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**Thomas Convenes Oversight Hearing on DPR Personnel Practices**

*Hearing is Recessed Until Friday, December 19, 2008 Due to Lack of Agency Witness*

**Washington, DC**—Ward 5 Councilmember Harry “Tommy” Thomas, Jr., Chair of the Council’s Committee on Libraries, Parks and Recreation, convened a hearing today on DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) personnel practices in response to complaints from agency workers regarding pay inequities, inconsistent disciplinary actions, and questionable drug testing policies.

Councilmember Thomas recessed the hearing until Friday, December 19, 2008 to afford DPR Director Clark Ray additional opportunity to testify before the Committee regarding agency personnel practices. Mr. Ray nor any other agency representative attended the hearing today.

“It is important that our District agencies appropriately apply and enforce personnel rules and regulations,” said Councilmember Thomas. “The complaints my office has received from DPR workers indicate oversight regarding personnel practices is invaluable to building a first-rate workforce in our city.”