#### **APPOINTMENT**

Approving the appointment of Lisa M. Coluatti to serve as a Member of the Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2008.

In Council 18 2006.

Read and approved by Motion of Council.

Kich Fitzgerald

President of Council

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John Mascio

**Chief Clerk of Council** 

2478-06

#### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



## County of Allegheny

101 COURTHOUSE ◆ 436 GRANT STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15219 PHONE (412) 350-6500 ◆ FAX (412) 350-6512

March 16, 2006

Honorable President and Members Allegheny County Council 119 Courthouse Pittsburgh, PA 15219

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

**106 MAR 16 AM10**:36

Dear Council Members:

Please find the attached resume of Lisa M. Coluatti, whom I am recommending for appointment to the Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee.

The Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations pertaining to the county children and youth social service program and the operation of the county agency. I am recommending that Ms. Coluatti serve a three year term to expire on December 31, 2008.

Ms. Coluatti currently serves as the Director of the Adoption Legal Services Project, a public interest law project designed to expedite adoptions for foster children in Allegheny County. Prior to this, Ms. Coluatti served as an Assistant County Solicitor for Allegheny County, and also has experience with the New Jersey Department of Human Services and the Juvenile Law Center.

I appreciate your consideration, and ask you to act on this appointment as quickly as possible. Ms. Coluatti will make herself available for review before the appropriate committee if members of Council wish to speak with her.

Sincerely

Dan Onorato

CC: Ms. Lisa M. Coluatti

#### Lisa M. Colautti

#### **Employment**

#### Adoption Legal Services Project, Pittsburgh, PA

Director, April 1996 – present

Created public interest law project designed to expedite adoptions for foster children in Allegheny County, PA. Wide-ranging duties include:

- Collaborate with pro bono volunteer attorneys from Reed Smith LLP, Allegheny County Court
  of Common Pleas, Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families and the
  Department of Public Welfare, StateWide Adoption Network (SWAN) to finalize termination of
  parental rights and adoption cases in court. The Adoption Legal Services Project (ALSP)
  was the first project of its kind in Pennsylvania.
- Provide legal and policy advice to child welfare and adoption professionals in Allegheny County and throughout the state.
- Present legal seminars at local, state and national conferences.
- Secure ongoing funding from SWAN, manage staff of five, handle all administrative and financial matters for ALSP.
- Assist SWAN in expanding adoption legal projects to a dozen counties in Pennsylvania.
- To date ALSP has worked with over 200 volunteer lawyers from Reed Smith to finalize adoptions for 810 children in the Pittsburgh area.

#### Allegheny County Law Department, Pittsburgh, PA

**Assistant County Solicitor**, 1993 – 1996

Represented and advised County human services agencies on various legal and policy matters including child abuse and neglect, guardianships for incapacitated persons, mental health commitments and confidentiality of case records. Practiced before the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, U.S. District Court, state appellate courts and administrative agencies.

### Hon. David W. Craig, President Judge, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA Judicial Law Clerk, 1991 - 1993

Conducted legal research and writing on a variety of cases before the Court, including workers' compensation, unemployment benefits, zoning, taxation, and state and local government appeals.

## New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Youth & Family Services, Trenton, NJ Legal and Policy Intern, 1990

Assisted the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs on a part-time basis. Drafted regulations, conducted research, and made recommendations on policies affecting children in New Jersey, including the purpose and scope of the agency, confidentiality and child abuse in institutions.

#### Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, PA

Director of Development, 1986 - 1987

Devised strategies to strengthen the Juvenile Law Center's presence and influence across Pennsylvania and nationally. Improved JLC's relationship with the media, government agencies and the philanthropic community.

#### Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, PA

Case Manager, 1985 - 1986

Coordinated and delivered legal and social services to abused and neglected children in Philadelphia. Contributed to ethical and strategy discussions with attorneys in individual cases and long-term reform projects. Prepared and distributed publications. Supervised student and community volunteers.

Lisa M. Colautti Page 2

#### Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Pittsburgh, PA

Research Assistant, Summers 1982 and 1983

Monitored and evaluated Conference education projects, aimed at encouraging private and corporate support of public education. Prepared and distributed publications. Served as administrative assistant to the Education Director.

