



CITY OF PASADENA APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE

The information contained on this form will be used by the City Council to appoint members to the Charter Study Task Force. 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. **Please note that, once submitted, this form, and all attachments, will become subject to public access under the Public Records Act, with the exception of personally identifiable information.**

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CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

Applicant Name: Diana Carbajal Mejia

Home Address: **REDACTED** **REDACTED** Calif 91104

Mailing Address: Same as above

Email Address: **REDACTED**

Business Phone: **REDACTED** Date Available to Start: December 1, 2023

Home Phone: None Cell Phone: **REDACTED**

Indicate if you wish to be considered for a District, At-Large, and/or Mayoral Nomination (mark one or more):

- District Representative** representing City Council District _____
- At-large Representative** City Council District _____
- Mayoral Representative**

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

All Saints Church, (Pasadena) Vestry Board Member April 2012 - April 2016; Rector Search Committee, All Saints Church, 2015-2016; Co-Chair, California District Attorneys Association, Extradition Committee, 2017 - 2022; Project LEAD, Legal Education Facilitator (Los Angeles County) 2016 - 2019; Student Attendance Review Board, El Monte School District, 2003-2004.

Employment – Title and duties, current and past (acceptable to attach resume as an alternative).

See attached resume.

Education – Include professional or vocational licenses or certificates.

California State University Fullerton, B.A., Communications, Minor in Political Science, Dec. 1985; Loyola Law School, Juris Doctorate, May 1995; Admitted to California State Bar, November 1995.

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

YES NO

I have never worked for the City of Pasadena.

2. **Are you related to any employee, appointed or elected official of the City of Pasadena?** *(If yes, please indicate name and relationship)*

YES NO

I am not related to any employee, appointed or elected official.

3. **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 circumstances which may develop from your occupation or economic holdings, that might relate to your service as a member of a Charter Study Task Force?** *(If yes, please indicate any potential conflicts)*

YES NO

I am not aware of any potential conflicts.

4. **Have there been, or are there now, any personal or business circumstances which might reflect adversely on your service as a member of a Charter Study Task Force?**

YES NO

5. **Are you aware of the time commitment necessary to fulfill the obligations of a member on a Charter Study Task Force, including meetings on nights and weekends?**

YES NO

6. **What specifically in your background, training, education, or interests qualifies you to serve on the Charter Study Task Force? Please highlight any relevant experience with the City of Pasadena or other municipality that involves Charter Study, elected experience, or knowledge of City Charter laws and provisions:**

My legal training and undergraduate course of study provide me with the education and background to serve as a task force committee member. Additionally, prior to becoming a prosecutor I worked for a law firm which represented government entities, such as the cities of Montebello, Vernon, Commerce and various school districts. As an associate at this law firm I attended city council meetings, planning commission and school board meetings and advised city and public entity clients on a wide range of legal issues. Additionally, in my work as a prosecutor, I drafted and proposed legislation involving bail reform and immigration. This experience is helpful in proposing potential legislation for voters to approve regarding charter reform.

7. **What objectives and goals should the Charter Study Task Force consider?**

The Charter Study Task Force should consider term limits as well as reforming the city charter to implement processes for filling vacancies on unexpired terms, including appointments, and calling for special elections. Campaign finances should also be considered.

8. In your opinion, what is the importance of the scope and charge of the Charter Study Task Force, as approved and assigned by the City Council?

The Task Force's scope and charge is important to proper and representative governance of the city. The Pasadena community must have fair and duly elected representatives, therefore the Task Force's responsibility in examining this issue and proposing solutions is critical to our democratic process.

9. How would you help to achieve the Charter Study Task Force's objectives and goals, while adhering to the City Council's approved Scope and Charge?

My experience in working collaboratively in researching issues and proposing solutions will assist the Task Force in accomplishing its charge. I have worked on important and potentially contentious issues such as bail reform, immigration, and church leadership, and have been successful in presenting research, offering solutions and drafting legislation and proposals.

Signature: *Deana Cabral Mejia*

Date: 11/1/2023

I hereby certify that the following information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

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One of the goals of the City Council is to balance advisory body appointments in terms of geographic residence, location, ethnicity, gender, and age. *The following information is desirable, but not required for appointment.*

Year of Birth: **REDACTED** **REDACTED** **REDACTED** _____

If City resident, number of years: 4

Diana M. Carbajal

REDACTED

REDACTED

Skills

Licensed attorney with 28 years of practical experience primarily in the area of criminal law. Skills include motion writing, legal research, oral advocacy, personnel supervision and project management.

