

Human Rights Commission

City of Alexandria, VA | Generated 3/5/2025 @ 4:56:03 PM by OnBoardGOV - Powered by ClerkBase

Applicant	Date	Address	Contact	Status
Amanda Eisenhour	1/27/2025	Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.): Yes		Validated
Maru Abebe Nega	9/19/2024	Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.): Yes		Validated
Kara Pitek	1/26/2025	Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.): Yes		Validated

Amanda Eisenhower

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Status

Name	Amanda Eisenhower
Application Date	1/27/2025
Expiration Date	8/27/2025
Board Member	Amanda Eisenhower
Status	Validated

Board	Vacancies	Status	Actions
Human Rights Commission	3	Contested	<input type="checkbox"/>

Basic Information

Name	Amanda Eisenhower
Date of Birth	REDACTED

Contact Information

Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.)

Yes

Email

REDACTED

Alternate email

REDACTED

Phone

REDACTED

Occupation

Employer (student and youth applicants list school)	DC Bar Pro Bono Center
Job Title	REDACTED

New Applicant or Current Member
New Applicant

What seat are you applying for? (Ex: citizen, architect, youth member, etc.)
Citizen

Do you currently live in the City of Alexandria? NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.
Yes

How long have you lived in Alexandria?
25 years

Statement of Interest
Having attended nearly a dozen meetings of the Alexandria Human Rights Commission as a member of the public, I feel called to join the commission in a formal capacity to advance human rights in the city as we enter a new administration already attacking our marginalized community members on all fronts. Under the new regime, progressive local governments will increasingly be the site of struggle because we can still have at least some presumption of democracy and regard for human rights from which we can begin a conversation. As a born and raised Alexandrian who is incredibly lucky to still be able to call this city my home, I have always been deeply invested in local government and advocating for social justice. In high school, I served on various ACPS advisory committees and as the student representative to the school board, where I strongly advocated for racial equity policies even when I was reminded that my roles were supposed to be symbolic. I remain deeply connected to organizing efforts in the city, including the movement for divestment with Alexandria for Palestinian Human Rights, and have frequently engaged with local government and spoken out on police oversight, ICE collaboration, and centering marginalized communities in our budget priorities. I believe that my professional background in housing justice work and legal services will be useful to the commission, particularly my familiarity with federal subsidy programs and landlord-tenant relations. I have also worked extensively with the immigrant community in the DMV, both in advocacy spaces and in a mutual aid capacity, having helped file over a dozen pro se asylum, temporary protected status, and work permit applications. As a queer, trans, and disabled community member, I can speak directly to my experiences while uplifting those that are not my own.

Have you ever served the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
Yes (Please explain), Student Representative to the School Board

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Board or Commission for which you are applying?
Yes

Are you now paid by the City of Alexandria?
No

Do any of your immediate relatives or business associates now serve the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
Yes

Please explain relation and capacity:
My Father is the chair of the ACPS Athletic Hall of Fame.

Attendance Requirements: Sec. 2-4-7 of the City Code requires appointees to attend at least 75% of the yearly committee meetings. Absences may be excused because of personal illness or serious illness of members of the immediate family, death of a family member, unscheduled business trips and emergency work assignments only. All other absences are recorded as unexcused. In light of the aforementioned statement, will you be able to attend at least 75% of the regular meetings of the board which you may be appointed?
Yes

If applicable, will you comply with the provisions of the City's conflict of interest requirements in City Ordinance 2867 regarding the completion of a financial disclosure statement?
Yes

Educational Background

I graduated from Alexandria City High School (then T.C. Williams) in 2017. I graduated from Princeton University with a B.A. in African American Studies and a certificate in Latin American Studies.

Summary of Work and Experience

Professionally, I run the DC Landlord and Tenant Legal Assistance Network hotline, connecting individuals facing eviction to legal services and providing non-legal support services as well as community outreach. Outside of work, I have organized with Alexandria for Palestinian Human Rights, NOVA DSA Abolition working group, Tenants and Workers United, Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid, and Good Trouble Coop. Growing up in Alexandria, I was involved in education advocacy and served on the school board as a student representative and on various advisory commissions.

