



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 18, 2015

**CONTACT:**

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

[press@cityofchicago.org](mailto:press@cityofchicago.org)

**MAYOR EMANUEL ANNOUNCES CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CRAIG CHICO TO THE CHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; APPOINTS DR. BYRON BRAZIER TO THE CTA**

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today announced City Council approval of Craig Chico to serve on the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Board of Commissioners, the governing body that determines policies and resolutions of the CHA. Mayor Emanuel also announced the appointment of Dr. Byron Brazier to serve on the Chicago Transit Board, overseeing the nation's second-largest public transportation system.

"Throughout their careers, these individuals have demonstrated a tremendous commitment of service to the City of Chicago and its residents," said Mayor Emanuel. "Our new members and latest reappointments have been identified to play a key role in programs that will both that will both revitalize our communities, and improve the quality of life for residents in every neighborhood."

Chico is a longtime servant of Chicago, with years of community service to the Back of the Yards community as President of the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council (BYNC)—an organization dedicated to improving life for the residents of Back of the Yards Community through economic development and social service programming since 1939. In addition to his service to BYNC, Chico also serves on several community boards, and is a Chicago Public Schools graduate.

Dr. Brazier has been nominated to serve on the Chicago Transit Board for his lengthy career in public service to the Woodlawn community. In addition to his service on several boards, Brazier has been active in public safety reforms and advocacy with involvement in the Cook County Sheriff's Merit board, and various programs related to youth incarceration for the Cook County Judicial System. Most notably, he has served as pastor the Apostolic Church of God since 2008, succeeding his father, Bishop Arthur M. Brazier. Dr. Brazier is a graduate of Chicago Public Schools.

Juan M. Calderón of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center was confirmed by Council to serve the Chicago Low Income Housing Trust Fund Board, and former 31st Ward alderman Ray Suarez was appointed to the Illinois International Port District Board. In addition, the following appointments were introduced at today's meeting:

**Chicago Transit Board:**

- Alejandro Silva, Chairman, Evans Food Group, Ltd. (reappointment)
- Kevin Irvine, longtime transit accessibility advocate (reappointment)

**Chicago Public Library Board of Directors:**

- Barbara Bowman, Founder, Erikson Institute (reappointment)
- Josephine Gomez, Director, UNO Hector P. Garcia M.D. High School (reappointment)
- Chaka Patterson, Partner, Jones Day (reappointment)
- Denise Gardner, former President, Insights & Opportunities (reappointment)
- Linda Johnson Rice, Chairman, Johnson Publishing Company, LLC (reappointment)
- Lynn Lockwood, Creative, Non-profit, and Political Consultant (reappointment)

All board and commission appointments introduced today will be considered by the City Council at a later date.

# # #