



Committee: Directly to Council
Staff: Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of the Council
Purpose: To interview/final action - vote expected
Keywords:

AGENDA ITEMS #1 & 17
December 14, 2021
Interview/Action

SUBJECT

Interview & Action on County Executive's appointee as Development Ombudsman

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Thomas Lewis

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Mr. Lewis is being interviewed as the County Executive's appointee as Development Ombudsman. Confirmation is scheduled during this meeting.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

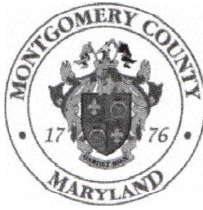
Not applicable.

This report contains:

Memorandum and appointment documents from County Executive
Draft resolution
Mr. Lewis's resume

© 1-4
© 5
© 6-10

Alternative format requests for people with disabilities. If you need assistance accessing this report you may [submit alternative format requests](#) to the ADA Compliance Manager. The ADA Compliance Manager can also be reached at 240-777-6197 (TTY 240-777-6196) or at adacompliance@montgomerycountymd.gov




OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

November 23, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Appointment of Development Ombudsman

I am transmitting the appointment of Thomas Lewis for the position of Development Ombudsman. Mr. Lewis is being appointed at a salary of \$175,000. His appointment will be effective upon confirmation by the County Council.

Mr. Lewis has extensive experience in development in our community and around the state. For the last 17 years, he served as a senior executive with a significant Maryland research university, hospital system, and community health care provider. He was intimately involved in the planning and marketing efforts concerning the County's Amazon HQ2 bid package and the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan. Mr. Lewis coordinated closely with, and facilitated the efforts of, Johns Hopkins University and Health System in multiple real estate development projects, including locally at the Belward Research Campus. Prior to that, he worked for 11 years crafting economic and development policies with the Maryland General Assembly. His skill set is building relationships with industry partners and with the State and local government, as well as facilitating the resolution of complex, systemic issues, and projects.

Mr. Lewis will initially be focused on enhancing the life sciences ecosystem in the County, building relationships with industry leaders, and enhancing partnerships with State and Federal agencies. He will report to the Chief Administrative Officer, Richard S. Madaleno, and work alongside our business support group, special projects coordinator, and soon to be named White Oak coordinator.

Mr. Lewis will focus on executing the Joint Development Agreement with WMATA on development of the White Flint Metro site. He will also work on a comprehensive marketing

Appointment of Development Ombudsman

November 23, 2021

Page 2 of 2

plan, integrating it with a plan for coordinated development and branding along the Red Line and I-270 corridor.

As mentioned above, we are recruiting to add to the team a full-time lead for White Oak to shepherd the large development projects planned in that area, which are equally important to advancing the County as a national hub for the biotech and life sciences sectors. This collaborative and immersive team will enable the County to build stronger relationships among all parties, ultimately leading to a successful implementation of our shared priorities and vision.

ME:rs

Enclosures

Cc: Richard S. Madaleno, Chief Administrative Officer
Fariba Kassiri, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ken Hartman, Director of Strategic Partnerships
Dale Tibbitts, Special Assistant to the County Executive
Selena Singleton, Clerk of the Council, Montgomery County Council

APPOINTMENT

PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED TO ME UNDER SECTION 215 OF THE
CHARTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND, I HEREBY APPOINT

Thomas Lewis

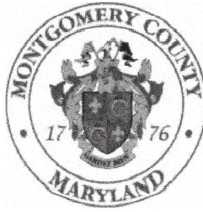
TO SERVE AS Development Ombudsman.

THIS APPOINTMENT SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UPON CONFIRMATION BY THE
COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.



MARC ELRICH
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

11/23/2021
DATE



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

November 23, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Richard S. Madaleno, Chief Administrative Officer *BSM*

RE: Due Diligence on Non-Merit Appointment – Thomas Lewis

The purpose of this memo is to confirm that in making appointments for non-merit positions, our selection process utilizes thorough reference checks, criminal history, checks for wants and warrants, credit history and other inquiries appropriate to the position being filled.

Please be assured that due diligence was exercised in determining the suitability of Thomas Lewis for appointment as Development Ombudsman. In addition, Mr. Lewis has filed his Financial Disclosure Statement.

cc: Selena Singleton, Clerk of the Council, Montgomery County Council
Fariba Kassiri, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ken Hartman, Director of Strategic Partnerships
Dale Tibbitts, Special Assistant to the County Executive

Resolution: _____

Introduced: _____

Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: County Council

Subject: County Executive's Appointment of Development Ombudsman

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Executive's appointment of Development Ombudsman

Thomas Lewis

The appointment of Mr. Lewis is confirmed by the County Council.