References - Please list names, phone number and/or email addresses of three references that support your application.
REDACTED

Would you like to complete the Supplemental Questions? Non-Discrimination Data Supplemental Questions For Applications to City Boards, Commissions, and Committees Confidential - NOT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION Completion of this section is VOLUNTARY. When completed, the section is separated and redacted from your application prior to the application's submission to City Council. COUNCIL AND STAFF DO NOT USE THIS FORM IN DETERMINING APPOINTMENTS. Information provided in this section is treated confidentially and the information is forwarded to the Alexandria Office on Human Rights for compilation of statistics.
REDACTED

Gender
REDACTED

Sexual Orientation
REDACTED

Ethnicity
REDACTED

Do you have a disability?
REDACTED

How did you hear of this vacancy?
REDACTED

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Maru Abebe Nega

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Status		Board	Vacancies	Status	Actions
Name	Maru Abebe Nega	Human Rights Commission	3	Contested	<input type="checkbox"/>
Application Date	9/19/2024				
Expiration Date	3/19/2025				
Board Member	Maru Abebe Nega				
Status	Validated				

Basic Information

Name
Maru Abebe Nega

Contact Information

Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.)
Yes
Email
REDACTED
Phone
REDACTED

Occupation

Employer (student and youth applicants list school)
American University
Job Title
REDACTED

New Applicant or Current Member
New Applicant

What seat are you applying for? (Ex: citizen, architect, youth member, etc.)
Human Right Commission member

Do you currently live in the City of Alexandria? NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.

Statement of Interest

Statement of Interest for Alexandria City Human Rights Commission As a dedicated resident of Alexandria and a passionate advocate for human rights, I am eager to serve on the Alexandria City Human Rights Commission. I bring a unique blend of legal expertise, community engagement, and a commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within our city. My background as an Ethiopian American, combined with my professional and academic experiences, positions me to make meaningful contributions to the Commission’s mission. I hold a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree from Ethiopia and have pursued my passion for human rights and legal advocacy throughout my career. After moving to the United States 12 years ago, I transitioned into technology, becoming a self-taught software engineer. Over the past six years, I have worked as a full-stack engineer, gaining valuable experience in problem-solving, data analysis, and project management. Despite my successful career in technology, my dedication to human rights has remained steadfast. This drive has led me back to my legal roots, and I am currently completing my Master of Laws (LL.M.) at American University, specializing in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, with graduation set for December 2024. Living and working in the DMV area, a vibrant hub for the Ethiopian diaspora and Ethiopian American community, has given me a deep appreciation for the diverse cultures and backgrounds that define Alexandria. The city is home to many Ethiopian Americans who contribute significantly to its social, economic, and cultural fabric. As an Ethiopian American, I am deeply connected to this community and understand the unique challenges and opportunities we face. I am committed to advocating for the rights and well-being of all residents, particularly those from marginalized and underrepresented backgrounds. My expertise in both human rights and technology provides a distinct perspective that can benefit the Commission. I have experience in leveraging technology to solve complex problems, which I believe can be an asset in modernizing and enhancing the Commission’s outreach and advocacy efforts. My legal background equips me with the skills necessary to interpret laws, engage in policy discussions, and provide informed recommendations that align with Alexandria’s values of inclusivity and respect for all individuals. I am eager to give back to the city that has become my home by actively contributing to the Alexandria City Human Rights Commission. I envision a city where every resident, regardless of background, feels valued, heard, and empowered. By joining the Commission, I aim to advocate for policies that uphold the rights of our diverse community, engage with local residents to understand their concerns, and work collaboratively to promote an inclusive and equitable Alexandria. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and make a positive impact on our community. Sincerely, Maru Nega

Have you ever served the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
No

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Board or Commission for which you are applying?
No

Are you now paid by the City of Alexandria?
No

Do any of your immediate relatives or business associates now serve the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
No

Attendance Requirements: Sec. 2-4-7 of the City Code requires appointees to attend at least 75% of the yearly committee meetings. Absences may be excused because of personal illness or serious illness of members of the immediate family, death of a family member, unscheduled business trips and emergency work assignments only. All other absences are recorded as unexcused. In light of the aforementioned statement, will you be able to attend at least 75% of the regular meetings of the board which you may be appointed?
Yes

