



News from Mayor Marion Barry, Jr.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 20, 1984

MAYOR BARRY NAMES WORTHY TO CHAIR PSC: REAPPOINTS HANKINS-NESBITT

Mayor Marion Barry, Jr., nominated Patricia Morris Worthy today to serve as chairperson of the D.C. Public Service Commission. He also nominated Ruth Hankins-Nesbitt to another four year term on the Commission.

The Public Service Commission regulates public utilities in the District, including insuring that they provide adequate service, establishing service standards and establishing rates and rate structures. The PSC has three members who are full-time employees.

Ms. Worthy has served on the PSC since August, 1980. She also serves as chairperson of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, on which she represents the PSC. She previously was deputy assistant secretary for regulatory functions in the Office of Neighborhoods, Voluntary Associations and Consumer Protection, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in charge of HUD regulatory programs to protect consumers. She also has served as deputy general counsel for ACTION and has worked for other federal agencies and in private law practice.

She is a Ward 7 resident and a board member of the Anacostia Economic Development Corporation. She has chaired the D.C. Occupational Safety and Health Board and is a member of the Legal Services Advisory Board and other groups.

She holds a law degree from Howard University, where she helped organize the Neighborhood Consumer Information Center. She is a native of Brooklyn, New York, and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Brooklyn College.

Ms. Hankins-Nesbitt, when first named to the PSC in 1975, was the first woman to serve as commissioner in over 50 years and the first woman to serve as chair since the PSC's inception in 1913.

Prior to being named to the PSC, she was in private law practice in the District. She also has worked for the federal government and served on the District's Hackers License Appeals Board.

- OVER -

She is the secretary-treasurer of the Great Lakes Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners and is active in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. She also is active in community groups and serves on the boards of the United Way, Rosemont Day Care Center, D.C. Democratic Women's Club and the Washington Bar Association. She also chairs the board of trustees for her church.

She holds a law degree from Robert Terrell Law School and also has studied at Catholic University, D.C. Teachers College and Virginia Seminary and College.

The PSC nominations require confirmation by the D.C. Council.

For further information, media may contact: Betty King, 727-1372.