Experience

May 2018 - March 2022

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - Deputy in Charge, Extradition Services Section

- Managed the operation of the office's extradition unit which was responsible for returning fugitives from outside California and from foreign countries. Also worked with federal statutory schemes and interstate compacts to secure the return of prisoners serving sentences in federal and out-of-state prisons.
- Supervised staff attorneys, paralegals and legal support personnel tasked with extraditing fugitives, and staffing a court having exclusive jurisdiction over bail bond forfeiture motions.
- Chaired office committee tasked with analyzing and drafting legislation in support of bail reform and pre-trial release.
- Represented the office on a county-wide committee which was responsible for proposing and implementing a pilot program for releasing arrestees without bail.
- Handled a personal caseload of dozens of high profile criminal extradition matters involving both international and domestic fugitives.

July 2012- April 2018

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - Coordinator, Extradition Services Section

- Assisted the Head Deputy of the Training Division to grow and manage the Extradition Services Section. During this period the Extradition Services Section added staffing, and increased its presence within the office and with law enforcement partners.
- Conducted office-wide attorney and staff training and law enforcement agency training.
- Developed a database to successfully manage an increasing caseload of both international and domestic extradition cases.
- Coordinated the launch of a county-wide program which centralized bail bond forfeiture matters to be heard in a downtown court with exclusive jurisdiction. Implemented LADA office-wide policies and procedure to staff and manage bail bond forfeiture matters.
- Reviewed and edited colleagues' work on extradition filings in international fugitive cases.

- Carried a personal caseload of dozens of high profile criminal extradition matters involving both international and domestic fugitives.
- Appeared in court regularly to handle various criminal extradition and bail bond forfeiture matters.

March 2005 - June 2012

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - *Deputy District Attorney, Extradition Services Section*

- Solo attorney handling dozens of international extradition matters.
- Briefed LADA management and colleagues on international extradition procedures and offered extradition strategies when new laws permitted extradition of fugitives.
- Worked with law enforcement agents and office colleagues in drafting and processing extradition documents including declarations, legal statements, documentary evidence and correspondence.
- Collaborated with US Attorneys at the Office of International Affairs for submission of international extradition requests to foreign countries.
- Advised colleagues on bail bond forfeiture cases including drafting motions for inclusion in office wide brief bank.
- Regularly appeared in court to handle various criminal extradition and bail bond forfeiture matters.

July 2003 - August 2004

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - *Deputy District Attorney, Abolish Chronic Truancy (ACT) Unit*

- Collaborated with county-wide school district administrators to implement and operate this grant-funded program aimed at reducing truancy and preventing crime.
- Conducted school-wide parent meetings advising on truancy consequences and counseled individual students and families to facilitate regular school attendance.
- Represented the District Attorney at School Attendance Review Board (SARB) meetings.
- Prosecuted individuals whose children were chronically truant.

February 2003 - July 2003

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - *Deputy District Attorney, Pomona Branch Office*

- Prosecuted defendants charged with various felony crimes, including assault, robbery, and domestic violence.

June 2002 - February 2003

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles - *Deputy District Attorney, Juvenile Division, Eastlake*

- Adjudicated minors whose crimes included assaults, robberies, and sexual offenses.

July 2000 - June 2002

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles – *Deputy District Attorney, Central Trials*

- Prosecuted defendants charged with various felony crimes, including murder, assault, robbery, and domestic violence.
- Investigated and responded to petitions for Writs of Habeas Corpus brought by convicted felons whose cases were implicated by police corruption uncovered during an investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department Rampart Division.

March 1999 - June 2000

Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles – *Deputy District Attorney, Misdemeanor and Preliminary Hearing Unit*

- Prosecuted defendants charged with various misdemeanor offenses.
- Conducted preliminary hearings.

May 1996 - February 1999

Law Offices of Barbosa, Garcia and Barnes, Los Angeles – *Associate*

- Represented public and government entity clients in civil litigation matters including, employment and labor disputes, tort and civil rights violations.
- Advised Los Angeles Unified School Board members and staff and faculty on the implementation of special education reforms mandated under the *Chanda Smith Consent Decree*.

Education

August 1992- May 1995

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California – *Juris Doctor*

August 1981-December 1985

California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, California – *Bachelor of Arts, Communications; Minor, Political Science*

Awards and Recognitions

Calif. District Attorney Association, Co-Chair, Extradition & Foreign Prosecution Committee (2018-2022)

US Marshals Service 15 Most Wanted Fugitives - Capture of George Barraza

LAPD/Foreign Prosecution Liaison Unit - Capture of Guatemalan and Mexican Fugitives

Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Award for Establishment of Bail Bond Forfeiture Court

Project LEAD - Volunteer Facilitator

Admitted to the California State Bar, License number 181493