If applicable, will you comply with the provisions of the City's conflict of interest requirements in City Ordinance 2867 regarding the completion of a financial disclosure statement?
Yes

Educational Background

Master's Degree

Summary of Work and Experience

Summary of Work Experience • Human Rights Law & Education: • Currently pursuing an LL.M. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at American University College of Law, expected to graduate in December 2024. • Volunteering as an online instructor at Haramaya University College of Law, using online tools to deliver seminars on international human rights law and provide academic and career guidance to students. • Actively involved in developing and revising the LL.M. curriculum at Haramaya University, aligning it with international legal standards to improve legal education. • Volunteering to support low-income community members and immigrants by providing free legal services, assisting with legal education, and advocating for their rights. • 6+ Years of IT Experience: • Extensive experience as a Full Stack Developer, specializing in developing Single Page Applications (SPA) using Angular, React, and Vue.js. • Skilled in back-end development with Java and Node.js, with strong expertise in database management using MySQL and PostgreSQL. • Proficient in cloud technologies, including AWS and Google Cloud, with hands-on experience in CI/CD pipelines using Docker, Jenkins, and GitLab. • Worked for top tech companies and on government contract projects, focusing on creating scalable, secure, and user-friendly applications. • Certified in MuleSoft, Workato, Celigo, Salesforce, and DocuSign, specializing in integration, automation, and AI-based solutions. • Experienced in Agile methodologies, participating in sprint planning, code reviews, and daily stand-ups, ensuring high-quality project delivery. This diverse background in human rights, legal education, technology, and community service positions me to contribute effectively to advocacy efforts and the development of inclusive solutions that benefit marginalized groups in our community.

References - Please list names, phone number and/or email addresses of three references that support your application.
REDACTED

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REDACTED

Gender

REDACTED

Sexual Orientation

REDACTED

Ethnicity

REDACTED

Do you have a disability?

REDACTED

How did you hear of this vacancy?

REDACTED

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Kara Pitek

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Status

Name	Kara Pitek
Application Date	1/26/2025
Expiration Date	8/26/2025
Board Member	Kara Pitek
Status	Validated

Board	Vacancies	Status	Actions
Human Rights Commission	3	Contested	<input type="checkbox"/>

Basic Information

Name	Kara Pitek
Date of Birth	REDACTED

Contact Information

Yes, I am a resident of the City of Alexandria. (NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.)

Yes

Email

REDACTED

Alternate email

REDACTED

Phone

REDACTED

Occupation

Employer (student and youth applicants list school)	Self-Employed
Job Title	REDACTED

New Applicant or Current Member
New Applicant

What seat are you applying for? (Ex: citizen, architect, youth member, etc.)
Citizen

Do you currently live in the City of Alexandria? NOTE: If your answer is no, a residency waiver is required for positions that are not specific to an organization or profession.
Yes

How long have you lived in Alexandria?
1 year

Statement of Interest
I am interested in serving on Alexandria's Human Rights Commission

Have you ever served the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
No

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Board or Commission for which you are applying?
No

Are you now paid by the City of Alexandria?
No

Do any of your immediate relatives or business associates now serve the City of Alexandria in any capacity?
No

Attendance Requirements: Sec. 2-4-7 of the City Code requires appointees to attend at least 75% of the yearly committee meetings. Absences may be excused because of personal illness or serious illness of members of the immediate family, death of a family member, unscheduled business trips and emergency work assignments only. All other absences are recorded as unexcused. In light of the aforementioned statement, will you be able to attend at least 75% of the regular meetings of the board which you may be appointed?
Yes

If applicable, will you comply with the provisions of the City's conflict of interest requirements in City Ordinance 2867 regarding the completion of a financial disclosure statement?
Yes

Educational Background
Master of Public Administration in Inspector General Studies: Political & Regulatory Oversight, John Jay College of Criminal Justice Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Binghamton University

Summary of Work and Experience

References - Please list names, phone number and/or email addresses of three references that support your application.

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REDACTED

How did you hear of this vacancy?

REDACTED