

**Redistricting Commission
Applicant Profile**

Applicant #	11274266306
First Name	Daniel
Last Name	Chesmore
District	District 6
Time living in District	Five to 10 years
Time living in Oakland	Five to 10 years
Education	Some graduate school experience
Income	\$125,000 - \$250,000
Voting history	2018 & 2016 elections
Gender	Male
Race/Ethncity	Asian / Pacific Islander
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Supplemental Questionnaire

Your response to each of the mandatory following questions is limited to no more than 500 words. Please type in the space provided for each question.

*1. Why do you wish to serve on the Commission and why do you think the work of the Commission is important?

I want to serve on the Commission to ensure that every Oaklander is equally represented and to ensure that our minority communities are well represented. I think the work of the Commission is important given the adverse impacts gerrymandering holds over our democracy in states like Wisconsin where democrats need to secure around 60% of the popular vote just to hold a majority in the state legislature. We need to ensure that every community in Oakland is well-represented, and we can do that by eliminating gerrymandered city council districts. The Commission sets up the district lines and must not divide representation of diverse groups.

As we are in the 28th year of the LA Riots, we must never forget that Koreatown, Los Angeles was bifurcated into several districts. As a result, no single district took responsibility for the millions of dollars in damage. It took two decades before Koreatown finally saw an end to gerrymandered city council districts.

The Commission must ensure fair representation and an equitable way to allocate city districts by learning from the mistakes from our sister cities. Every Oaklander must be heard. We must allocate our districts fairly and equitably, and this is the work and challenge of the Commission.

*2. Explain what it means to be impartial and describe your ability to exercise impartiality.

To be impartial means to be objective, fair, and to address any biases and ensure that no implicit bias is the guiding force behind an action or viewpoint. I am a third year law student ranked in the top 10% at Golden Gate. I believe that my legal education has trained me to think objectively and to be impartial as the law was meant to be impartial.

However, the law in reality is based on much inequality as minorities were originally precluded from being able to practice law. My ability to exercise impartiality is best shown in my ability to advocate for people of different backgrounds than myself. I believe that our society is more effective when we advocate for one another despite our differences. Although I am openly gay, a visible minority with Korean and Panamanian roots from Hawaii, and am married to a Mexican American dreamer, I know that I will be able to represent other diverse communities in Oakland. I will ensure every Oaklander is effectively represented. We must not infringe upon the inalienable right for communities to be able to unite and address inequalities in a united district.

*3. The Commissioners will need to work collaboratively in redrawing district boundaries. Provide an example from when you had to set aside your own self-interest to achieve a common goal.

In law school, I have worked collaboratively in group projects with my peers and have set aside my own self-interest for the group's best interest. My law school is competitive given that only 40% of students can keep their scholarships based on the school's grading curve. Regardless, I have shared my lecture notes and

outlines with my study group, setting aside my own individual performance to support my fellow first-generation law students. The law is a self-regulating industry as in attorneys regulate the profession. It is essential that we bring in attorneys who will fight for social justice and to ensure an end to racism-based police brutality and institutional racism. Thus, I have and will continue to set aside my academic performance if it means uplifting advocates of social justice to excel in legal careers.

*4. All Commissioners must demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for Oakland's diversity. Describe your knowledge of and appreciation for Oakland's people and places, and how this will enhance your work as a commissioner.

My same sex husband is a dreamer and DACA recipient. I am the son of immigrants from Korea and Panama. We are community volunteers throughout East Oakland having volunteered for years with Trees for Oakland in order to plant trees and address institutional racism in health and to combat the inequality in early childhood asthma diagnoses through promoting clean air quality in the most at risk parts of our city. I love Oakland's diversity. I love Oakland's history of social justice, the founding of the Black Panther movement, and the history of civil rights activism. My love for our city and our diverse communities will help me to ensure that African Americans, Latinx Americans, Asian Americans, Jewish Americans, and all other groups have fair representation in our city. We are America's most diverse city, and I would be honored to serve our diverse community by ensuring everyone has their voice heard.

*5. Provide an example from when you faced a complex question or situation. What problem solving skills did you use to solve it?

I was once tasked at work with developing a below the line entity cross charge model for our tax department. This involved working with IT and other corporate departments to get the data I needed to allocate dollar amounts to our international entities and to save our net income to preserve jobs and human resources. I used tenacity, collaboration, and analytical reasoning to achieve success in developing a cross charge model that the company still uses today.

*6. Describe any professional, social, political, volunteer, community activities, and/or causes in which you have been involved or that you have financially supported. If you do not have any activities to report, type N/A in the space provided.

I have supported the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Oasis Legal Services as a volunteer and benefactor. I am involved with the Stonewall East Bay Democrats, the LGBT wing of the Alameda County Democratic Party. I volunteer with Trees for Oakland and the Havenscourt Neighborhood Association. I have volunteered in the past with Project Homeless Connect, Alemany Farm, and the St. Anthony's Foundation.

Additional Information (Optional)

If there is any additional information that was not asked in the Supplemental Questionnaire that you believe would help the Screening Panel in making their nominations, you may enter that information here. Your response here is optional.

I speak four languages fluently: English, Spanish, Korean, and Hebrew. I believe that I personally reflect Oakland's diversity and would be honored to serve Oakland's diverse community in this role. Now more than ever, we must lead this nation in combatting gerrymandering. For far too long have states like Wisconsin infringed upon the democratic rights of communities of color. Whereas the federal government fails to effectively govern, cities like Oakland step up to lead the country. I would be honored to do my part in making Oakland a national model for fair and just districting.

*I understand that if selected as a Commissioner, I shall be ineligible, for a period of 10 years beginning from the date of appointment, to hold elective public office for the City of Oakland. Additionally, I shall be ineligible, for a period of four years beginning from the date of appointment, to hold appointive public office for the City of Oakland or Oakland Unified School Board, to serve as paid staff for or as a paid consultant to Oakland City Council, or any member of the City Council or Oakland School Board, to receive a non-competitively bid contract with the City of Oakland, or to register as a lobbyist. This four-year ban on having a paid consultancy or entering noncompetitively bid contracts applies to myself individually and all entities for which I am a controlling person. Please enter your initials below to confirm your understanding of these statements.

Initials:	DC
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*I affirm, by entering my name in the space provided, that the statements contained in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name:	Daniel Chesmore
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