#### Additional employment during school years included:

Webster and Sheffield, New York, NY, Summer Associate, 1989 Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, New York, NY, Legal Intern, 1988 – 1989 Legal Action Center for the Homeless, New York, NY, Legal Intern, 1988 Pittsburgh Zoo, Pittsburgh, PA, Zoo Aide, 1982

#### Education

#### New York University School of Law, New York, NY

J.D., May 1991

Honors: Root-Tilden-Kern Scholar

Member, Journal of International Law and Politics

Activities: Fundraising and Selection of Prospective Students, Root-Tilden Program

Law Students Civil Rights Research Council, Summer Grants Program

Staff Intern, American Civil Liberties Union

Performer and Producer, NYU Law Revue musical productions,

Summery Judgment, Phantom of the Law School and Framer vs. Framer

Semi-finalist, Orison S. Marden Moot Court Competition

#### Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

Masters of Public Administration, M.P.A., June 1991

Honors: Woodrow Wilson Graduate Fellowship to pursue joint-degree program

Field: Domestic Policy

#### Villanova University, Villanova, PA

B.A. Philosophy and B.A. Liberal Arts Honors Program,

Summa cum laude, May 1985

Honors: Presidential Scholar, 1981-1985. Full academic scholarship awarded to eight

incoming students.

Dean's List, 1981-1985.

Harry S. Truman Scholar from Pennsylvania, 1983. Four-year national scholarship awarded to college sophomores who have outstanding records, commitment to

public service and potential for leadership in public life.

Phi Kappa Phi, National Honors Society

Recipient of the Saint Thomas More Medallion for Academic Excellence in the Honors Program, 1985. Chosen as the graduating student with the highest

achievements in the Honors Program.

Activities: Honors Program Curriculum Committee

Coordinator, Honors Program Symposium on "Popular Culture"

Villanova Delegate to the 1984 Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference,

Annapolis, MD. Presented paper entitled "Opportunities for Political

Participation in the Soviet Union."

#### Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

Advanced Study in Russian Language, Special Student, 1983 – 1985

Initiated special academic exchange while attending Villanova University as a full-time student.

#### **Bar Admission**

Admitted, Pennsylvania 1991

#### **Professional and Community Activities**

Member, Allegheny County Bar Association
Member, ACBA Juvenile Law Committee
Member, Governing Board, CYF Family Mediation Project, 1997 - 2000
Circuit Secretary (board member), NYU Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarship Program, 1996 – 2000

#### **Performing Experience**

Choir Member and Soloist, St. Bede Church Choir, 1995 – present
Actor, singer and dancer in Villanova Theatre productions of <u>Godspell</u>, 1983. Original musical
<u>Whisper Rings</u>, 1984, <u>The Threepenny Opera</u>, 1985. <u>The Fantasticks</u>, 1986. <u>Sweeney Todd</u> and
<u>Lysistrata</u>, 1987.

Vocalist, liturgical ensemble "He Shall Be Peace," 1983 Liturgical musician, Villanova Campus Ministry, 1982 – 1984 Villanova University Women's Glee Club, 1981 – 1984

#### References

Available upon request.



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ROOM 119 • 436 GRANT STREET • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219 412.350.6490 • 412.350.6499 (FAX)

March 31, 2006

Lisa M. Colautti 7114 Card Lane Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Dear Ms. Colautti:

This is to inform you that an Appointment Review Committee Meeting has been scheduled for <u>5:00</u> <u>PM, Thursday, April 6, 2006</u> in Conference Room One, 119 County Courthouse.

Your presence has been requested to discuss your nomination for appointment to the Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact me at 412-350-6495.

Sincerely,

John Mascio Chief Clerk

Allegheny County Council

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JM/fb



## John defazio, at- large County of Allegheny

ROOM 119 • 436 GRANT STREET • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219 412.350.6516 • 412.350.6499 (FAX) JDEFAZIO@COUNTY.ALLEGHENY.PA.US

April 27, 2006

Lisa M. Colautti 7114 Card Lane Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Dear Ms. Colautti:

This is to inform you that at the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 18, 2006 Council approved your appointment to serve as a member to the Children Youth and Families Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2008.

Congratulations on your appointment and best of luck in this undertaking. We look forward to receiving your recommendations and stand willing to assist you in any way you believe appropriate.

Sincerely,

John DeFazio

At-Large Representative

JD/fb