

**TESTIMONY OF CHARLES J. WILLOUGHBY
ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL DESIGNEE
BEFORE THE D.C. COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS
PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE ON PR-16-249
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL CHARLES JAMES WILLOUGHBY
CONFIRMATION APPROVAL RESOLUTION OF 2005**

JUNE 27, 2005

GOOD MORNING CHAIRMAN ORANGE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:
I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE THIS OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE TO PRESENT MY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND
EXPERIENCE FOR THE POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED BY THE MAYOR FOR
THIS IMPORTANT POSITION. AS I STATED ON MAY 18, 2005 AT THE
MAYOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH HE ANNOUNCED MY
NOMINATION, I LOOK FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE OFFICE BUT
MORE IMPORTANTLY, I LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MY OVER TWENTY YEARS AS A RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT AS WELL AS
MY NEARLY THIRTY YEARS AS A PRACTICING ATTORNEY SHOULD PROVE
TO BE INVALUABLE ASSETS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DUTIES OF THE
OFFICE, FOR THEY PROVIDE ME WITH A PERSPECTIVE OR SENSE OF THOSE

AREAS OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS THAT I BELIEVE THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL SHOULD FOCUS ON IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE PROCESS FOR CARRYING OUT THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES.

I BELIEVE I WILL BRING DIVERSITY OF EXPERIENCE TO THE POSITION BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAVING SERVED AS A PROSECUTOR ON THE STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS, AS AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN NEW ORLEANS AND AS AN ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY HERE IN THE DISTRICT. I ALSO SERVED AS A COUNSELOR TO THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE “HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE”) AND I CURRENTLY SERVE AS ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND COUNSEL IN THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

AS A PROSECUTOR I PROSECUTED MATTERS ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AND THE UNITED STATES BEFORE JUDGES AND JURIES. THE MATTERS INCLUDED SUCH OFFENSES AS THEFT, DISTRIBUTION OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES AND HOMICIDE. ADDITIONALLY, AS A PROSECUTOR I PRESENTED MATTERS TO GRAND JURIES AND SCREENED CASES SUBMITTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT TO DETERMINE IF CRIMINAL CHARGES SHOULD BE BROUGHT. BECAUSE OF MY TRIAL EXPERIENCE, I

HAVE SUPERVISED ATTORNEYS IN TRIAL PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION BOTH AS AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN NEW ORLEANS AND AS AN ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY HERE IN THE DISTRICT.

AS COUNSEL TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, I NOT ONLY ADVISED AND COUNSELED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND STAFF ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE ON A MYRIAD OF MATTERS, BUT ALSO, CONDUCTED INVESTIGATIONS OF MEMBERS AND STAFF FOR VIOLATIONS OF STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. DURING MY TENURE WITH THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIONS, INCLUDING MATTERS RELATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BANK AND THE CONDUCT OF THEN SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, NEWT GINGRICH. MY SPECIFIC DUTIES ALSO INCLUDED TAKING TESTIMONY FROM WITNESSES AS WELL AS PRESENTING AND ARGUING MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AND DRAFTING REPORTS ON COMMITTEE INVESTIGATIONS.

IN MY CURRENT POSITION AS ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL AND COUNSEL IN THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, MY DUTIES CONSIST OF CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT BY COMMISSION EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS AS WELL AS PROVIDING ADVICE AND

LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE OFFICE WITH RESPECT TO THOSE MATTERS THAT FALL UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE COMMISSION. DURING MY TENURE WITH THE COMMISSION, I HAVE CONDUCTED NUMEROUS INVESTIGATIONS INTO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING MISUSE OF OFFICIAL RESOURCES, RELEASE OF NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION, ABUSE OF AUTHORITY, PAYROLL FRAUD AND THEFT. WITH RESPECT TO INVESTIGATIONS, MY SPECIFIC TASKS HAVE INCLUDED INTERVIEWING WITNESSES UNDER OATH AND INFORMING THEM OF THEIR RIGHTS AND ISSUING INVESTIGATORY REPORTS. IN MY COUNSEL CAPACITY WITHIN THE OFFICE, I HAVE PROVIDED LEGAL COUNSEL AND PERFORMED DUTIES WITH RESPECT TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AUDIT RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE, INCLUDING THE ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS AND THE DRAFTING OF AUDIT RELATED DOCUMENTS.

MUCH LIKE THE DISTRICT'S OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, THE COMMISSION'S OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, AMONG OTHER THINGS, IS ENTRUSTED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PREVENTING FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE BY PERFORMING ITS STATUTORILY MANDATED DUTIES IN AN INDEPENDENT AND OBJECTIVE MANNER. CONSEQUENTLY, MY SERVICE AS ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND COUNSEL IN THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS DIRECTLY

RELATES TO MANY OF THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DISTRICT'S OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL. UNDER THE MANTRA OF PROMOTING ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIKEWISE IS ENTRUSTED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PERFORMING ITS STATUTORILY MANDATED DUTIES IN AN INDEPENDENT AND OBJECTIVE MANNER. BRIEFLY STATED, THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE: CONDUCTING AUDITS OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, FUNCTIONS, AND ACTIVITIES; CONDUCTING COMPREHENSIVE ON-SITE EVALUATIONS TO IDENTIFY THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES IN THE OPERATIONS OF DISTRICT AGENCIES; CONDUCTING CRIMINAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALLEGATIONS OF WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE ON THE PART OF DISTRICT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS; AND WITH RESPECT TO THE MEDICAID PROGRAM, DETECTING, INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING FRAUD AND ABUSE WITHIN THE PROGRAM.

IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING EXPERIENCE, WHICH DIRECTLY RELATES TO THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT'S OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL AND WHICH HAS AFFORDED ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BRANCH AS WELL AS OFFICIALS OF THE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, I

ALSO BRING TO THE POSITION THE EXPERIENCE OF WORKING AS A SENIOR LEVEL OFFICIAL IN LOCAL OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, HAVING WORKED IN THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF NEW ORLEANS. IN THIS REGARD, AS AN ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY IN NEW ORLEANS, I REPRESENTED THE CITY IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS BEFORE STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS, AND BEFORE SUCH ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES AS THE NEW ORLEANS CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

WHEN I THINK OF MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, I TAKE MY GREATEST SATISFACTION IN FEELING THAT I HAVE PLAYED A PART IN MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE ACCESSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE. PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY EXPERIENCE IS MY COMMITMENT TO BRINGING THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE.

AS A WARD 4 RESIDENT FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS, I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE DEMONSTRATED THIS COMMITTEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SERVICE AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER AND OFFICER OF THE SIXTEENTH STREET HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, SERVICE ON THE DISTRICT'S COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, SERVICE ON THE WARD 4 REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE, AND SERVICE ON THE BOARD OF

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT
OF APPEALS.

AS I HAVE STATED MR. CHAIRMAN, I LOOK FORWARD TO THE
CHALLENGES OF THE OFFICE AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH
THE VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS IN FULFILLING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND
DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE DISTRICT IN
AN INDEPENDENT AND OBJECTIVE MANNER. WITH THIS IN MIND, I
WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE MEMBERS OF
THE COUNCIL INDIVIDUALLY TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS AND THOUGHTS ON
THOSE AREAS OF CITY OPERATIONS THAT THE OFFICE SHOULD FOCUS ON
IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE THAT COMPLETES MY
PREPARED STATEMENT AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO YOUR
QUESTIONS.