



Committee: Directly to Council
Staff: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council
Purpose: To interview
Keywords:

AGENDA ITEM #5
October 25, 2022
Action

SUBJECT

To interview and approve the appointment of the Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget, Montgomery County Government

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Mr. Joshua Watters

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Mr. Watters was appointed as Acting Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget on September 9, 2021. On May 3, 2022, the County Executive requested that the County Council approve the extension of this appointment until September 9, 2022, due to the upcoming election. On October 4, 2022 the County Executive transmitted the memorandum to appoint Joshua Watters for the position of Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Not applicable.

This report contains:

Memorandum from County Executive	© 1
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Candidate resume	© 5

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

October 4, 2022

TO: Gabe Albornoz, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive 

RE: Appointment of Deputy Director for Results, Office of Management and Budget

I am transmitting the appointment of Joshua Watters for the position of Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget. Mr. Watters is being appointed at a salary of \$175,000. His appointment will be effective upon confirmation by the County Council.

Enclosures

cc: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council, Montgomery County Council
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

APPOINTMENT

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

Joshua Watters

TO SERVE AS Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget.

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



MARC ELRICH
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

10/4/22

DATE



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

October 4, 2022

TO: Gabe Albornoz, President
Montgomery County Council

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

RE: Due Diligence on Non-Merit Appointment – Joshua Watters

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 warrants 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 Joshua Watters for appointment as Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget. In addition, Mr. Watters has filed his Financial Disclosure Statement.

cc: Judy Rupp, 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 Deputy Director for Results, Office of Management and Budget

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

The County Executive's appointment of Deputy Director for Results in the Office of Management and Budget

Joshua Watters

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

This is a correct copy of Council action:

Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council

JOSHUA A. WATTERS

PROFILE

Fiscal policy and budget management professional with over 18 years of progressively responsible experience in public-sector budget and fiscal policy development. I have extensive experience advising elected and appointed officials, as well as considerable analytical, communications, project management, and leadership skills with demonstrated expertise in complex budget issues and designing and implementing initiatives.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET **Rockville, MD**

Budget Manager (Manager II)

September 2019 – Present

Acting Deputy Director for Results

September 2021 – Present

- Coordinated overall development of the County Executive’s FY23 \$6.3 billion recommended operating budget and Public Services Plan, facilitating sufficient resource allocation for critical County priorities in the context of growing service demands and community need despite limited resources.
- Supervise a team of fiscal and policy analysts, supporting detailed and complex analyses of department budget requests, providing advice and instructions to analysts on both work-related and administrative matters.
- Ensure that fiscal policies and directives are implemented according to the framework established in County Charter, County Code, regulation, legal guidance, and according to County Executive and County Council expectations.
- Guide analysts in identifying funding options and developing recommendations for the County Executive’s consideration driven by data informed analysis, help them prepare presentations, and review department submissions to ensure that budgets are within approved parameters.
- Review and approve decision memoranda, analyses, reports, and position and procurement exemption requests prepared by analysts to ensure sound rationale for recommendations and consistency with policy.
- Review and approve all memoranda and resolutions amending the noncompetitive contract list and supplemental and special appropriations.
- Serve as Office Director in the Director’s absence to provide overall direction to the Office.
- Led interdepartmental efforts tracking disbursement of \$183 million in Coronavirus Relief Fund aid received under the Federal CARES Act.
- Represent the County Executive and OMB Director before Council on controversial and complex budget and policy matters.
- Served as the OMB representative on the County’s Contract Review Committee.

Management and Budget Specialist III

May 2016 – October 2016

Sr. Management and Budget Specialist

October 2016 – July 2017

Lead Fiscal and Policy Analyst

July 2017 – September 2019

- Led the analysis of budget requests from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); made funding recommendations to the County Executive, OMB

JOSHUA A. WATTERS

Director, and DHHS Director; and defended the County Executive's decisions before the County Council.

