



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

May 20, 2026

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Ms. Yvette Smith to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2031. Ms. Smith's current term expires on June 30, 2026.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Smith is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon her, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Yvette Smith
Commission: Board of Animal Services Commissioners
End of Term: 6/30/2031

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** Female
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 15 - Harbor
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:**
7. **Occupation/profession:** Retired, Animal Control Officer, City of Los Angeles
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission:**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Smith, Yvette	Harbor	15	Caucasian	F	6/30/2026
McBeth-Featherstone, Alison	Central	10	African American	F	6/30/2029
Sardisco, Theresa	Harbor	15	Latinx/Caucasian	F	6/30/2028
Garcia, Olivia	Central	5	Latinx	F	6/30/2027
Kasendorf, Alexander	South Valley	6	Caucasian	M	6/30/2025

Yvette Smith

Retired Animal Control Officer with Leadership Experience

SUMMARY

My goal is to become an Animal Services Commissioner so I may improve our Animal Care Center system. I worked for the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services as an Animal Control Officer for almost 18 years, with 32 years of experience including service at other agencies. I always enjoyed working with animal owners, providing them with the information and resources necessary to be responsible owners. I understand the challenges of balancing public safety and humane concerns. It is paramount that we keep our employees and the public safe while providing humane living conditions for the animals in our care. I have attended several Animal Services Commission meetings, and I think there is a need for a commissioner that understands the operation and job functions of the shelter system. Clerical, medical, and kennel staff as well as volunteers look to Animal Control Officers for leadership. I have used mediation and communication skills to mitigate interpersonal and stressful encounters in our shelters. I recently retired, after proudly working as an Animal Control Officer for 32 years. I want to continue to serve the citizens and animals of the City of Los Angeles as an Animal Services Commissioner.

WORK HISTORY

Animal Control Officer, City of Los Angeles | 2005-2023-Retired

During the nearly 18 years I worked for the City of Los Angeles as an Animal Control Officer, I was assigned to the Animal Cruelty Task Force (ACTF) and have also had assignments as an Animal Control Officer at the Harbor, West Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, and North Central Animal Care Centers. I was an active member of the Specialized Mobile Animal Rescue Team (SMART). And I accepted an Emergency Appointment Lieutenant position, supervising field services at the Harbor and South Los Angeles Animal Care Centers.

Additional work detail:

- Worked on the ACTF in partnership with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Investigated serious crimes against animals such as dog fighting, felony animal cruelty, and cockfighting. Reviewed potential criminal cases for all six Animal Care Centers. Worked closely with the City Attorney's Office on complicated criminal filings.
- Performed technical animal rescues with SMART, such as animals over cliffs, under houses, stuck in trees, stuck in mud, etc. These rescues required coordination with a vast array of departments such as the LAPD Airship, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Mammal Rescue, Street Services, Department of Water and Power, etc.
- Supervised 13 officers at South Los Angeles, submitted Administrative Citations, prepared Dangerous Animal hearings, and conducted barking dog meetings as an Emergency Appointment Lieutenant.
- Enforced codes for animal related laws of the local municipal code and California Penal Codes.
- Led investigation of animal neglect, animal cruelty, dangerous animals, dog bites, and permit violations.
- Responded to service calls for injured, sick, or aggressive stray animals at large.
- Enforced leash violations, dog licensing, and animal distance complaints.

Animal Control Officer, City of Redondo Beach | 1994-2005

As an Animal Control Officer with the City of Redondo Beach I worked closely with the City Prosecutor on humane and neglect criminal cases. I was a founding member, along with two Redondo Beach Police Officers, of the Cleo Fund which paid the veterinary bills of over 300 stray animals that required medical treatment. I provided humane education programs to school children and youth groups as well as Postal Service employees.

Animal Control Officer, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA, Hawthorne) | 1991-1994

I began as a volunteer at the Hawthorne Animal Shelter. I became a Kennel Attendant after three months as a volunteer. I was responsible for the care and feeding of the animals in the shelter, working all three shifts (day, grave and swing). I was promoted to Animal Control Officer after six months as a Kennel Attendant. During my time as an Animal Control Officer the SPCALA had animal control contracts with Hawthorne, Gardena, Lawndale, Lomita, El Segundo, Torrance, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, and Palos Verdes Estates.

Military Service, United States Naval Reserve | 1985-1991

I joined the Navy Reserve when I was 17 years old. I performed my monthly weekend and yearly two-week duties in Pennsylvania, Long Beach, Virginia, and San Diego. I received an Honorable Discharge after six years of service.



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

May 20, 2026

Dear Ms. Smith:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you of your appointment to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2031, subject to confirmation by the Los Angeles City Council.

On behalf of the people of Los Angeles, thank you for your willingness to serve. Our boards and commissions are a vital part of the City's governance, and your leadership and expertise will play an important role in shaping the future of Los Angeles.

To move forward, there are a few steps you must complete prior to the Council's consideration of your appointment. My Commission Affairs team has prepared an attached checklist with deadlines and submission instructions, and they are available to support you throughout the confirmation process.

Once again, congratulations, and thank you for your commitment to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment I
Ms. Yvette Smith
May 20, 2026

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days of appointment:

- Submit the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org **OR** mail them to:
 - Office of the Mayor
 - Attn: Luz Portillo
 - 200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
 - Los Angeles, CA 90012
 - Remuneration Form
 - Undated Separation Letters (2)
- Schedule a fingerprinting appointment to complete your background check.
 - The Commissions team will connect you with the Personnel Background Unit.
- Complete and file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700).
- Submit the CEC Form 60 (Ethics Clearance Form) to the City Ethics Commission.
 - The City Council cannot act on your nomination until the Ethics Department receives and submits your filings.
 - Note: you will be required to submit the same forms again after you are sworn in

II. Council Member Meetings:

You may be asked to meet with Councilmembers prior to your hearings.

- Your City Councilmember Tim McOsker
- Councilmember Ysabel J. Jurado, Chair of the Council Committee, considering your nomination

III. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee Hearing
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.
- Full Council Hearing and Oath of Office
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.

V. Standing Requirements

- Notify the Commissions team of any changes in address or contact information.
- If you wish to resign, you must submit a resignation letter to myr-commissions@lacity.org.