



City of Cleveland  
Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

FILE NO. 598-2024

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May 20, 2024

Honorable Blaine Griffin  
President, Cleveland City Council  
601 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44114

Honorable Joseph Jones  
Chair, Mayor's Appointment Committee  
601 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Council President Griffin & Appointment Committee Chairman Jones:

I am pleased to nominate Ms. Anastasia Elder for a seat on the Board of Trustees for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority to replace Calley Mersmann, who will be resigning her current seat on the Board to take a more direct role in transit planning and policy on behalf of the City of Cleveland. Included below are the seat details and term ending date. I respectfully request that this nomination be considered at your earliest convenience in an upcoming meeting of Cleveland City Council's Mayor's Appointment Committee.

**Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA)**

- Anastasia Elder—New appointment replacing Calley Mersmann; Term ending March, 2026

Additionally, a resume is attached for Ms. Elder. Any questions can be directed to Ryan Puente, Deputy Chief of Staff & Chief Government Affairs Officer, at (216) 664-3544 or via email at [rpunkte@clevelandohio.gov](mailto:rpunkte@clevelandohio.gov). Calley Mersmann will coordinate an introduction with Ms. Elder.

Sincerely,

**Justin M. Bibb**  
Mayor, City of Cleveland

# ANASTASIA A. ELDER

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## LICENSES

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**Bar Admission:** Ohio & the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

**Notary Commission:** Ohio

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## EDUCATION

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**Cleveland State University College of Law, 2018**  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Juris Doctor

**The Ohio State University, 2014**  
Columbus, Ohio  
Bachelor of Arts (English)

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## EXPERIENCE

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**UB Greensfelder LLP, Cleveland, Ohio**

*Associate, Business Litigation, September 2023 – Present*  
(Formerly known as Ulmer & Berne LLP)

- Conducts legal research and drafts pleadings and motions in state and federal courts and arbitration for analyzing a range of complex legal issues, including breach of contract, employment issues, etc.
- Drafts and responds to discovery requests and reviews discovery production

**Case Western Reserve University, Office of General Counsel, Cleveland, Ohio**

*Associate Counsel, November 2021 – September 2023*

- Advised departments with respect to student affairs, risk management, and employment matters, including policy/procedure, conduct/discipline, pre-litigation, agreements, and other issues
- Managed and supported university-wide projects through strategic planning, the development/improvement of processes, and collaboration with internal and external partners
- Drafted and reviewed contracts and other documents/correspondence
- Responded to subpoena requests and created/presented training

**The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio**

*Staff Attorney, Housing Group - Right to Counsel, June 2020- November 2021*

- Represented and defended tenants in eviction cases through all stages of litigation
- Drafted dispositive and post-judgment motions and discovery requests/responses; and conducted depositions
- Negotiated settlement agreements consistent with client goals
- Developed and maintained working relationships with community partners to address non-legal client needs

**Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Office of Nailah K. Byrd, Cleveland, Ohio**

*Legal Compliance Officer, April 2019 - May 2020*

- Evaluated existing operations by analyzing legal authority and conducting surveys to determine best practices
- Analyzed proposed legislation to determine the feasibility of implementation and impact on current operations
- Advised management on various HR matters and drafted disciplinary correspondence
- Revised forms for legal sufficiency, responded to record requests, and created training materials

**Cleveland Municipal Court, Cleveland, Ohio**

*Law Clerk & Mediator, May 2017- April 2019*

- Drafted legal memoranda on civil and criminal misdemeanor matters for judicial opinions and motions
- Mediated small claims disputes, conducted pretrial conferences, and observed trials

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## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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**Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, 3R's, 2015-Present; Member, 2019- Present.**

**Norman S. Minor Bar Association, Member, 2020-Present; Chair, 2022 & 2023 Trailblazer Fundraiser Gala.**

**College Now Greater Cleveland, Mentor, 2015- Present; AmeriCorps, 2014-2015.**

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Member, 2013- Present.**