HUNDREDS APPLY TO SERVE ON THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CITIZENS’ INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Applicants Narrowed to 45 Most Qualified; Posted Online for Public Review

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Nearly 200 residents of Santa Barbara County applied to serve as a commissioner on the County of Santa Barbara Citizens’ Independent Redistricting Commission by the application deadline of 5 p.m. August 21.

In accordance with California Elections Code Section §23003(c), the County Elections Official selected the 45 most qualified applicants based on the criteria and qualifications detailed in the Ordinance. Those names are posted online for 30 days or more for members of the public to view before a random drawing to select the first five commissioners.

On October 20, in a meeting of the Board of Supervisors, the County District Attorney will conduct a random drawing to pick five commissioners from the 45 qualified applicants who are divided into sub-pools representing each of the five supervisorial districts; nine applicants per sub-pool. One commissioner from each of the five district sub-pools will be drawn.

To form a commission of 11 members by December 31, 2020, the five randomly selected commissioners will meet in late October and early November to select finalists from the remaining 40 applicants to interview for appointment. In order to be appointed, an applicant must receive the vote of at least four of the five commissioners. A public hearing will be scheduled to allow for public comment and final appointment of six commissioners, one from each district and one at-large member.

In the November 2018 Statewide General Election, county voters approved Measure G that formed an 11-member independent redistricting commission to establish the electoral district boundaries in Santa Barbara County for the upcoming decade following receipt of the 2020 federal census data, currently scheduled to be received in early April 2021.

The selection process is designed to produce a commission that is independent from the influence of the Board, political parties, campaign contributors or other special financial interests, and reasonably representative of the county’s diversity.

To sign up for updates and information about the redistricting process and future public meetings, go to https://bit.ly/3k7oCnY, and visit www.countyofsb.org/redistricting.sbc.

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NOTE: 2020 Timeline Attached
Timeline

2020

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

June 12-August 21

Application Period

August 23-September 4

Application review by County Elections Official to select 45 most qualified applicants

September 5-October 15

Post names of the 45 most qualified applicants for at least 30 days in sub-pools by District

October 20

Random drawing of five commissioners at Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors
- At the Board Meeting, conduct a random drawing to select one commissioner from each of the five District sub-pools

October-November

Selection process for six additional commissioners
- Five commissioners review remaining names in the sub-pools of applicants and appoint additional applicants to the commission, one from each District and one at-large member. In order to be appointed, an applicant must receive the vote of at least four of the five commissioners.
- The five initial commissioners shall interview finalists for appointment, allow public comment, and make the appointments during a public hearing.

By December 31, 2020

Appointment of 11-member County of Santa Barbara 2020-21 Independent Redistricting Commission