

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.

Melvin

First Name

Mann

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.

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
2020 MAY 21 PM 2:39
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS



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: Melvin Last Name: Mann

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/home

Phone 2: [REDACTED] 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?
If you're not sure, you can check your voter registration at www.sdvote.com. Yes No
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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INITIAL
HERE: 

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 have a BS degree in computer science and various other technical and advance mathematical certification. Leveraging my analytical skills I have a proven history of "problem solving." Effectively, I am very good at accumulating large amounts of data and reducing it down to key factors based on resources and needs. At a professional level this has meant accumulating large amounts of requirements and business needs from my clients; then devising a solution that meets the most requirements possible. When some requirements or needs are set to the side, I communicate a plan and how things were prioritized based on time and resources.

I believe that the same analytic and analysis skills I use in my professional life would be beneficial in a redistricting process. It is doubtful that all the needs and requests of all the divergent communities and groups could be honored, but with an even handed analysis a solution that be identified that serves and many people and communities as possible.

While I do not have any formal back ground in State and Federal legal requirements pertaining to redistricting, I would treat these as a new set of requirements to be prioritized in a redistricting analysis.

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 do not have any formal history in politics as an activist or volunteer which I believe weighs towards my impartiality. I do believe strongly there is a need to back away from the extremism of modern politics. Respecting that some people have differing views from myself does not make one of us right and the other wrong. Respecting others views means there is a need to negotiate a solution that touches as many buttons for as many people as possible.

In my private life I have been an active volunteer in local youth soccer. Organizing seasons, forming teams all require an impartial approach to these challenges. When a parent or coach challenges how teams are created it is important to emphasize and truly demonstrate as impartial a process as possible.

In a sports leadership role I sit on various community athletic councils. Negotiating who gets to use which venues when is best done with an impartial voice that sees the needs of all the organizations.

In my volunteer role I have also refereed in more than 1500 matches in the last 14 years. I take great pride in approaching each match with an impartial attitude about the teams and their coaches. I truly believe that as long as I make my decisions on game management and foul calling in an impartial and ethical manner I will not be the one "blamed" for the outcome. To this end, I am often assigned challenging matches at the end of a season because I work very hard to focus on what is happening, and not bring any bias to the field.

I know that some would argue that refereeing youth sports is not redistricting. I would disagree. Learning to access challenging and heated situations in real-time is a practiced skill. Whether it is getting heated coaches and parents to calm down, reduce the testosterone of two 17 year old boys, or bring everyone at the table to a common center; you have to begin by ensuring you are impartial and that you can convey that to others.

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 have lived in San Diego County since my 1982. Over those 38 years my home has moved from San Marcos, to Escondido, to Poway, to Lemon Grove, to San Carlos and finally to El Cajon.

All of the places I have lived have had their unique charm, character and issues. I have clearly seen that the needs of all these communities vary widely. This is not just an issue of diverse demographic and economic issue, but resources as well. Communities grow or evolve faster that public resources can often respond. This is very true of schools, parks, transportation systems, law enforcement policy, and other critical resources. This does not mean these resources have been allocated or planned for poorly, but merely that that communities have changed or sprung up faster than plans or resources could be allocated. I-52 is a good example; The city of Santee simply grew faster than funds and plans for I-52 could be allocated. As a result, I-52 rapidly went from a solution to another traffic challenge.

It is clear to me that with so many diverse communities and populations across the County that resource planning is critical. Nevertheless, each community is very likely to have different needs and despite the best of plans, those needs will continue to change.


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 age (as of July 31, 2020)? 

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: **Melvin**

Last Name: **Mann**

Signature: 

Date: **May 18, 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.