- Managed the County Executive's Community Grants program including the provision of training seminars for nonprofit applicants, reviewing grant applications, examining the benefit/cost ratio in providing funding to these organizations, assessing appropriate funding levels, and making recommendations to the County Executive. Coordinated the grants process with nonprofit organizations, departmental staff, and the County Council's Grants Manager.
- Steered OMB's work on the Positive Youth Development Initiative and Senior Initiative, facilitating meetings with multiple department directors to implement a cohesive approach to issues related to both youth and seniors; developing and presenting funding recommendations to the County Executive; and defending the County Executive's funding decisions before the County Council.
- Oversaw OMB's review of State legislation: assigning bills to analysts, reviewing and editing their responses, responding to requests for information from the County's Office of Intergovernmental Relations, and making recommendations for amendments to improve the legislation.
- Represented OMB on the Board of Directors for the Collaboration Council, the County's designated local management board for children, youth, and family services. As the Treasurer and Chair of the Board's Fiscal Committee, I influenced budgetary decisions for the organization.
- Made presentations to community groups and visiting foreign dignitaries seeking information on the County's budgeting process.
- Provided technical review of packets during the data integrity process, and proofread packets to ensure clarity and cohesion.

PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS, GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DIVISION Washington, DC

Senior Associate, Results First Initiative

September 2013 – May 2016

- The Results First Initiative is a program that works with states to implement an innovative evidence-based policymaking approach that helps them invest in policies and programs that are proven to work.
- Served as the lead consultant and policy advisor to six states on the development and implementation of evidence-based budgeting and policy-making systems.
- Managed the work of both in-house and contractual staff in providing technical, strategic, and communications assistance to partner jurisdictions.
- Advised high-level elected and appointed officials, including legislative leadership, legislative staff directors, state supreme court justices, cabinet-level secretaries, members of governors' staff, and agency directors, exerting considerable influence on government policy and operations.
- Developed implementation strategies and timelines for partner jurisdictions to create comprehensive program inventories, performance metrics, and benefit-cost analyses.
- Established and facilitated the work of the project's Budget and Policy Advisory Panel, an expert group comprised of active and former public-sector budget and policy directors from around the country and led the group in developing implementation plans for evidence-based budgeting.
- Developed communications strategies for internal and external stakeholder groups to interpret complex fiscal analyses for a lay audience.

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- Trained and mentored newer technical staff and policy analysts on how to implement evidence-based budgeting and policymaking in partner jurisdictions.
- Represented Pew at conferences, meetings, and other public events by giving addresses, leading speaker panels, and participating as a panelist before groups of up to and in excess of 150 people. Venues included government and committee hearings and briefings, national and regional conferences, and think-tank roundtable meetings.

MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY, DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES Annapolis, MD

Senior Policy Analyst / Lead Committee Analyst

December 2007 – September 2013

- Served as the lead committee analyst for the Maryland House of Delegates' Appropriations Committee, overseeing the work of a team of analysts in supporting the legislative and budgetary responsibilities of the Committee.
- Advised the Committee on creative ways to balance the State of Maryland's annual \$35 billion operating budget. Many recommendations were incorporated into the annual enacted operating and capital budgets.
- Advised the Appropriations Committee Chair and members of the committee on a variety of policy issues, including higher education, K-12 education, economic development, transportation, environment, public safety, State personnel, and capital budget issues. This advice helped shape State budget and policy actions, and subsequently State law.
- On behalf of the Committee Chair, liaised with State and local government officials, policy stakeholder groups, and organizations to investigate issues and the implications of budget and policy decisions.
- Drafted legislation and amendments to legislation, including language and narrative for the operating and capital budgets, State personnel issues, bills related to K-12 and higher education, and local government legislation.
- Managed projects and reviewed and edited reports and issue papers written by less senior analysts, checking for accuracy, coherence, and readability.
- Routinely presented, formally and informally, before legislative committees, subcommittees, caucuses, and visiting international delegations on public policy matters.
- Established and maintained productive working relationships with legislators, agency leadership, local government representatives, and stakeholder groups.

Policy Analyst

September 2004 – December 2007

- Analyzed the fiscal and policy implications of legislation, reviewed and summarized current law and legislation in plain language, and compiled it all in fiscal and policy notes, under very tight deadlines.
- Wrote in-depth reports and portions of reports on State budgetary matters and local government finances.
- Performed in-depth confidential research and composed correspondence for legislators and other officials on policy matters related to local government finance, transportation finance, and State personnel.

JOSHUA A. WATTERS

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Political Science

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, AL