This is a correct copy of Council action:

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council

THOMAS S. LEWIS

EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

*Johns Hopkins University,
Johns Hopkins Medicine and
Johns Hopkins Health System*

7/2009 – 6/30/2021(ret.)
Baltimore, Maryland

- Oversaw and coordinated all federal (2009-2018), and state and local (2009-2021) government affairs advocacy of Johns Hopkins, the largest employer in the State of Maryland, with approximately 65,000 employees and total revenues of over \$13.5 billion. Johns Hopkins institutions is comprised of a complex group of organizations including the Johns Hopkins University, Johns Hopkins Medicine, the Johns Hopkins Health System and the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory.
- Direct report to the President of the Johns Hopkins University, to the CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine and to the President of the Johns Hopkins Health System, serving in, and attending quarterly meetings of, the Cabinet of the University President, serving as a member of the JHM Operating Committee, and serving on the Johns Hopkins Health System Corporate Staff, attending the monthly leadership meetings of that group.
- Managed the Office of Government and Community Affairs, overseeing a diverse staff of 27 to 35 employees comprising the advocacy and community outreach staff of Johns Hopkins. Although technically an office of JHU, the office represented all parts of Johns Hopkins.
- Co-staffed the Joint Committee on External Affairs for the JHU, JHM, JHHS Boards of Trustees, starting in that role with the initial formation of that joint, cross-institutional committee in 2009 until the time of my retirement, working with the trustee co-chairs to establish the agenda and schedule for the three to four meetings per year.
- Directed government relations efforts related to all JH Health System hospitals including JH Hospital, JH Bayview Hospital, Howard County General Hospital, Suburban Hospital, and Sibley Hospital in Washington D.C. Coordinated government relations efforts with JH All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg Florida and served on the External Affairs Committee of that hospital as an ex officio member.
- Until 2018 reorganization, directed the JH federal government affairs team to maximize Johns Hopkins' input into federal policy debates, including participation in meetings with members or senior staff of the Maryland Congressional Delegation.
- From 2009 to 2018, advised JH staff on development of positions on all federal issues facing the University and Health System, and ensured appropriate input from JH experts in various fields related to those issues. Issues included: national health care policy, Maryland specific health care policy issues (largely Maryland Medicare Waiver-related), tax policy affecting higher education and health care, immigration policy affecting universities, hospitals, other health care providers and patient groups, behavioral health issues including substance use disorders and opioids, population health, Medicare Advantage, DOD managed care (TRICARE), and DOD research.
- Directed state government affairs team to ensure comprehensive coverage of the entire breadth of Johns Hopkins issues at the state level in health care, higher education, labor

relations, capital projects and policies, and other issues. Met with presiding officers, committee chairs and cabinet members regarding matters of particular interest to JH leaders.

- Directed local government and community affairs teams to ensure comprehensive coverage of issues facing the University and Health System in the City of Baltimore, and in Baltimore, Howard, and Montgomery Counties.
- Oversaw and supported the internal and external outreach to develop the federally required JH Hospital's and JH Bayview Hospital's Community Health Needs Assessment and the community benefit program developed from that assessment.
- Coordinated numerous community programs and supports for the University and JH hospitals in the City. Oversaw and allocated the JHU and some JHHS funds used to support nonprofit community organizations in the City. Worked closely with advocates from other City hospitals and, in representing the largest health system in the City, played a leading role in negotiating the most recent two Baltimore City PILOT agreements.
- Ensured smooth working relationship with the State, City and other nonprofits in the revitalization of the 88 acres of property north of the Johns Hopkins East Baltimore campus (adjacent to the Amtrak line) known as "East Baltimore Development Incorporated" (EBDI), and recently renamed 'Eager Park", including advocating for state funding for that City-initiated project.
- Briefed Johns Hopkins Medicine Board of Trustees' External Affairs Committee. Participated in and provided briefings to JHU President's Cabinet meetings, JHM Executive Committee, JH School of Medicine Dean's Executive Staff meetings and JHM Operating Committee, and Johns Hopkins Health System's Corporate Staff meetings.
- Coordinated efforts to maintain local support for the maintenance of programs and further potential development of the JHU Montgomery County Campus and the JHU Belward property in Montgomery County.
- Served as coordinator and member of the Steering Committee of the Public Private Partnership (P3) of Johns Hopkins, UMMS and CareFirst with Baltimore City to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic, working with senior staff of the three organizations in weekly meetings and to coordinate efforts with City Health Department officials and the Mayor's Office. Also served as liaison with the Governor's Office and senior Health Department staff. The P3 allowed the private sector organizations to quickly and successfully respond to the City's needs and requests during the pandemic. When vaccines became available, the group refocused efforts to vaccine outreach in minority and hard to reach communities in the city.

