

# Boards and Commissions Application

## Profile

Karen  
First Name

Parsons  
Last Name

[Redacted]  
Email Address

## Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Salary Setting Commission: Appointed  
Appeals Hearing Board: Appointed

## Are you a resident of San Jose?

Yes  No

## Length of Residency

6 or more years

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here: <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov/?tab=dt> \*

District 10

[Redacted]  
Street Address

[Redacted]  
Suite or Apt

San Jose  
City

CA  
State

95123  
Postal Code

[Redacted]  
Primary Phone

[Redacted]  
Alternate Phone

I'm retired.I was formerly a credit and collections manager.  
Employer

n/a  
Job Title

[Redacted]  
Current Employer Address

n/a  
Current Employer of Spouse

[Redacted]  
Address of Current Employer of Spouse

n/a  
Spouse's Job Title

**If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.**

I am getting a pension from Gemco and the Retail Clerks Union

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### **Interests & Experiences**

**High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.**

Cupertino High School - diploma (1967) National University - Bachelors in Business Administration (1993)  
Lincoln Law School - JD (Juris Doctor) (2001)

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**List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates**

n/a

English; French

Languages Spoken

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### **Special Awards or Recognitions Received**

Scholarship from CMA Law review, Lincoln Law School Best Written Brief, Moot Court, Lincoln Law School

**Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member. If you are applying for the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices, please indicate any familiarity or experience you may have with campaign laws.**

As a resident of San Jose for so many years, I wish to give back to the city that gives so much to me. I would like to be part of the solution to help the city rather than being concerned about the problems we collectively face. As a member of this board serving several terms, I am familiar with the way it operates and the cases we hear. I enjoy serving on this board.

**Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application**

I have served 5 terms on the Appeals Hearing Board & served as chair. I served two terms on the Council Salary Setting Commission. Very enjoyable experiences. I was also on the Board of Directors for the Keypoint Credit Union where I served two years as Chairman of the Board.

**Do you own property in the City of San José?**

Yes  No

**If yes, please list the addresses here.**

[REDACTED]

**Do you rent property in the City of San José?**

Yes  No

**If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?**

Yes  No

**State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain of your financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scopr of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?**

Yes  No

**If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.**

n/a

Question applies to multiple boards

**If appointed, you will be required to fill out a disclosure statement, which identifies certain of your financial interests beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment and annually on or before April 1 of each year thereafter. Please confirm that you have read Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Form 700 Reference Pamphlet and agree to file required FPPC Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest, as required by current City Council Conflict of Interest resolution.**

Yes  No

Question applies to multiple boards

**Have you ever been required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) and failed to do so?**

Yes  No

Question applies to multiple boards

**If yes, please explain in complete detail.**

Question applies to multiple boards

**Please confirm that you have reviewed and agree to comply with the San Jose Municipal Code Chapter 12.08 (Prohibition of Gifts), City of San Jose Ethics Policy (City Policy Manual 1.2.1), and City of San Jose Gift Policy (City Policy Manual 1.2.2).**

Yes  No

**Wesley Schroeder**

Reference 1 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

**Lisa Dearborn**

Reference 2 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

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## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Appeals Hearing Board, Civil Service Commission

**Are you an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California? If you are, please provide your California State Bar Association Number:**

I am a law school graduate but not licensed to practice in California.

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

Yes  No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

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Yes  No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

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I have served 5 terms on the Appeals Hearing Board and two terms on the Salary Setting commission. I was chair on the AHB. Loved and enjoyed serving the community! I also served on the Board of Directors for the Keypoint Credit Union.

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, professional, social, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment to the selected commission(s).**

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My prior experience as a board member gives me insight to how the board functions. I've been on the Board of Directors of the Keypoint Credit Union (2 yrs as Chair). These experiences taught me to work as a team member for the benefit of the whole. My law degree taught me to think on my feet, be analytical. Years as a credit/collections manager prepared me to lead a team towards a goal.

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

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The Appeals Hearing Board sits as a Quasi-Judicial Panel to hear appeals of blighted conditions on SJ properties, property inspections of unsafe or unhealthy conditions, abandoned house list, unpaid garbage fees, weed abatement, zoning issues related to property use, and permit issues among others. The board levys fines and/or upholds actions take by City staff.

**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Commission should address.**

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I am concerned about abandoned/vacant buildings, quality low income housing that is up to code and safe, and collecting unpaid fines levied for code enforcement violations. I am concerned about the homeless population of the city and the blight/dangers inherent in their presence. We seem to have a problem in our city with blight within the city properties. Landscaping is sparse and there are trash/weeds over a vast portion of the city. I have met with the mayor and other leaders to figure out how to best deal with this situation.

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Question applies to multiple boards

**Do you meet the requirements for appointment to this commission?**

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Yes  No

**I would like to say . . .**

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I I enjoy working with the city to make our city a more enjoyable place to live rather than just complaining about what I don't like. It's better to be part of the solution than to sit back and complain. The AHB is an important board that actually makes our city safer and keeps residents in compliance with city laws.

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(Optional) Please upload a resume.

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**Retirement Board Questions Only**

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**Verification**

**By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.**

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**I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.**

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I Agree \*