



## 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: Noemi Emeric-Ford Date available to start: Feb 2021

Home Address: [REDACTED] Pasadena 91105 Home Phone: [REDACTED]

Employer: US Environmental Protection Agency Work Phone: [REDACTED]

Work Address: [REDACTED] Los Angeles, CA 90017 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.

- Mothers Against Racism and Injustice, Board Member, Pasadena, CA
- Jack and Jack of America, Inc. Pasadena Chapter, Foundation Chair, Pasadena, CA
- Association House of Chicago, Volunteer, Chicago, IL
- Casa Central, Volunteer/Group Leader, Chicago, IL

**Employment** - Title and duties, current and past.

#### **US Environmental Protection Agency**

Regional Brownfields Coordinator (2005-Present)

Southern California Field Office, Los Angeles, CA

- Responsible for managing, developing and promoting brownfields and sustainable development. Manage financial grants to Region 9 states including Hawaii, Nevada and California, the Pacific Island Territories and federally designated Tribes.
- Provide training, resources and technical assistance to numerous local governments, community development organizations and private developers. Interpret and develop guidance and policy for staff and external partners as well as facilitate intergovernmental task forces.

#### **City of Los Angeles, Office of the Mayor**

Brownfields Manager (2002-2005)

Los Angeles, CA

- Led the inter-departmental brownfields team, focusing on returning contaminated properties in the City's urban core into sustainable reuse. Team lead for outreach efforts for internal and external partners, developing communication strategies and citywide guidance to enhance brownfields coordination.

#### **US Environmental Protection Agency**

Regional Team Manager (1999-2002)

Chicago, IL

- Managed environmental and community/economic development in the East St. Louis, IL / St. Louis, MO area as part of the Brownfields Showcase Community efforts that brought together 29 federal agencies. Facilitated joint efforts to remediate contaminated land, provide workforce development training in conjunction with the Department of Justice’s Weed and Seed Program and create sustainable and affordable housing.

**Education** – *Include professional or vocational licenses or certificates.*

- B.A. University of Illinois at Chicago
- M.A. University of Illinois at Chicago
- Organizational Dynamics, Train the Trainer, Total Quality Management

**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)* NO
2. Are you related to any employee or appointee of the City of Pasadena? *(If yes, please indicate name and relationship.)* 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
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):* 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? NO
6. Are you aware of the time commitment necessary to fulfill the obligations of the Community Police Oversight Commission? YES
7. Are you applying to serve in one of the community-based organization seats? NO

*(If Yes, indicate name of organization you represent, your job title, and length of service):* \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are you presently or have you ever worked as a member of law enforcement? NO

*(If yes, please indicate job title and years of service):* \_\_\_\_\_

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? 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:**

Social Justice is Environmental Justice; environmental justice has been the focus of my career. My 29 years of government service across the country has provided me a unique experience to work with a variety of diverse populations and geographies. Over the past 10 years, I have been specifically involved working to enrich the lives of Native Americans and Pacific Highlanders with focused attention on Hawaii, Guam, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands and American Samoa. I have viewed first hand how improving a community's environment and surroundings (including but not limited to: affordable housing, workforce development, food security, environmental justice and economic development) have brought about enhancements not only in the community's well-being, but also in their ability to cohesively work together. I have experienced first-hand how improving a community's environment and surroundings can deliver opportunities, outlook and hope.

I have worked to establish and sunset many coalitions where the targets were met with success, such as the Metro Gateway Lead Prevention Program in East St. Louis, IL. By focusing on improving the community's environmental challenges created by the numerous lead smelters and lead-based paint, we improved the community's health, graduation percentages, reduction in crime, increased volunteerism, etc. All of this was possible because trust was established amongst all the entities at the table who brought their concerns and were heard. Together, the government, community, private sector and nonprofits worked to improve the community's health. My coalition building has broad experience from federal, state and local levels. I continue to work with the City of Los Angeles and local stakeholders to develop a collaborative approach to revitalize the Los Angeles River, which has led to difficult conversations around gentrification and inequities. I have also presented in front numerous City Council sharing recommendations, success stories and requesting support for a variety of initiatives.

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

I would add value through my leadership and broad perspective from viewing challenges from both the public and private sector. I have worked as a community relations coordinator for over 10 years across the Midwest states, where I succeeded in eliminating environmental injustices. I am a critical thinker with tactical experience building coalitions, listening, digesting and facilitating differing viewpoints. I am a sound decision-maker and have experience in structured and unstructured/ambiguous situations. As an ethnically diverse professional woman, I bring unique viewpoints to many situations. I am a proud resident of Pasadena, homeowner and local investor in Pasadena real estate.

As a resident, mother, investor and community member, I am committed to working with Pasadena's stakeholders to become a catalyst for innovation, improvement and growth. If appointed to the Community Police Oversight Commission, I will work to improve and eliminate social divisions and inequities, and ultimately aid in creating an environment where all people regardless of race or color know they are valued, served and protected to the fullest extent of the law.

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

Based on my research and conversations with stakeholders, I see the Commission's objective as providing oversight, counsel and advice. As Commission members, our goal would be to serve as a liaison and listen, research, absorb and effectively communicate the community's interests for public safety. Our goal would be to strengthen the community's relationship and trust with the police department and to help enhance policing programs.

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

My numerous successful years of government experience and community involvement have provided me the opportunity to work directly with the public, while absorbing feedback and developing actionable solutions to improve our services/programs. As a government worker, I have had the experience of being praised for helping others. I have also heard complaints from citizens who have disagreed with government policies and actions. I have participated in

