

Application to Serve on the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission

This is your application to serve as a Commissioner on the County of San Diego's 2020-2021 Independent Redistricting Commission.

Read the tips below to
make sure your
application is complete.

Elidia

First Name

Dostal

Last Name

Make sure you have all the pages.

There are nine (9) total pages that make up this application, including this page. The pages are numbered in the bottom right corners.

Initial the top right corner of pages 2-9 in the "Initial Here" box. This will make sure your application stays together.

Print clearly and legibly or type your application. Doing so will speed up processing time. Unclear handwriting may cause delays.

Don't know if you're eligible to serve on the County's Redistricting Commission? Among other requirements, you must be a registered voter in San Diego County to serve on the Commission. See page 3 for more details.

Questions? Learn more at www.sandiegocounty.gov/redistricting or redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov.

This application must be received no later than Friday, July 31, 2020, at 5 p.m. See page 9 for submittal instructions.



Application Timeline

July 31, 2020	Applications must be received by the San Diego County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than 5 p.m.
August 26, 2020	From the pool of qualified applicants, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will post the names of the 60 most qualified applicants. The names will be posted online for at least 30 days.
October 13, 2020	The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will conduct a random drawing of the qualified applicants at the Board of Supervisors meeting to select eight Commissioners.
October 22 and November 5, 2020	The selected eight Commissioners will meet to choose the remaining six Commissioners from the remaining pool of qualified applicants.

Important Things to Know

- The questions in this application ensure you are eligible to serve on the Commission.
- Answer the questions to the best of your ability.

A. Tell us About Yourself

First Name: Elidia

Last Name: Dostal

Address (where you are registered to vote)

Street Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

State: [REDACTED]

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address (if different than the address listed above)

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Contact Information

Phone 1: [REDACTED]

Type: Home

Phone 2: [REDACTED]

Type: Mobile

E-mail: [REDACTED]

B. How This Application Will Be Used

I understand the contents of this application may be made available to the public.

☒ Yes, I
understand

I understand that while this application is a public document, my personal e-mail address, street address, and phone number(s) will be kept confidential to the extent authorized by law.

☒ Yes, I
understand

C. Questions to Determine Eligibility

Government Code section 21550 sets forth certain qualifications to serve on this Commission. Please check the appropriate box for each question. Applicants may be asked to verify and update information at various points in the process.

1. Are you a resident of the County of San Diego? ☒ Yes ☐ No

2. Which supervisorial district do you live in? ☒ 1
If you're not sure, visit www.sandiegocounty.gov, click on "Find My District" under the Board of Supervisors, and enter your address in the top right of the web page. ☐ 2
☐ 3
☐ 4
☐ 5

3. Which political party are you currently registered?
☒ Democratic ☐ Republican ☐ American Independent ☐ Green ☐ Libertarian
☐ Peace and Freedom ☐ Other: _____
☐ I am not registered with a political party (non-partisan)

4. Have you been continuously registered to vote in the County of San Diego with the same political party preference or with no political party preference and have not changed your political party preference for at least five years? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If you're not sure, you can check your voter registration at www.sdvote.com.

5. Have you voted in at least one of the last three statewide elections immediately preceding your application to be a member of the Commission? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanatory Notes: If necessary, you may further explain answers to the questions above.

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6. Within the 10 years immediately preceding the date of this application to the Commission, have either you, or an immediate family member, done any of the following? For purposes of these questions, immediate family members means a spouse, child, in-law, parent, or sibling.

You are not eligible to serve on the Commission if you answer "Yes" to any of the following:

- a. Been appointed to, elected to, or have been a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego, including as a member of the Board of Supervisors. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- b. Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, an elected representative at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- c. Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party or as an appointed member of a political party central committee. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Been a registered federal, state, or local lobbyist ☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanatory Notes: If necessary, you may further explain answers to the questions above.

D. Experience Qualifications

State law requires candidates demonstrate experience in areas related to redistricting. Please provide responses to the following questions.

1. What experience do you possess that demonstrates analytical skills relevant to the redistricting process and voting rights, and demonstrates your ability to comprehend and apply the applicable state and federal legal requirements?

I graduated from Yale Law School in 2002 and practiced law as an associate at the San Diego office of Latham & Watkins from 2002-2009. At Latham, I gained significant experience in complex transactional and litigation matters before federal and state courts and administrative agencies. My pro bono work included analysis of criminal files for factual innocence, formation of non-profit organizations, preparation of Holocaust Reparation applications, legal assistance for wildfire victims, and immigration bond hearings. I drafted briefs filed in federal and state courts and worked closely with technical experts in administrative and litigation matters to draft agency submissions, expert reports, and declarations that clearly convey complex technical issues, meet regulatory and legal requirements, and are sensitive to tribal and other community stakeholders' concerns.

I opened my solo practice, the Law Offices of Elidia C. Dostal in 2010, then became a partner in the boutique law firm Vanst Law LLP in 2018, where I continue to practice law as a transactional and regulatory compliance attorney.

