

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **LGBT COALITION ANNOUNCES MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS PROJECT Will Advocate for Openly Gay Appointments in the Next Mayoral Administration**

CHICAGO – A coalition of leading lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (“LGBT”) equality organizations and community leaders have announced a project to identify well-qualified openly LGBT candidates for positions in the next mayoral administration and to advocate for their appointments.

The **CHICAGO APPOINTMENTS PROJECT** is a collaborative effort between **Equality Illinois**, the **Human Rights Campaign**, the **Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute**, as well as community leaders, and seeks to recruit and engage qualified members of the LGBT community to serve the city of Chicago and the next Mayor. The Chicago Appointments Project has already established working relationships with the leading mayoral candidates and expects to work with transition teams as the next mayor of Chicago hires staff.

To learn more about the project and to submit your resume, go to [www.eqil.org/appointments.html](http://www.eqil.org/appointments.html).

All information submitted to the Chicago Appointments Project will remain confidential and will only be shared with the Mayor’s appointments team. Any applicant under consideration for employment will be contacted directly by the administration and not by the Appointments Project. The Appointments Project has no authority or official role with respect to hiring any personnel in the next Mayor’s administration. Participation in this program does not mean that the Project will recommend anyone for any position or that applicants will in any way be advantaged in the appointment or nomination process for any such position.

The Chicago Appointments Project is modeled after and builds upon the highly successful [Presidential Appointments Project](http://www.glli.org/programs/presidential) that has led to the appointment of more than 150 LGBT people in the Obama Administration. For more information about the Presidential Appointments Project, see <http://www.glli.org/programs/presidential>

Participating in the development of the Chicago Appointments Project are Bernard Cherkasov (CEO, Equality Illinois), John Barry (Member, Board of Directors, Human Rights Campaign); Debra Shore, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District; Tressa Feher (former staff member of the Victory Fund); Jim LoBianco (Executive Director, Streetwise); and Samir Luther (Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute).

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