STATEMENT OF MATTHEW W. DAUS

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS

April 14, 2010

Good morning Chairman Rivera and members of the Rules Committee. My name is Matthew Daus and I am honored to have been nominated by Mayor Bloomberg to serve as a Commissioner of the New York City Civil Service Commission.

I have been a public servant for 16 years, and I have enjoyed making a difference and helping people. The Commission does important work in ensuring that City employees and agencies are both treated fairly in decisions applying the Civil Service Law. The just resolution of employment and disciplinary decisions by management involving the City workforce is integral to agency morale and the delivery of quality services to the public.

I have over 16 years of experience in the civil service system, personnel management and compensation practices. I am an experienced employment lawyer who has represented the interests of both City employees and City agencies. I have been an attorney and member of the Bar for almost 18 years. I served as a Prosecutor for the New York City Human Rights Commission, advocating on behalf of the public interest where City employees charged agencies with discrimination, and actively promoted and participated in mediation programs to resolve these disputes. Thereafter, I served as General Counsel to two City agencies – the Community Development Agency (now known as the Department of Youth and Community Development) and the Taxi and Limousine Commission, where I was responsible for overseeing disciplinary actions against employees. With almost 9 years of experience as an agency head and Commissioner, I broadened my experience to all aspects of the hiring, personnel management and compensation practices of the civil service system in managing an agency of over 400 employees. In addition, I have authored legal articles and published extensively in the area of labor and employment law and mediation. I also attained a Masters of Law degree from New York University School of Law specializing in employment law.

The members of the Civil Service Commission serve in a quasi-judicial capacity to hear candidate, disciplinary and involuntary medical leave appeals. I have 14 years of experience supervising Administrative Law Judges and tribunals, and for almost 9 of those years I served in a quasi-judicial capacity deciding licensing and disciplinary cases on a daily basis.

I believe my experience renders me qualified to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission, and I welcome the opportunity to remain involved in public service for many years to come. I thank the Committee and the Speaker for considering my appointment, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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