

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.

William

First Name

O'Roarty

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: William Last Name: O'Roarty

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: cell
Phone 2: [REDACTED] Type: home
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.

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

INITIAL
HERE: →

WO

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 been a lawyer for more than 40 years, and am licensed in several states. My legal practice has been diverse. I prosecuted and defended in criminal trials, I represented the government and individual clients before Courts of Appeal, and a State Supreme Court. I taught Constitutional Law and Criminal Procedure to college students and to police officers in a Police Academy. I served as Special Legal Council to a Department of Public Safety where I wrote legislation, policies and procedures and supervised their implementation. In each of these roles, I was required to analyze applicable law and regulations, to argue them before the courts and to explain them to other lawyers, police and students.

I supervised Rule of Law Mobile Training Teams in the Afghanistan Justice Service Support Program from 2012 - 2014 which consisted of teams of international and Afghan lawyers. Our teams travelled throughout the country to rural areas teaching justice professionals and local communities the Rule of Law. In that capacity, I had to become familiar with Afghan law and the needs of local communities, and to explain that law in a manner that could be understood by diverse ethnic groups and communities. Each geographical area was distinct with unique needs. Prior to our instruction, I directed our teams to evaluate the current needs. We taught to those needs, and we evaluated the impact of our training through follow-up monitoring and evaluation.

In 1989, I was elected judge, and subsequently elected presiding judge by my colleagues. I served in that capacity for five years. An important part of that position was to be able to analyze applicable laws and apply those laws to the relevant facts of each individual case.

Prior to becoming a judge, I served as a Director on a local school board. I wrote extensive Rules and Procedures for the school board, and represented our school district in a boundary redistricting undertaken by the Educational Service District.

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?

Any redistricting process requires fairness to all the members of the community and impartiality by those making decisions. It should be transparent and balanced. Serving on the Commission is a public service. Personal or political gain should have no place in the process. It is especially important to divide the election districts in such a manner that will be fair and equal for all socio-economic and ethnic groups within our population that will take into account each political, racial, linguistic and class group. Planning should also take into account projected growth.

One of the most important qualities of a good judge is to be fair and impartial. I spent many years in the courtroom as a trial lawyer and knew the importance of clear presentation of verifiable facts, supporting law and precedent and convincing argument. When I became a judge, I certainly valued these qualities by those who appeared in my court. Through my years of experience, I was careful to listen to the facts as presented and to decide cases based on those facts. Although I was very familiar with the nature of the cases I heard in court, I was careful not to reach any conclusion until the facts unfolded in the course of the trial. Justice demands a fair and impartial tribunal which I took very seriously.

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 population of San Diego is very diverse. It is important to collect the statistical data of the identifiable groups within each community to respond to their needs, and to plan for the dynamic balance of competing interests, density and capacity.

An important part of the Commission's work will be to set clear, prioritized criteria for the map drawing and formulating map-approval rules that will facilitate and incentivize negotiation and compromise. This process must be conducted with clear transparency. The demands and interests of the diverse communities of ethnicity and color must be taken seriously and efforts made to address them.

I lived in different geographical areas of San Diego, and appreciate the diversity of the various communities. In my work assisting San Diego Legal Aid, I helped people of different socio-economic needs before State Administrative Agencies.

My work leading Rule of Law Mobile Training teams in Afghanistan required an understanding of the diverse demographics in the various geographical regions throughout the country. Populations and their needs were unique in each region. They differed in their ethnic identification, education, status and experience. In order to be effective in our training, we had to get the information about each area, analyze that information, and develop training suited to local needs. Training was followed by effective monitoring and evaluation to determine the effectiveness of our program; and plan for the future.

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: William

Last Name: O'Roarty

Signature: 

Date: June 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.