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Agenda Item V. 1. May 14, 2026

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**APPOINTMENT OF LANCE A. POLIVY TO THE POSITION OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
AND SECRETARY/VICE PRESIDENT FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION**

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**WHEREAS**, the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (the “Corporation”) is a public benefit corporation empowered by Title 35 of Article 8 of the New York Public Authorities Law to carry out the operation, maintenance, and development of Roosevelt Island; and

**WHEREAS**, Lance A. Polivy is the candidate for the position of General Counsel and Secretary/Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Corporation and is qualified to serve as General Counsel and Secretary/Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the President/Chief Executive Officer proposes the appointment of Lance A. Polivy to the position of General Counsel and Secretary/Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section 1(b) of the Corporation’s By-Laws provides that the General Counsel shall be appointed or hired by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of or in consultation with the President/CEO; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors has reviewed and found satisfactory the qualifications and experience of Lance A. Polivy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION, AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. that Lance A. Polivy is hereby appointed as General Counsel and Secretary/Vice President for Legal Affairs of the Corporation at an annual salary of not more than \$230,000.00 for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2027;
- Section 2. that the President/Chief Executive Officer is authorized to take such actions and/or execute such instruments as he deems necessary to effectuate the foregoing contingent upon the state background check for Lance A. Polivy; and
- Section 3. that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

# LANCE A. POLIVY

New York, NY



## **OBJECTIVE**

Experienced New York City government attorney – former litigation associate and U.S. District Court clerk – with a passion for developing and advancing solutions to complex problems through collaboration, creativity, and a keen attention to detail; seeking a position that leverages my prior project management, government relations, and public policy work on a team with ambitions to build complex projects and programs to strengthen local communities.

## **EXPERIENCE**

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**, New York, NY

*General Counsel*, June 2022 – Present

*Co-Acting Chief of Staff*, February 2025 – Present

- Partner with the Commissioner and senior staff to determine agency priorities. Execute key initiatives from the idea stage to project completion by developing the strategy, keeping government partners aligned on goals, and coordinating across internal teams to deliver results for arts and culture institutions across New York City. Develop strong relationships with other City agencies to help cultural institutions navigate challenges they confront while interacting with the City.
- Advise the Commissioner, senior staff, and all agency divisions on legal issues related to capital construction projects, real estate matters for nonprofits operating on City-owned property, contracts with artists, the City's Conflicts of Interest Laws, relevant legislation, and HR/employment law. Manage the Legal Unit, currently consisting of two additional agency attorneys.
- Draft and negotiate legal agreements for City-funded capital projects at arts and culture nonprofits, including: use restrictions for the improvements, subordination agreements, grant agreements, and license/lease agreements. Interface with City construction agencies to ensure timely execution of these ongoing capital projects.
- Drafted (and took all required steps to promulgate) an agency rule related to procedures governing a \$50mm annual grant program for arts and culture nonprofit organizations.
- Represent the agency during regular oversight hearings before the City Council.

**NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**, New York, NY

*Senior Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of the General Counsel*, February 2022 – June 2022

*Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel*, May 2019 – February 2022

- Advised Members of the City Council on various legal issues, including: regulatory litigation, investigations, ethics, parliamentary procedure, and advice and consent of appointments.
- Supervised outside counsel in litigation matters challenging City laws. Drafted and revised sections of briefs for cases involving constitutional challenges to Local Laws. Appeared in state court on behalf of a Council Member on discovery motions. Defended a Council Member's deposition.
- As Parliamentarian of the City Council, made determinations regarding procedural questions during meetings in which the full Council debated and voted on proposed local laws and resolutions. Led the process to determine the procedural steps to conduct Council business virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the return to in-person proceedings.
- Responded to all subpoenas served on the City Council, including negotiating the scope of subpoenas, and document review. Prepared and defended City Council witnesses.
- As Counsel to the Rules Committee, vetted candidates for appointment to certain City boards and offices, and prepared Council Members for confirmation hearings to consider those candidates.

**PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON, & GARRISON**, New York, NY  
*Associate*, May 2017 – April 2019; September 2013 – April 2016  
*Summer Associate*, May – July 2012

- Represented private sector and *pro bono* clients in complex civil and criminal litigation in federal and state courts and conducted internal and government investigations.
- Interviewed witnesses, reviewed documents, and prepared client memoranda in connection with internal investigations. Drafted presentations to regulators and collaborated with clients on strategic responses to regulator inquiries.
- Drafted briefs and sections of briefs in various civil and criminal matters, including motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, and discovery motions.
- Managed large-scale discovery projects, including overseeing teams of reviewers, meeting and conferring with opposing counsel, and drafting memoranda concerning key documents.
- Gained experience in various *pro bono* matters including: taking depositions, arguing motions in trial and appellate courts, taking direct and cross-examination of witnesses, and negotiating settlements.

**THE HONORABLE ROBERT W. SWEET**, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York  
*Law Clerk*, April 2016 – April 2017

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY’S OFFICE, EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**, Brooklyn, NY  
*Legal Intern, Narcotics Section*, Summer 2011  
*Legal Intern, Business and Securities Fraud Section*, Fall 2011

## **EDUCATION**

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, New York, NY  
Juris Doctor, May 2013

Honors: Dean John Sexton Prize—graduation award for exemplary service to the Law School community

*Journal of Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law*, Symposium Editor

Activities: Student Bar Association, President

**BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW**, New York, NY  
Matriculated August 2010 – May 2011

Honors: *Cardozo Law Review*; Dean’s Distinguished Scholar (awarded to top 10% of class, highest class ranking)

**CORNELL UNIVERSITY**, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY  
Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and History, May 2008

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

Admitted to the New York Bar (March 2014), Second Circuit Court of Appeals, SDNY, EDNY, and NDNY

## **VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP/AWARDS**

NYU Law School Alumni Association, President (2022-2025)

Cornell University Council, Member (2018-2022; 2024-Present)

Cornell Class of 2008 Alumni Class Council, Co-President (2023-Present)

Cornell University College of Arts & Sciences Career Connections Committee, Law Team Member (2018-Present)

Sanctuary for Families, 2020 Above & Beyond Award Recipient (for *pro bono* representation of client while at Paul, Weiss)