

# 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.

Martin

First Name

Machniak

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](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/redistricting) or [redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto: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: Martin

Last Name: Machniak

#### 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: Cell

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](http://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](http://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?

Throughout my life, I have always been a very analytical person. My favorite saying when people talk about complex issues that need analyzing using only adjectives is, "I do well with numbers". Long before it was popular, I used to read all the statistics on the sports cards and evaluate player's skill levels. I've had and continue to have many hobbies, including earth sciences and astronomy, that require me to evaluate and apply knowledge. I enjoy learning about many different types of phenomena and the science that explains its actions and interdependence. This has required me to read and study papers written by experts. Having many interests requires one to always seek multiple opinions. And that has meant reading all sorts of points of views to go along with the empirical data. I remember reading that great minds like Albert Einstein were most interested in hearing from those who disagreed with him. Einstein would constantly re-evaluate his theories by re-examining the empirical data to see where he might possibly be wrong. I value being able to be open to new information and new ideas.

Throughout my career as engineer, scientist, product engineer, project manager, and supervisor, I have faced many challenges and found solutions. Some challenges were technical problems needing a solution to make a system work, a component to be fixed, or a computer program with bugs to eliminate. Others were personnel conflicts and leadership challenges requiring the ability to communicate, and most importantly to listen. I have worked with others to create solutions, find resolutions, advance technology, and promote careers. One of my favorite activities is volunteering teaching Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to grade school and high school students. I have mentored robotics, cyber competitions, and coached junior high basketball for about 12 years. Preparation was always key in solving problems, teaching concepts, and setting good examples for our young people. One of my biggest joys was meeting a student in college whom I did not remember right away, but he remembered me and said, "Mr. Machniak, I went into engineering because you introduced robotics and taught me to embrace problem solving when I was in 6th grade."

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?**

I have always been about doing the right thing. I have learned over the years that it is very important to consider everything before making decisions or jumping to conclusions. There is always more than one side to any conflict or disagreement. My willingness, and I believe my unique ability, to understand different points of view has always been my strong point. Being involved in school debates required one to understand all sides of an issue -- to put yourself in a position to not only empathize, but to truly understand an individual's point of view. People's views arise from their environment, their particular experiences, and their backgrounds - all must be acknowledged and respected.

At work as an engineer, I served as an officially trained EEO counselor for the US Navy at the time when EEO counselors were part of the technical workforce. This provided me with multiple opportunities to hear complaints, facts, and to frame the issue(s) and the possible solution sets. It gave me the opportunity to learn about people and to appreciate everyone's point of view. I learned that filing an EEO complaint is a very stressful and difficult thing to do for any individual -- that must be understood and respected.

My experience as a supervisor for 20+ years gives me an opportunity to learn and lead. I have supervised a very diverse workforce over the years and to this day, my number one priority is to do the best possible job for each employee to allow them to learn and apply their skills, to assist in advancing their careers, and to provide meaningful feedback and direction. A workforce that is challenged and engaged in a proper environment is one that can give their best in order to be their best.

As a court foreman for a trial, I took the juror's responsibility very seriously, and was very thorough in making a determination based on the facts and in accordance with the direction given of the judge. I led the jurors in the search for the truth and listened to, worked with and respected each juror. I enjoyed the opportunity to successfully and impartially carry out our civic duty.

Finally, few events are more stressful and expose true character than when a loved one passes away and family must deal with the deceased person's estate. I served as executor of relative's estates on several occasions, and it gave me the opportunity to respectfully carry out the wishes of the deceased. Being the executor meant being able to handle difficult tasks and work through conflict in situations without bias.

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?**

I initially arrived in California in 1979 from New York State after high school to go to the University of California at Berkeley. My generation was the first in our family to attend college, and I was thrilled to have the opportunity to attend the greatest public university in the world. I became a resident of California and got a job in food service while I attended school.

I have lived in Northern, Central, and Southern California over the past 40 years and have spent much time throughout this entire state. I know it very well and respect its beauty and diversity. The last 25 years I have lived in San Diego county. It is a remarkable state with remarkable people. Through my work, outreach, residences, and interest areas, I spend a well balanced amount of time in the east county, south bay, north county, the Old Town and Pt. Loma areas. So I believe that I understand the areas of the counties well. As a representative democracy, I recognize the importance of proper representation and the role that redistricting enables that representation. The goal to balance the population of districts based on new census data is the goal as the state and county changes through the years. That rebalancing must be accomplished in a way that best serves all the people in the county and to ensure gerrymandering does not occur.

While the goals are population equity, contiguity, and compactness, redistricting is not an easy task. It takes people who must put aside politics and their own biases in order to do the right things to achieve these goals. I believe that my education, work, and background make me uniquely qualified to understand, appreciate, and advance the work of redistricting that will benefit all the people of the county. I work well with others, and routinely work with a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds within San Diego county through the course of my daily activities. I respect all people and have experience in successfully working with people in many situations throughout my life while pursuing my education, in a work setting, and in public and private situations. I enjoy meeting, learning, and collaborating with others to come to consensus, which I believe are essential characteristics needed to serve in this capacity.

People of a representative democracy are best served by their Government and are afforded the best opportunity to thrive when they are truly represented properly. Proper and fair redistricting is the framework that accomplishes this goal. The Commission's responsibility is to ensure that all the people of this county have the best opportunity for true representation.

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?** [REDACTED] ☐ 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: Martin

Last Name: Machniak

Signature:



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](mailto:redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov).

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