DIRECTOR OF STATE AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

2005- 2009

Johns Hopkins Institutions

Baltimore, Maryland

- Directed the State governmental relations and lobbying efforts of the Johns Hopkins Institutions before the Maryland State Legislature, the Governor, Executive Branch Agencies, the Comptroller, the State Treasurer and the State Board of Public Works.
- Coordinated Johns Hopkins Institutions' legislative and regulatory agenda with various state-level advocacy organizations, such as the Maryland Hospital Association, the Maryland Independent College and University Association and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce.
- Successfully lobbied on behalf of JH leadership to change the State's planned location for the State Public Health Laboratory from a rural location to the East Baltimore Development Incorporated (EBDI) revitalization area in Baltimore City adjacent to JH Hospital.

- Secured \$3 to 4 million in capital funds for multiple JHU projects over the course of four years through the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA) capital program, in addition to securing multiple capital grants for JHHS community hospitals' capital projects through the MHA capital grant program. Successfully advocated to secure \$100 million in additional State capital funds for JH Hospital's New Clinical Towers (Bloomberg Children's Tower and the Sheik Zayed Hospital Tower in Baltimore City), an unprecedented sum for a purely private institution in Maryland.

CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF MARYLAND

Maryland General Assembly - House of Delegates

1994 - 2005
Annapolis, Maryland

- Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the Maryland General Assembly House of Delegates, Michael E. Busch (2002 -2005) and Casper R. Taylor, Jr. (1994 -2002). Chief counsel and legislative advisor to the House Leadership including the Speaker Pro Tempore, the Majority Leader, Majority Whip and Committee Chairs.
- Advised in the strategic planning and development of House Leadership initiatives. Advocated for and ensured the passage of House Leadership legislation in coordination with the Governor's senior staff, Cabinet Secretaries, the Senate President and Senate Committees.
- Worked directly with House leaders to develop and execute strategy for House action, floor debate, and Conference Committee work on major legislation, including the annual State Capital and Operating budgets.
- Responsible for joint oversight of \$55 million Maryland General Assembly budget. Provided direct management of staff in the Speakers Office and oversight of 300-person legislative staff agency, including professional legislative staff, human resources, print and media operations, information technology staff, and legislative auditors.
- At the direction of the Speaker and President, developed and executed plan for reorganization and merger of the three independent Maryland legislative staff agencies (Department of Fiscal Services, the Department of Legislative Reference and the Office of Legislative Data Processing) into a unified Department of Legislative Services in 1997.
- Worked with House Speaker, House Redistricting Chair, and Members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation and their key staff to develop strategy and produce a plan for the Redistricting of Maryland Congressional Districts following the 2000 Census.
- Major achievements included development and passage of legislation related to: Revitalizing Economically Distressed Areas with the "One Maryland" Economic Investment Programs; TEDCo (the State's quasi-public technology development agency); Development Smart Growth; Health Insurance and Regulatory Reform; Restructuring of K-12 Education Formulas; Restructuring of higher education funding goals; Brownfields Reclamation; Chesapeake Bay and Critical Areas Laws; and Electric Utility Restructuring.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL

House Economic Matters Committee

1993 - 1994
Annapolis, Maryland

- Provided non-partisan legal counsel to Committee Chairman and members with respect to all legislative matters within Committee jurisdiction, which included primarily: health insurance regulation; economic development; science and technology development; labor and workers' compensation matters; and the alcoholic beverage industry regulation.
- Drafted proposed legislation in various areas of Committee jurisdiction with primary focus on health insurance reform and regulation and economic development issues.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Department of Legislative Reference

1990 - 1993
Annapolis, Maryland

- Completed a series of three short-term (two to ten month) contracts serving as staffperson to the legislative support agency for the General Assembly of Maryland. Drafted legislation and amendments focusing on significant health insurance reform in the State as well as numerous pieces of insurance and environmental legislation.
- Major issues included comprehensive small group health insurance reform, including ban on pre-existing condition limitations, guaranteed issue of coverage for insurers in the small group market, and community rating.

ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Ministry of Health

MAY 1991 - AUGUST 1991
Prague, Czechoslovakia

- Assisted Minister of Health of the Czech Republic in developing a proposal for a Regional Public Health Center in Eastern Europe. Prepared a comprehensive analysis of the public health systems in Maryland and the United States as compared to the public health system in the Czech Republic.

UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER

*Fisheries Management Advisor/Professor of Law/
Acting Assistant Country Director Peace Corps*

1987 - 1989
Cameroon, West Africa

- Served as Peace Corp Volunteer in various capacities in Cameroon, West Africa, which required French language fluency.
- Position of Fisheries Management Advisor included working with Cameroonian government officials and a European Development Fund project to develop a comprehensive analysis of annual fish harvest in northern Cameroon and a strategy to increase and preserve long-term fish yield and minimize local deforestation.
- Professor of Law - served as instructor for one academic year at the University of Yaounde teaching English Common Law (Commercial Law and Torts) to undergraduate students.
- Acting Assistant Country Director for Rural Development - Served for three months as the Acting Director with oversight of programs including fish farming, lake fisheries management and credit unions.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL

House Environmental Matters Committee

1983 - 1987
Annapolis, Maryland

- Provided non-partisan assistance to Committee Chairman and members with respect to all legislative matters within Committee jurisdiction, which included environmental regulation, natural resources, Medicaid programs, hospital regulation and health professional occupations.
- Drafted proposed legislation in various areas of Committee jurisdiction with primary focus on environmental reform and health care regulation. Drafted Committee and Subcommittee amendments and provided advice and assistance in the passage of Committee legislation on the floor of the House of Delegates.

- Major legislative initiatives worked on included: Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Law; State ban of phosphates in detergents; and 1985/86 health regulatory system reforms.

PROGRAM ANALYST

1979 - 1980

*United States Department of Transportation, National Highway and Traffic Safety Adm.
Washington, DC*

- Prepared Regional Procedures Manual for the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration and researched various legal program issues.

EDUCATION

Master of International Management

August, 1992

American Graduate School of International Management (now part of Arizona State Univ)
Phoenix, Arizona

- International Finance Emphasis

Juris Doctor

May, 1982

University of Maryland School of Law

Baltimore, Maryland

- Admitted to the Maryland Bar - December, 1982 (inactive)
- Admitted to the District of Columbia Bar - May, 1983 (inactive)

Bachelor of Science in Zoology

May, 1978

University of Maryland, College Park

College Park, Maryland

HONORS & ACTIVITIES

MEMBER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MARYLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	2011 - 2021
HOST AND ORGANIZER, HOMEWOOD COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS, <i>Speaker</i>	2009 - 2018
Series held four times per year - Guest speakers have included Mayor Catherine Pugh, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake, City Solicitor and Former Circuit Court Judge Andre Davis, JHU President Ron Daniels	
PARTICIPANT, Greater Baltimore Committee Leadership Program	2016
MEMBER, MARYLAND INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION (IAC) APPOINTED BY SPEAKER MIKE BUSCH	2012 - 2016
PANELIST, World Health Executive Forum, Montreal, Canada -Subject: Understanding Political Advocacy for Health Care in the U.S.	2013
PARTICIPANT, Johns Hopkins University Leadership Development Program	2008
PANELIST, National Conference of State Legislatures/ABA - Presentation on Legislative Staffing, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for staff from Burkina Faso, Chad, Senegal and Cameroon	2000
PANELIST, National Conference of State Legislatures - National Meeting	1999
PRESENTER, Foreign Delegations to MD of Burundi, Ivory Coast, China, Nepal, India, Russia, and multi-regional delegations for USIA, Baltimore International Visitors Bureau, and other groups	1994-2005
CHINA DELEGATION MEMBER - American Council of Young Political Leaders	1998
PANELIST, Health Facilities Association of Maryland - Annual Meeting	1998
LAW CLERK, Asper Fellowship - U.S. District Court Judge Ramsey	1981
ARTICLES EDITOR, International Trade Law Journal - Univ. of MD Law School	1981

OTHER

Married to Victoria Gruber with two children, Benjamin Lewis (19 years) and William Lewis (17 years). Knowledge of French.