

March 4, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Strong Support of Shalanda Young for OMB Director by Black Organizations

Dear President Biden:

As organizations that serve Black communities, we take great pride in strongly encouraging you to nominate Shalanda D. Young to serve as Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget. Ms. Young's expertise on the federal budget, strategic mind, and ability to work across party lines will be invaluable assets in crafting and implementing budgets designed to meet the challenges of this historic moment.

As a U.S. House Appropriations Committee staffer for more than fourteen years, Ms. Young is an appropriations expert whose vast knowledge of the federal spending process will be critical as we work to ensure a speedy and equitable recovery from the pandemic. As you know, Ms. Young joined the House Appropriations Committee in 2007 and was eventually elevated to be staff director in 2017.

During her tenure as staff director, Ms. Young earned bipartisan respect in both chambers, and her service has been highly regarded as successful by both Members and staff. Her expertise, leadership, and ability to work with others helped to resolve various challenges, including a 35-day government shutdown and congressional passage of several pieces of legislation responding to the pandemic.

We appreciate that you previously recognized the strengths of Ms. Young in nominating her to serve as OMB Deputy Director, and now that Neera Tanden has withdrawn her nomination, we trust that you will nominate Ms. Young to serve as OMB Director. Ms. Young has been thoroughly vetted and she has received excellent reviews from both Democratic and Republican Senators. Ms. Young was the first African American to serve as House Appropriations staff director, and if nominated and confirmed she would be the first woman of color to serve as OMB Director.

This is a critical moment in the history of our nation. We have an opportunity to "Build Back Better" during our recovery from the pandemic and in our attempts to address racial inequality. Your Administration's stated goals are most effectively advanced by nominating Shalanda Young to serve as Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

A. Philip Randolph Institute

Black44

African American Mayors Association

Black Economic Alliance

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Black Girl Magic Network

Black Voters Matter Fund	National Black Worker Center (NBWC)
Black Women for Biden-Harris	National Council of Negro Women
Black Women for Positive Change	National Organization of Black County Officials, Inc. (NOBCO)
Community Change	
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation	National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.	
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies	National Urban League
MetroMorphosis	Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity
NAACP	Southern Rural Black Women's Initiative
National Action Network (NAN)	The Links, Incorporated
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO)	The Power Coalition for Equity & Justice
National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC)	Washington Government Relations Group
	#WinWithBlackWomen Network