

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE**
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

**CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE**

on

PR 24-784, Ombudsperson for Children Shalonda L. Cawthon Appointment Resolution of 2022

on

Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
Chairman's Website (www.ChairmanMendelson.com/live)
DC Council Website (www.dccouncil.us)
Council Channel 13 (Cable Television Providers)
Office of Cable Television Website (entertainment.dc.gov)

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson announces the scheduling of a public roundtable of the Committee of the Whole on **PR 24-784**, the “Ombudsperson for Children Shalonda L. Cawthon Appointment Resolution of 2022.” The roundtable will be held on **Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.** live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast. The purpose of this roundtable is to receive testimony from the public as to the fitness of the nominee for appointment.

The stated purpose of PR 24-784 is to confirm the appointment of Ms. Shalonda L. Cawthon as the Ombudsperson for Children for a term to end 5 years after the effective date of the resolution. Ms. Cawthon would be the first Ombudsperson for Children. The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children was created pursuant to the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children Establishment Act of 2020. The Ombudsperson’s mandate is to function as an independent office responsible to the Council and tasked with improving outcomes for children known to the Child and Family Services Agency by holding relevant agencies accountable for fulfilling their responsibilities under the law.

Those who wish to testify must register at <http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify> by the close of business on Tuesday, June 28, 2022. **Testimony is limited to four minutes.** Witnesses who anticipate needing spoken language interpretation, or require sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee office of the need as soon as possible but no later than five business days before the proceeding. We will make every effort to fulfill timely requests, although alternatives may be offered. Requests received in less than five business days may not be fulfilled. If you have additional questions, please contact Destiny Riley, Committee Assistant, at (202) 724-8196.

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, the roundtable will be conducted virtually on the Internet utilizing Zoom video conference technology. Because of this, written or transcribed testimony from the public is highly encouraged and will be taken by email or voicemail. Testimony may be submitted in writing to cow@dccouncil.us or may be left by voicemail (up to 3 minutes – which will be transcribed – by calling (202) 430-6948. Testimony received by close of business on June 28, 2022 will be posted publicly to <http://www.chairmanmendelson.com/circulation> prior to the roundtable. If you are unable to testify at the roundtable, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record. Written statements should be submitted to cow@dccouncil.us. The record will close at 5:00pm on July 11, 2022.