maintaining voter lists in 1799, and took
3 on more election-related responsibilities,
4 but didn't emerge in its current form
5 until the adoption of Philadelphia Home
6 Rule Charter in 1951.

7 We will start off with public
8 comments. Before beginning their
9 comments, commenter shall state where they
10 live or if they are not a resident of
11 Philadelphia, that they are a Philadelphia
12 taxpayer.

13 Public comment is not an
14 opportunity for dialogue or Q and A. It
15 is public comment, a chance for you to
16 tell us what you think. Each speaker will
17 have two minutes to speak, however, I may
18 extend the time at my discretion. Public
19 comment must concern matters on today's
20 meeting agenda.

21 Finally, it is my responsibility
22 to preserve the order and decorum of the
23 meetings, as such, profane, slanderous,
24 discriminatory and personal attacks will

1 not be tolerated.

2 If you wish to make a public
3 objection to a perceived Sunshine Act
4 violation, please raise your hand and I
5 will recognize you, outbursts will not be
6 tolerated.

7 Anyone wishing to offer public
8 comment please step forward.

9 (No response.)

10 COMMISSIONER SABIR: No public
11 comments.

12 Seeing there is no public
13 commenters, we will now move to report
14 from the Secretary.

15 Mr. Bluestein, are there any
16 E-mail public comments?

17 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: There
18 were no E-mail public comments before 7:45
19 a.m.

20 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Thank you
21 very much.

22 We will now proceed to the
23 Canvass swearing in the Board of Election
24 Staff.

1 Please raise your right hand.

2 Our attorney said everybody has to raise
3 their right hand. Everybody.

4 Do you and each of you solemnly
5 swear or affirm that you will perform your
6 duties in assisting in the canvass and
7 computation of votes casted in the general
8 election held on November 5th, 2024 in the
9 City and County of Philadelphia?

10 CANVASS STAFF: I do.

11 COMMISSIONER SABIR: And do you
12 swear or affirm that you will perform your
13 duties impartially and that you shall not
14 read, write, count or certify any return
15 votes that are false or fraudulent, so
16 help you God?

17 CANVASS STAFF: I do.

18 COMMISSIONER SABIR: Pursuant to
19 the 1937 Pennsylvania Election Code, the
20 canvass of the votes cast of the general
21 election of Tuesday, November 5th in the
22 City and County of Philadelphia will now
23 officially begin on the first Ward, first
24 Division.

1 Thank you for all your hard
2 work.

3 We will now proceed to new
4 comments. Commissioners, do you have any
5 comments?

6 COMMISSIONER BLUESTEIN: I have
7 nothing.

8 COMMISSIONER DEELEY: I have
9 nothing. Thank you.

10 - - -

11 (Whereupon, the meeting
12 concluded at 9:08 a.m.)

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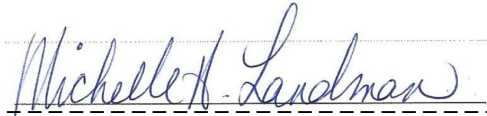
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I hereby certify that the proceedings
and evidence noted are contained fully and
accurately in the stenographic notes taken by
me in the foregoing matter, and that this is
a correct transcript of the same.



Michelle A. Landman - Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of
this transcript does not apply to any
reproduction of the same by any means,
unless under the direct control and/or
supervision of the certifying reporter.)

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