

CITY OF PASADENA

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA FOR APPOINTMENT TO CITY ADVISORY BODY

The information contained on this form is for the City Council to fill vacancies on the Community Police Oversight Commission. Please answer all questions. You are invited to attach additional pages, a copy of your resume, or submit supplemental information which you feel may assist the City Council in its evaluation of your application.

Biographical forms may be submitted any time during the year; however, they will be purged January 31 of each year. If you have not been appointed to the Community Police Oversight Commission and still desire appointment, please resubmit an updated biographical form or advise in writing that the initial form is still usable.

Commission on which you would you like to serve: Community Police Oversight

Commission

Applicant Name: Esprit Loren Jones

Date available to start: 3/15/2021

Home Address: [REDACTED]
91103

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Employer: Shepherd's Door, En Route To Healing

Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Work Address: Same as home (due to Covid19)

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Community Service - List boards, commissions, committees, and organizations on which you are currently serving or have served, offices held and in what city.

Neighbors of North Raymond (block association), current member, Pasadena, CA

Employment - Title and duties, current and past.

Domestic Violence Advocate and Counselor: Advocate for, educate and counsel domestic violence survivors and perpetrators, current

Job Coach: Support adult participants with intellectual disabilities in activities to teach vocational and social skills

Support Services Specialist (Lockbox): Process payments (HOA, mortgage, etc) for bank members, balance and reconcile accounts

Claims Assistant: Manage indemnity payments, DWC notices, prepare correspondence for attorneys, claimants, doctors and employers, set up new claims, process claim conversions.

Education - Include professional or vocational licenses or certificates.

Domestic Violence Counseling and Advocate Certificate, February 2021

Bookkeeping Fundamentals Certificate, June 2018

Personal - Answer "yes" or "no" to the following questions.

1. Have you ever worked for the City of Pasadena? *(If yes, please list dates/department)* YES

NO

2. Are you related to any employee or appointee of the City of Pasadena? *(If yes, please indicate name and relationship.)* YES NO

3. Are you aware that financial disclosure is required annually? *(e.g. sources of income, loans and gifts, investments, interests in real property.)* YES NO

4. Rules of law and ethics prohibit members from participating in and voting on matters in which they may have a direct or indirect financial interest. Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest which may develop from your occupation or holdings in relation to your responsibilities as a member of the Community Police Oversight Commission? *(If yes, please indicate any potential conflicts):* YES NO

5. Have there been or are there now, any personal or business circumstances which might reflect adversely on the propriety of your serving as a member of the Community Police Advisory Commission? YES NO

6. Are you aware of the time commitment necessary to fulfill the obligations of the Community Police Oversight Commission? YES NO

7. Are you applying to serve in one of the community-based organization seats? *(If Yes, indicate name of organization you represent, your job title, and length of service):* YES

NO

8. Are you presently or have you ever worked as a member of law enforcement? *(If yes, please indicate job title and years of service):* YES NO

9. Are you a practicing attorney that handles, or are you a member of any firm or entity that currently handles criminal or civil matters involving the Pasadena Police Department?

YES

NO

10. Describe your relevant life experience, professional training, and/or education in the following areas: Police Activity/Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice System; Social Justice; Mental Health; and Anti-Bias Curriculum/Studies and/or Working with Diverse Populations:

I am a community organizer actively educating myself in mediation strategies. I just finished a training course on domestic violence intervention and will become a facilitator for weekly classes on domestic violence. I am connected and accountable to many local communities of which I am a member, including Black Pasadena, low-income residents, and my recently formed block community association called Neighbors of North Raymond, which has met a few times with Councilmember Tyron Hampton. I have served on public panels discussing neighborhood issues and have attended City Council meetings. I have also been working as a liaison between my block association and the Pasadena Pastor's Alliance, who were looking to serve residents and visitors and La Pintoresca Park following the police shooting of Anthony McClain. I have a nuanced understanding of the concerns leading to our need for a Police Oversight Commission, and share a lived experience, as a Black woman and as a residing member of the La Pintoresca community.

