

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BOARD  
ADVICE AND CONSENT HEARING  
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**

**Opening Statement of Wayne G. Hawley**

Good afternoon, Chair Ung and members of the Committee. My name is Wayne Hawley. I'm privileged to appear before the City Council for a second time for its consideration of a proposed appointment to the Conflicts of Interest Board. The first time was six years ago, when, as a nominee of Mayor de Blasio, I received the Council's consent to serve a six-year term on the Board. That term will end on 31st of this month. I am today honored to be nominated by Comptroller Levine to serve on the Board for the remaining two years of a term that will expire on March 31, 2028.

I have a short statement and will then welcome any questions you may have.

First, by way of personal background, my wife and I moved to New York City 47 years ago, and we have lived here ever since. Our two children were born and grew up here. Our first grandchild was born and lives here. Our second grandchild, due in May, will be moving back to the City later this year, if all goes as planned. So, New York is my home. I care about this great city and its people.

I also care about the city's government and the public servants who serve it. I have seen during my time at the Board the range of important services that these people provide and have gained an appreciation and respect for the hard work and dedication of so many of my fellow public servants.

At the same time, I've also come to appreciate what an outsized role this tiny City agency, the COIB, with its five Board members, and fewer than two dozen employees, could have and indeed does have in a City of 8.5 million people and a municipal workforce of 300,000. The COIB, is both a symbol of, and one of the drivers of, the commitment of City government to put service to the public first, that is, to the principle that public service is a public trust.

If I am again confirmed by the Council, I will have the opportunity to continue to the serve the COIB as a Board member for the next two years. I will be mindful of the mission of the COIB to promote the public's trust in its City government and also mindful of my own obligation, in interpreting and enforcing the City's conflicts of interest and annual disclosure laws, to put the public's interest first. I look forward to that continued responsibility.