


**Council of the District of Columbia**

**MEMORANDUM**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

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**TO:** Chairperson Phil Mendelson  
**FROM:** Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie   
**RE:** Request to Agendize Measures for the February 4, 2025, Legislative Meeting  
**DATE:** January 30, 2025

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I write to request that the following measure be placed on the agenda for the February 4, 2025, Legislative Meeting:

Proposed Resolution

• **PR26-14, Expulsion of Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. Resolution of 2024**

On August 18, 2024, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) arrested Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. pursuant to a federal criminal complaint charging him with one count of bribery in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2). A Grand Jury for the District of Columbia returned an indictment charging Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. with violating 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2) (bribery) on September 5, 2024. Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. was arraigned on September 12, 2024, and entered a plea of not guilty. That charge remains pending, with a trial scheduled to commence in January 2026.

An ad hoc committee (the “Committee”) was established by memorandum of Council Chairman Phil Mendelson on August 23, 2024. Pursuant to Rule 651(c), the Committee was charged with: (1) investigating allegations that Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. engaged in bribery and violated residency requirements, and (2) reporting its findings and penalty recommendations, if any, to the Council within 45 days of being convened. Resolution 25-634, the “Council Period 25 Rules of Organization and Procedure and Appointment of Committee Chairpersons and Membership Amendment Resolution of 2024” authorized the Committee to investigate “whether Councilmember Trayon White violated the law by residing in a ward other than Ward 8 or violated the Code of Conduct, as that term is defined in section 101(7) of the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability Establishment and Comprehensive Ethics Reform Amendment Act of 2011, effective April 27, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-124; D.C. Official Code § 1-1161.01(7)), or Council Rules, including those provisions of the Code of Conduct or the Council Rules that relate to conflicts of interest, taking any action that adversely affects the confidence of the public in the integrity of the District government, outside activities, use of government resources, or acting solely in the public interest.”

The Committee engaged outside counsel (“Latham and Watkins, LLP” or “Latham”) to conduct an investigation. Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. declined through counsel to be interviewed by outside counsel. Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. also declined through counsel to appear before the Committee, both prior to and after the completion of outside counsel’s investigative report. On December 16, 2024, the Committee unanimously approved to recommend to the Council the sanction of expulsion of Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. and approved the Committee Report. The Committee adopted the findings of the report prepared by outside counsel retained in this matter. The Committee determined that substantial evidence, based on the totality of evidence considered, exists that Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.23 and D.C. Official Code § 1-618.01 and Rule 202(a) of the Rules of the Council for Council Period 25 and various rules of the Council’s Code of Conduct.

On January 28, 2025, the Council held a proceeding on the Expulsion of Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. for Code of Conduct Violations, to consider the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee in the Matter of Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. to expel Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. from the Council, pursuant to Council Rule 655. The Council considered the charges against Councilmember Trayon White, Sr., including that he violated D.C. Official Code §1-1162.23 and D.C. Official Code §1-618.01 and Council Rule 202(a) and several provisions of the Council's Code of Official Conduct, including Rule II(a) by engaging in outside employment or private activities that conflict or would appear to conflict with the fair, impartial, and objective performance of the employee's official duties and responsibilities or with the efficient operation of the Council; Rule III(e)(2) by directly or indirectly demanding, seeking, receiving, accepting, or agreeing to receive or accept anything of value personally or for any other person or entity, in return for prohibited activities; and Rule VI(b)(1) by knowingly using the prestige of office or public position for that employee's private gain or that of another. Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. attended the proceeding and was represented by counsel, who made statements on the Councilmember's behalf.

The proposed resolution would adopt the findings, conclusions, and recommendations from the Committee Report of the Ad Hoc Committee In the Matter Of Councilmember Trayon White, Sr., and expel Councilmember Trayon White, Sr. from the Council for the conduct referenced in the Committee Report that violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.23 and D.C. Official Code § 1-618.01, in addition to Council Rule 202(a) and several provisions of the Council's Code of Official Conduct, and the District's Ethics Act.

The filed resolution is attached. Feel free to contact Doni Crawford, Committee Director, at [dcrawford@dccouncil.gov](mailto:dcrawford@dccouncil.gov), with any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of the General Counsel  
Office of the Budget Director