Prior to law school, I was a California Franchise Tax Board income tax auditor and protest hearing officer from 1996 to 1999. As a field auditor, I analyzed C-corporation and personal income tax returns for compliance issues. As a hearing officer, I resolved protested tax audits through oral hearings with taxpayers and their representatives, and researching and summarizing the facts, law, analysis, and resolution in written opinions provided to the taxpayer and auditor. I also provided assistance to the Legal Department for cases on appeal to the State Board of Equalization.

Thus, since graduating from college in 1996, I have spent my entire career analyzing state and federal law, and applying that law to the facts.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

2. What experience do you possess that demonstrates an ability to be impartial?

As a Protest Hearing Officer at the California Franchise Tax Board, I was in a quasi-judicial position in which I was required to hold a hearing with the taxpayer to resolve the taxpayer's protest of the auditor's proposed assessment. Although I was an employee of the Franchise Tax Board, my job was not to affirm the proposed assessment, but to impartially analyze the audit file and the law to determine whether to affirm, withdraw, or revise the auditor's proposed assessment.

As an attorney providing regulatory counsel to my clients, I must impartially analyze the law to ensure that my clients are in compliance to avoid potential liability.

I understand the importance of redistricting and that meaningful boundaries must be drawn in compliance with the law. Only if redistricting is done fairly and impartially will communities have equal access to political representation and the ability to elect representatives of their choice.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

3. What experience do you possess that demonstrates an appreciation for the diverse demographics and geography of the County of San Diego?

The rich diversity of our state and of San Diego County is reflected within the microcosm of my own family. I am the youngest of six siblings, comprising both Democrats and Republicans. Our father was a naturalized U.S. citizen who emigrated from Mexico in the 1950s, and our mother was born in New Mexico, of Navajo descent. Our extended family of in-laws includes persons of Filipino descent, Mexican descent, German descent, and Czech descent. I was raised in a low-income family, and am now fortunate enough to be a part of the upper middle-class. My family, friends, and colleagues represent a broad range of economic levels, education levels, and ethnic and racial demographics.

I have been a member of, and/or participated in, diverse bar associations in San Diego, including:

Lawyers Club, including the Diverse Women Committee
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego
South Asian Bar Association

I have volunteered at San Diego County schools serving diverse communities, including:

KIPP Adelante Preparatory Academy
Board Member 2005-2009; President of the Board 2007-2008

I was a volunteer tutor and board KIPP Adelante, a public charter school serving Barrio Logan students in grades 5-8. KIPP Adelante's student population is over 90% Hispanic or Latino, and over 90% eligible for free or reduced price lunch. During my tenure on the board, KIPP Adelante was a California Distinguished School, and the only California school to receive the National Title I Distinguished School Award in 2007, for closing the achievement gap.

Crawford High School:
Crawford Academy of Law Mentor 2018-present

I serve as a mentor to students in the Crawford Academy of Law program, in which attorneys meet monthly (pre-COVID 19) with students during the school day. We work with students on researching and applying to colleges, interview skills, and goal-setting.

Minority enrollment at Crawford High School is 98% of the student body (majority Hispanic and Black), and 96% are eligible for free or reduced price lunch. Most of the students I work with are children of immigrants or immigrants themselves, from Mexico and from various countries in Africa, and many are English language learners.

Oak Park Elementary School
Rolling Readers 2014

I volunteered weekly as a reader in first and second grade classrooms. Minority enrollment at Oak Park is 98% of the student body (majority Hispanic and Asian), and 85% are eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

E. Demographic Information

Providing this information is optional. You may select "decline to state" for each answer. Elections Code section 21550(g)(2) requires six of the 14 appointees, in addition to meeting minimum requirements, be chosen in a way that ensures the Commission reflects the County's diversity, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity. However, formulas or specific ratios shall not be applied for this purpose.

1. Please describe your ethnic origin. Mark one or more boxes.

- ☐ BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN: All persons having origins in any of the original Black racial groups of Africa.
- ☒ HISPANIC/LATINO: All persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- ☐ ASIAN: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- ☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN/OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- ☐ AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintain cultural affiliation or community recognition.
- ☐ WHITE (not of Hispanic Origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.
- ☐ Prefer to Self-Describe: _____
- ☐ Decline to state

2. What is your date of birth? ☐ Decline to state

3. Select the gender you identify as:

- ☒ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Decline to state

F. Signature

By signing below, I declare under penalty of perjury that the answers provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

First Name: Elidia

Last Name: Dostal

Signature: _____

Date: 07/30/2020

G. Submittal

Completed applications must be received by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than Friday, July 31, 2020 at 5 p.m. Double check your answers in the application; once submitted, applications cannot be amended. Remember that you must answer all questions on this application to be considered for the Commission. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Option 1: Mail or drop off the signed paper copy of your completed application to:

County of San Diego
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Redistricting Commission
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402
San Diego, CA 92101-2471
(619) 531-5434

Postmarks are not accepted. Applications must be received by the Clerk of the Board by the due date.

Option 2: E-mail your completed application.

Ensure the application is signed, then e-mail the application to:
redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Applications must be received by Friday, July 31, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.