

## **LIBERTY CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **ERIC CHEUNG**

Eric Cheung, Esq., is the Senior Attorney at Clean Air Council, a nonprofit environmental group headquartered in Philadelphia. For the past 5 1/2 years at the Council Mr. Cheung has served as both legal counsel and project coordinator for a number of clean transportation programs. Prior to working at the Council, Mr. Cheung was an Associate in the environmental group of Drinker, Biddle and Reath, a Philadelphia-based law firm. Mr. Cheung has volunteered extensively for both Liberty PA and Liberty City, in particular the 2004 and 2006 elections. For the 2004 and 2005 elections, Mr. Cheung also volunteered for the Delaware County Democrats as its attorney coordinator for Election Day monitoring. Mr. Cheung received his law degree from the University of Chicago in 2000 and is barred in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

### **SHERRIE COHEN**

Sherrie is an attorney with a general practice, and has been active in electoral, neighborhood and issue-based progressive politics since childhood. She currently serves as a committeeperson, cochair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Civil Rights Committee, Center for Progressive Leadership Fellow, co-initiator of International Women's Day 2008, and volunteer on the William Way Women's Programming Committee. Sherrie is proud of Liberty City's role in building our community's political power and looks forward to carrying on this great work

### **CASEY COOK**

Casey Cook began volunteering with Liberty City for Get Out The Vote and voter registration efforts in 2000. She has been a member of the endorsement committee since 2002 and has served on the board of directors since 2004. Casey first became interested in electoral politics when she volunteered for Bill Clinton's presidential campaign in 1992. She has volunteered for several local and national campaigns since then.

Casey is currently the executive director for a local public foundation that provides grants to grassroots organizations committed to advancing social justice through community organizing and direct action. Prior to that she served six years as the executive director for a local public health organization providing prevention services and advocacy for people at-risk for HIV. She has served on the boards of PennPIRG, Funding Exchange and Center for Responsible Funding. Casey is committed to progressive reform through grassroots movements for social justice and electoral organizing.

### **RENEE GILLINGER**

Renee Gilinger joined Liberty City in 1999, while working for Allyson Schwartz in her bid for US Senate. She immediately joined the endorsement committee, which she served on for about 2 years. Renee was the co-chair from 2002 – 200. Since 2002, she has implemented Liberty City's Election Day get out the vote program and currently chairs the GOTV committee. This is

considered to be one of the most aggressive and well-organized LGBT GOTV programs in the nation. Renee hopes to remain on the Board and head the GOTV committee.

### **MICHAEL HINSON**

Michael is the Founder and former Executive Director of The COLOURS Organization, Inc., a Philadelphia based non-profit social service organization targeting sexual and gender minority people of color. He is also the Co-Founder of Philadelphia Black Gay Pride, Inc. He has served on the Transition Teams for both Ed Rendell (Governor) and John Street (Mayor).

As an appointee of Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street, he served as an Assistant Managing Director for the City of Philadelphia and the Mayor's Liaison to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Communities for seven years. In this capacity, he was responsible for LGBT policy and program development for the Administration and its' Operating Departments. He Chaired the Sexual and Gender Minority Sub-Committee of the Mayor's Homeless Task Force.

He considers the addition of the "Gender Identity" protection to the City's Fair Practices Ordinance a major accomplishment of his work along with securing funding of the LGBT health clinic at the Mazzone Health and Wellness Center. Additionally, his work on the major policy changes instituted by the Department of Human Services (DHS) led to the funding of The Bethel Community, a LGBT housing facility for LGBT youth in the care of DHS.

As an appointee of former Health Commissioner, Estelle Richman, Michael served as a member and elected Co-Chair of the very first Philadelphia HIV Community Planning Group and the Philadelphia EMA HIV Commission, leading a body of fifty with the responsibility of disseminating over \$30 million dollars in critical AIDS funding. Recently, he helped to initiate the Independence Business Alliance (Philly's LGBT Chamber of Commerce) and served as an early supporter of the Philadelphia Gay Tourism Caucus. He holds memberships in the NAACP, where he has also served as the Treasurer of the Philadelphia chapter, Liberty City Democratic Club, Stonewall Democrats, the ACLU and OUTFRONT on whose Board of Directors he serves and is a founding member. He also serves on the Boards and/or Advisory Boards of The ELEONE Dance Theater, The Smoke, Lilies And Jade Arts Initiative, The Light Brigade Color Guard, The Delaware Valley Legacy Fund, and The Black Gay Men's Leadership Council of which he is a co-founder.

### **RUE LANDAU**

Rue Landau is an attorney with Community Legal Services where she specializes in landlord-tenant law with a focus on public and subsidized housing. She has been a member of Liberty City since 1997 and a member of the Endorsement Committee since 1998. She has been a cochair of the Board since 2007. Over the past fifteen years, Rue has

worked on numerous political campaigns and has served on the boards of the Women's Medical Fund, Bread and Roses Community Fund, OutFront, and her neighborhood civic association. She is an active member of the Philadelphia Bar Association where she served as co-chair of the Municipal Court Committee and as a member of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention from 2005-2007.

### **CATHY LIBERTZ**

Cathy Libertz is a lifelong Philadelphia resident. She has an undergraduate degree in Communications and a Masters of Public Administration. Cathy has been working for the Federal Government for over 18 years. She is currently the Director of State and Congressional Relations for the Mid-Atlantic office of the United States Environmental Protection Agency which covers 6 states, including Pennsylvania. Cathy has also worked for city and county governments, including an assignment as staff to Mayor Rendell's Environmental Cabinet.

### **MICAH MAHJOUBIAN**

Micah Mahjoubian has over 15 years of political experience having worked on dozens of campaigns in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania. In the summer of 1999, he was the first openly gay employee hired to work on the mayoral campaign of John F. Street where he served as the Deputy Finance Director. The following January, Micah began working for the Street Administration in the Mayor's Office of External Affairs. In 2003, he left city government to work as the Operations Director of the Mayor's re-election campaign. The following year he returned to the administration as Deputy Secretary of External Affairs where he managed all of the City's affairs on the state level. Additionally, he was asked to serve as the Operations Director of the Mayor's Gaming Advisory Task Force in 2005. In 2007, Micah served as the Operations Director of Congressman Chaka Fattah's mayoral campaign. Micah has been an active member of Liberty City since 1998. He has been a member of the endorsement committee since 2000 and served on the board of directors in 2003 and 2007.

### **RAY MURPHY**

Ray joined Liberty City in 2003 because he wanted to get more involved in working for change at the local level. He has served on the Endorsement Committee ever since. He works full-time as a grassroots/political organizer. In 2004, he served as the Philadelphia coordinator for [MoveOn.org](http://MoveOn.org), and in 2005 he founded Philadelphians Against Santorum (PAS) where he organized over 900 volunteers to turn out new, young, and infrequent voters in the 2006 election cycle. PAS worked closely with LibertyPA in a successful effort to defeat Rick Santorum. Ray has been co-chair of Liberty City since the summer of 2007 and also serves as the co-editor of [YoungPhillyPolitics.com](http://YoungPhillyPolitics.com) and is a steering committee member of Philly for Change. Ray currently works for a national political organization.

### **MATTHEW WOODCOCK**

Matthew Woodcock has been a member of the Liberty City Board member since 2002 and has been a member of the endorsement committee since then. Matthew has co-chaired the committee with Ann Butchart for several years before taking the reigns as chair for the last two election cycles. He currently serves as the Board Secretary and in that capacity he keep the minutes of all meetings and maintains the Liberty City website.