



It is with great passion and enthusiasm that I respectfully ask for your support to become the councilmember for the great Ward 8 and to finish my late father's term on the council. I will continue the Barry tradition of being a fighter for dignity and respect for the poor, the elderly, and the forgotten. I have a strong heart, undying spirit, and passionate love for our community. I will stand tall for all residents of the District by expanding the middle class, defend the LGBTQ community by ensuring DC government are investing the resources in programs that work and have a commitment to reducing the rate of homeless LGBTQ youth, and make sure all of Ward 8 gets the very best.

As a small business owner for over 10 years managing manpower, money and materials, I've employed about 200 skilled and unskilled workers for construction projects around the city, but mostly in Ward 8 for the people of Ward 8. I employ people of many walks of life, including returning citizens, the homeless, recovering addicts, single mothers, and people with limited education. I give them the opportunity to work, earn, and find the strength in themselves to become entrepreneurs, care for their families, and rewrite their destinies. Knowing that some of my workers came from the LGBTQ community provided me with the direction and confidence to ensure an inclusive and fair work environment that focused on getting the work done and not who you love when you leave the work site.

I believe that, more often than not, the basic needs of our LGBTQ residents are identical to the basic needs of all residents, especially in Ward 8. Our Ward 8 communities have many Black LGBTQ residents who demand access to quality jobs in a work environment free of discrimination, access to affordable housing and affordable houses, support to obtain a quality and affordable education, and the ability to live in a safe and clean community without being stigmatized and victimized for being who you are. I believe there is a place for all of our city's residents, and that is what I will fight for every day as your councilmember.

I have a clear vision for our future and I possess the know-how to deliver results. I am committed to ensuring that the progress made for fairness and equality in the District is fully realized for all of the city's residents – no matter their sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, or socioeconomic status. One of the greatest lessons I learned from my father was that regardless of our own shortcomings, we must work hard for our people. He taught me that we have no choice but to dedicate our lives to make Ward 8 a better community for everyone, especially our LGBTQ residents. I have faced some of the same challenges that Ward 8 residents face everyday. Just like the people of Ward 8, I'm a survivor. We live and fight another day.