

December 5, 2022

Chairman Mendelson,

I am writing this morning to urge you to support the confirmation of Director Karima Holmes. Director Holmes has an impressive academic resume and an extremely distinguished career that makes her more than qualified for this position.

I had the pleasure of working directly with Director Holmes during her first appointment to the Office of Unified Communications in 2015. She immediately brought much needed leadership to an office that had struggled to meet the public safety demands since its inception. Karima's professionalism, management style and no-nonsense approach to organizing an agency that serves more than a million residents and visitors was immediately effective and appreciated by the public safety partners.

Having served as the Chief of Police from 2007 through 2016, I can tell you that there are few things more important in effectively leading a government agency than continuity; having consistent leadership is crucial to fully identifying and rectifying systemic issues. Karima is the right person to finish the job she has started.

I urge you to swiftly move to confirm Director Karima Holmes as the Director of the Office of Unified Communications.

Cathy L. Lanier
Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department (Retired)