

Boards and Commissions Application

Profile

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Additionally, applicants to the following commissions will be required to fill out a [Form 700](#) (California State required Statement of Economic Interest) within 30 days of appointment.

- Airport Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission*

David

First Name

Woolsey

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Are you a resident of San Jose?

☐ Yes ☒ No**What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:****[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)****[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) ***

☒ N/A - Retirement Board Applicants Only

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Length of Residency

None Selected

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board: Submitted

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System
Public members of the Board of Administration of the San Jose Police and Fire Department Retirement Plan or the Federated City Employees Retirement System must live within 50 miles of San Jose City Hall and meet specified eligibility requirements.

Employee members of the Retirement Boards must be active employees who are members of the respective retirement plan. The Police and Fire Department representative must be an employee of the Police or Fire Department respectively. The employee representatives to the Federated Board shall be employed by different departments.

Retiree members of the Retirement Boards must be persons who have retired under the provisions of the respective retirement plan.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System
If not a resident, do you live within 50 miles of San Jose City Hall?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System
Member Category: *

☒ Employee Representative

San Jose Police Department	Police Sergeant
Employer	Job Title

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Do you own property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

☐ 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 financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope 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.

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

Reference 1 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Email address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Email address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

[REDACTED]

Supplemental Questions

If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

I have been an active member of the San Jose Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee for over twelve years and currently serve as the Chair.

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.

My experience as a Board Member and Executive (Sergeant at Arms) of the SJPOA, a member and now Chair of the Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee, and negotiator on the SJPOA negotiations team has prepared me for this position by giving me valuable insight into the importance of defined benefit plans to retirees' financial security. I have also worked on charitable events serving the San Jose community such as our Blue Christmas Toy Drive.

What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?

The Commission's purpose is to ensure pension obligations to current and future retirees can be met through employer and employee contributions combined with investment earnings. Additional goals of the Commission are to provide professional delivery of services and benefits to plan members.

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

Improvement of Tier 2 benefits to provide for better recruitment and retention of police officers, strategically capturing market gains while safeguarding against market losses in the retirement plan, and maintaining the Retirement Board's independence.

What is the purpose of historic preservation in San José and what is the role of the Historic Landmarks Commission in achieving that purpose?

Please explain your prior experience with historic preservation, with San José’s public planning processes, and in working with City or other public agency staff.

Anything else you would like us to know?

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

Retirement Board Questions Only

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Please list your applicable experience or expertise relevant to public retirement plan administration. *

☒ Health and welfare and/or employee benefits management

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Please summarize your qualifications to serve as a member of the Retirement Board? Briefly highlight your skills, training, education, qualifications, experience (licenses and/or certifications) and personal qualities that you will bring to the Board and share with the organization.

I have been a Police Officer for over 29 years serving in two different agencies, the first of which was a non-reciprocal agency. I have been a SJPOA Director for twelve years, and since I was first appointed to the Board, I have been actively involved in negotiating labor contracts with the City and serving on the Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC). In June 2024 I took over as Chair of the DCAC when then-Chair Roberto Peña retired. I have a long-held interest in making sure the retirement system remains solvent and would like to serve our active police membership in this role.

David Woolsey

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Please discuss your pension plan and/or investment management and oversight experience including the development of key financial policies.

I do not have experience with investment management outside of my own deferred compensation plan investments and IRA.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Please describe your understanding of the relationship between the Retirement Board and City Council? The City Administration? Retirement Services staff? Employee bargaining units? Plan participants and beneficiaries?

My understanding is the Police and Fire Retirement Board are a body independent from the City Council, with one or more Council members serving as a liaison between the Board and Council. The office hires staff to facilitate and carry out the directives of the Board, and provide important support to the Board as well as services to plan members.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

What do you perceive as the short and long-term goals of the Retirement Board?

The short term goal of the Board is to overcome market volatility while ensuring pension obligations can be met and retirees receive their monthly benefits. Long term goals of the Board include overcoming the challenges of an increasing disparity between fewer active participants contributing to the plan than retired participants drawing from the plan.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Do you believe that the retirement funds that are invested by the retirement boards are public funds? Why or why not?

The retirement board is the fiduciary for plan assets which are a combination of City public funds (employer contributions), member contributions and investment returns specifically allocated to pay pension obligations.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Have you read the report by the City Auditor entitled, "Pension Sustainability: Rising Pension Costs Threaten the City's Ability to Maintain Service Levels?" This report is available at: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=36432>.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

If so, how is this report applicable to the work you would do as a Retirement Board Member?

As a retirement board member my work would involve exploring and updating investment policies, keeping up with best practices, and ensuring fund solvency while being sensitive to potential increases employer and employee contributions.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

How do you ensure that you are maintaining an in-depth and up-to-date knowledge of institutional investing and the capital market environment?

Engagement with consultants, following various available market reports, and attending relevant conferences will maintain a working knowledge of the public pension landscape related to institutional investing and capital markets.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Given the current status of the capital markets, where do you see opportunities to increase return and reduce risk in the pension portfolios? What is your experience with risk budgeting?

Opportunities exist to explore alternative investment strategies which provide for stability of principle (reduced risk) to meet short-term obligations while looking for long-term returns to ensure healthy fund levels without the need to increase participant or City contributions. I do not have direct experience with risk budgeting.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Please describe your views on the role of asset allocation and provide detail on your recommended asset classes and proportions for pension funds like those serving the employees of the City of San Jose.

Asset allocation is a crucial element of portfolio management allowing one to diversify risk so that gains or losses are smoothed out across the portfolio. As an active-member representative on the Board I would engage with the plan consultant and evaluate the investment committee's recommendations for proper allocation.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Should pension plans like those in San Jose invest in alternative investments such as private equity, commodities, infrastructure or separate account real estate? If so, how? If not, why?

Yes, if, after consulting with financial experts, consultants and staff, they seem to be a secure and appropriate strategy to accomplish the goals of the plan and investment policy statement.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

How would you evaluate an investment manager? When would you terminate an investment manager? How should due manager diligence be conducted?

I'd evaluate the investment manager by evaluating plan performance under their leadership. Due diligence should be conducted by the Board, hired consultants and staff.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

What should be included in a pension plan's statement of investment policies? Please address the roles of trustees, staff, consultants, investment managers and custodians in asset allocation, portfolio structure, manager selection and due diligence, rebalancing, reporting and analysis.

The investment policies document should state the plan's goals and guide the plan's investment strategy employed to meet those goals. It should define the expectations of trustees, staff, consultants, investment managers and custodians. It should also provide guidance on asset allocation principles, portfolio structure and overall design, and manager selection.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Individuals applying for appointment as public members of the Board are ineligible for appointment to the Board if they meet certain criteria. Please confirm if you meet any of the following criteria:

None Selected

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor within the past five years or a felony within the past ten years (except for minor traffic offenses that resulted only in a fine)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

If yes, please explain in complete detail. State the nature and approximate date of the conviction, the sentence imposed, whether the sentence has been completed, and any other information you consider relevant.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Are you or your firm currently or within the past five years been the subject of any litigation or claims resulting from any investment activity, advice, a fiduciary relationship, or regarding alleged financial improprieties?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

If yes, please provide details.

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

Are you or your firm currently or within the past five years been the subject of any investigation or disciplinary action by any governmental and/or regulatory body (SEC, NASD, states Attorney General or Insurance Commissioner, etc.)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to Police and Fire Retirement Plan Board, Federated City Employees' Retirement System

If yes, please provide details.

Verification

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

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.

☒ I Agree *