11. How would you add value to the Community Police Oversight Commission?

As a long time resident of Pasadena, I've had positive experience with police officers who live in this city and/or are directly invested in the communities they serve. My uncle is a retired Pasadena police officer, so growing up, I witnessed effective community policing by officers from Pasadena, CA. The officers knew us and knew who we belonged to; they could walk around a neighborhood and solve problems using conversation. They could also work with local organizations to create social change.

I now live locally in Northwest Pasadena near La Pintoresca Park, next to the site of the recent police shooting of Anthony McClain. After this shooting, I began working with the Pasadena Pastor's Alliance to help to channel the energies of the people who had come together to protest Anthony's shooting. After many conversations with residents, with Councilmember Hampton, and with local activists, I arranged with neighbors to create permanent memorial gardens on the verge strips in front of our homes so as to create a living memory of Anthony McClain. My neighbors have shared with me that since beginning this work, tensions in the neighborhood have decreased. This speaks largely to our capacity to find agreement, civility in our community, with less punitive and certainly, non-violent, actions.

12. What do you see as the objectives and goals of the Community Police Oversight Commission?

This commission should first and foremost connect police with community members and groups so that there is a better relationship between officers and local residents. Officers need to invest their energy in the places they work as well as the places they live, and local residents need to see the police working positively in their communities.

To do this, the commission should be in touch with community members to receive ideas, complaints, and feedback, and its members should be able to work together to think through problems related to policing, and address that feedback by connecting community concerns to the appropriate city office. Members

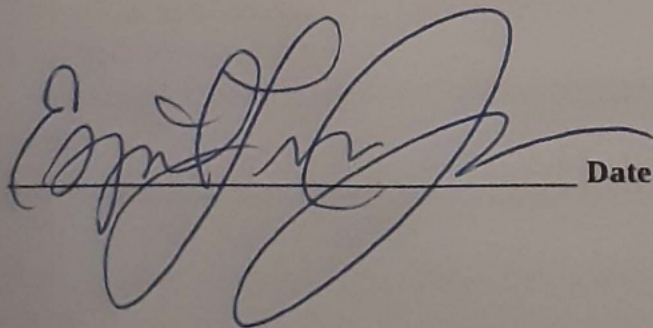
To do this, the commission should be in touch with community members to receive ideas, complaints, and feedback, and its members should be able to work together to think through problems related to policing, and address that feedback by connecting community concerns to the appropriate city office. Members should be able to do this with an understanding of and connection to their local communities as well as to police officers individually and as a group.

13. How would you help achieve these objectives and goals?

In the present era, too many of our Black and Latinx communities have a fundamental distrust for the police in this city (and this nation) do not trust the police. Police investigations and effectiveness are stalled by this distrust. The primary responsibility of the police, to protect and serve, is much more difficult due to the huge gap in perspective and understanding between officers and the communities they serve. This is an issue with deep roots in white supremacist history, so it will not be easy to address.

One specific aspect of this problem is that most officers who police here no longer live in this community, nor do they appear to be invested in our wellness and safety. This community has one of the densest populations of Black and Latinx residents in the city, yet these groups are not well-represented among the officers who respond to calls in our neighborhood. The officers work on surface-level knowledge of community demographics when they interact with us, which produces a disconnect. For example, the officers who were present at the police shooting made no effort to connect with local residents or offer sympathy to the many people who experienced a public trauma. These policing practices isolate our local communities and residents. My goal is to be a part of any and all efforts to shift this dynamic, including by working to create stronger ties between local residents and police, and by connecting to groups with expertise in mental health and community-based healing. In service to this community in these various forms, I will work to improve the communication of our concerns and values to the city of Pasadena and its officers and administration.

Signature



Date

3/15/2021