

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.

Germaine

First Name

Schwider

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: Germaine

Last Name: Schwider

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: Mobile

Phone 2: _____

Type: _____

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?

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.

☐ 1
☐ 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?**

1. I am an active voter in all local and national elections. I am a past member of the League of Women Voters in Long Beach, CA and have good understanding of voting rights.
2. I am competent in basic math skills and computer skills for spreadsheets and word processing.
3. I am aware of mapping software from my experience as a participant in public hearings for the City of Oceanside city council district initiative. I have lived in Oceanside since 2007.
4. I am able to review relevant regulations and formulate guidance for compliance. As a Quality Manager, I was tasked with applying federal regulations to formulate a plan for regulatory compliance.
5. In performing quality audits in the biotech industry, I developed the skills to determine how much information to collect to support evidence of compliance as well as to filter out irrelevant facts.
6. I have a Master Degree in Public Administration, a study in government structure, rules and policies. I understand the distinct levels of governance and regulations that apply to cities, counties, special districts, state and federal entities. I understand that there are different regulating bodies that oversee functions of each level of government.
7. I am aware of diversity issues that need to be considered when reviewing demographic information for creating districts. I am fluent in Spanish and I understand there are unique cultural distinctions for the diverse latinx populations.
8. As the Director of Clinical Collaboration, I collected personal and clinical information on subjects for approved research. I understand the patient protection rights and regulations concerning collection of personal information.
9. I have learned to conduct community meetings and to reach common objectives. I made formal presentations of information.
10. I participated in the Point In Time Count of the Homeless, San Diego County, Jan 2017 as a volunteer. I am aware of the issues in homelessness in the county.
11. I understand the impact and implications for the census information applied to redistricting.

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?

One's ability to be impartial requires remaining conscious that one does have prejudices, opinions, biases and experiences that affect decision making. To be impartial, one must consciously set aside personal points of view, preferences, experiences and participate in a decision-making process that is presently under review and that results in the best outcome for the group. This requires constant self-examination and awareness that one is bringing a viewpoint into the decision. From my own experiences, I have had to ask myself if I can see the concern from the viewpoint of the other side. This requires active listening on my part and the ability to relate.

In the 1980's in Long Beach, I participated in the League of Women Voter's study on police matters in the City of Long Beach as a volunteer. It was a year-long study with well-defined processes which were aimed at reaching a reasonable conclusion. I learned how to collect information, listen and make conclusions based upon interviews and information that would further the goals of the study. I had to set aside my biases and prejudices and work as an impartial participant.

As a quality auditor in the biotech industry, I learned to collect data that was factual and that illustrated compliance (or non-compliance). I was aware of my personal bias that the auditees were good people and I may jeopardize their positions with unfavorable comments. I had to set aside my opinion and review the facts. I could not minimize the effects nor interpret the data in favor of the workers. The data must be reported without bias of the reporter and I follow this auditing principle.

My experience as a juror in Vista, CA, was valuable for learning how to listen, and contribute a viewpoint to be able to arrive at a conclusion with a group of individuals not necessarily holding the same opinions. The conduct of the jurors was moderated by the foreman and the rule was reinforced to listen without interruption.

I learned Re-evaluation Counseling techniques in order to participate in the co-counseling program. The instructors taught techniques and modeled active listening skills. The skill I learned by active listening is to hear what the speaker is saying without judgement and to be aware when I was bringing my own issues into the session. It is a skill I practiced frequently.

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

I have lived in Oceanside since 2007. Prior to that time I was working and living in Solana Beach in 1999. I have lived in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties and have witnessed the differences in each of these areas. The differences are significant in terms of size, geography and population diversity. I have experienced and appreciated the geography of San Diego County. I am very familiar with the desert and mountain communities and the different concerns the residents have who live in the areas. I appreciate the agriculture areas and how it contrasts with the the development of the urban areas. I appreciate the beach communities and the issues related to ocean access including development and tourism.

San Diego County with the largest US border in terms of population with a neighboring country has impacted the local economy and interactions with the federal regulators. I believe it is critical to understand cross-border concerns and what that means for San Diego County.

I have worked in the biotech industry collecting information for research. I designed studies for collecting DNA samples and information from subjects of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities. I had to learn the sensitivities and the concerns people had with regard to providing personal information.

I have worked in the medical industry and was responsible for hiring a diverse staff to care for a diverse patient population.

I am fluent in Spanish and have become familiar with the various cultures and language distinctions of person descendent from Spain. I include the Filipino populations under this broad definition. I also understand that having a similar heritage, does not necessarily conclude that the cultures are the same. Where you live in this county and where you visit your relatives, where you receive health care are all distinct to the culture.

My personal experience living in San Diego County is an appreciation of the wide range of diverse populations and identity. There are probably other communities in the US that have the language diversity, (Spanish, Tagalo, Vietnamese and others); other communities with a focus on children educational activities and a variety of services for older adults; other communities that celebrate gender diversity and racial diversity; other communities that have a large military presence and a well respected tech industry, but fewer communities can have all this and a place where tourists choose to visit. All this and more defines my experience with diversity in San Diego County, the place that I chose to live.

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

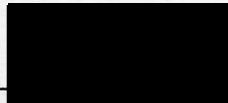
E. Demographic Information

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

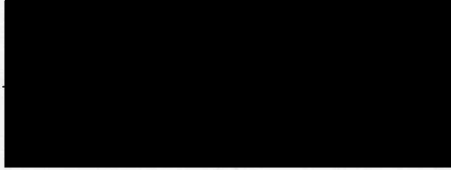
F. Signature

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: Germaine

Last Name: Schwider

Signature: _____



Date: 7/20/20

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.