

MARCH 6, 2014 NY CITY COUNCIL COIB CONFIRMATION HEARING
OPENING STATEMENT OF NOMINEE FERNANDO A. BOHORQUEZ, JR.

Thank you Chairman Lander, Speaker Mark-Viverito, and members of the Committee.

Good morning, my name is Fernando Bohorquez and I am honored to be here before you today, nominated by Mayor de Blasio to serve on the Conflicts of Interest Board of the City of New York, subject to the advice and consent of the City Council.

Although I was not born in New York, like millions of my fellow citizens I have made the City my home. I came to Tribeca for law school almost twenty years ago, honed my professional career in Midtown, married my wife in the shadows of the Brooklyn Bridge, and now raise two beautiful boys in Park Slope with the oldest halfway through his first year at PS 321. As a New Yorker, I have the greatest respect for the public officials who serve our city day in and day out. Indeed, one of the most critical roles of the Board – as put by its respected Executive Director Mark Davies - is to guide our honest public officials and to keep them honest.

I wish to serve on the Board because I firmly believe in its mission of building public trust in those that serve and govern the citizens of New York City. The bedrock of our city government is trust – the trust of the people placed in the public officials that serve them. The mission of the Board is nothing less than preserving that public trust, promoting the public confidence in its government, and protecting the integrity of our system of governance by enforcing those rules when they are broken.

As an attorney with a history and commitment to public service, as a citizen who cares deeply about our democratic process, and as a parent raising and educating his children in our city public schools, service on the Board presents a unique and unparalleled opportunity to make a positive impact on many of the things that matter to me most.

I will bring to the Board my good judgment, forged in the fires of litigations large and mundane; my decade plus years of experience as an attorney and then partner at BakerHostetler, a firm that maintains the highest ethical standards that govern the legal profession; my perspective providing practical counsel to businesses both big and small, and my unwavering commitment to the public interest as demonstrated in my various and varied board and community service. Finally, I will bring to bear the point of view of an immigrant's son – a mix of hard-work, enthusiasm and the tenacious resolve to learn and excel through experience.

Thank you for your time and I appreciate your consideration, and I am happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

Statement of Richard Briffault
Before the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections
New York City Council

March 6, 2014

Speaker Mark-Viverito, Chair Lander and members of the Committee, I want to thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today concerning my nomination by Mayor deBlasio to be a member of the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board.

I was deeply honored and gratified by the Mayor's decision to nominate me to the COIB because it gives me the opportunity to serve the City that I love in a position where I believe I can make a real contribution to its government and its people. I am a lifelong New Yorker. I was born here; went to public elementary, junior high school, and high school here; attended college here; have lived and worked here almost my entire life; and have raised my two children here. I am committed to the City and look forward to the opportunity of giving something back to it.

For most of my working life I have taught at Columbia Law School, where my principal areas of research and study have been local governments, particularly New York City, and the laws governing the political process and public integrity. I truly believe that public service is a public trust. The rules that protect the public's interest in a fair, honest government not only honor that trust, they also lead to a more effective government and promote the public's confidence in government. To have an impact, of course, these rules need to be actively and thoughtfully applied, interpreted, and enforced. I look forward to joining with the rest of the Board in undertaking this task. I hope that through my service on the Board I can make my contribution to the honest government that New Yorkers deserve.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to take any questions you may have.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Fernando BOGOROVETZ

Address: _____

I represent: Partner BAKER Hustler

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mark Davies

Address: _____

I represent: COIB

Address: 2 Lafayette street

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 3/6/14

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: RICHARD BRIFFAULT

Address: 430 W 116th ST NY NY 10027

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms