Profile

The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13) governs the City's use of the information contained in this application. Some of the information sought in this application is private data under the Act. The requested information will be used by the appointing authority to carry out the City's official appointment responsibilities. You are not required to provide any information. However, failure to answer the application questions may cause the appointing authority to reject your application. The majority of items contained in this application are public, including name, address, employment, skills, training and experience, and are therefore available to anyone requesting it. The remaining items on the application form are classified as private. The private data is available only to you and to other persons in the City who, because of work assignments, reasonably require access to the information.

Which Boards would you like to apply for? Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity: Submitted						
Email Address						
Select Your Ward						
✓ Ward 5						
Select Your District						
✓ District 10 - Como						
Street Address			Suite or Apt			
Sileet Address			State			
City				Postal Code		
Primary Phone	Alternate Phone					
Interests & Experiences						
Minnesota Department of Administration	<u>Vendor S</u> ρ	pecialist				

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Why are you interested in serving on a board or committee?

I am interested in serving on a board/committee because of my values which are commitment to civil rights, creating just and equitable communities and this is one of the ways that I can contribute my talents and skills as a citizen to the development and betterment of my City. My intension and willingness to serve is also a way on my part to deepen our democratic institutions by getting involved in some capacity to ensure that the City of St. Paul and the State of Minnesota at large becomes a more fair and equitable place for all irrespective of their race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, e.t.c.

What skills/training or experience do you possess for the committee(s) for which you seek appointment?

In my current capacity as a Vendor Specialist at the Department of Administration - Office of Equity in Procurement, my work is to promote diversity and inclusion within the state government by encouraging the use of Minnesota small businesses owned by racial minorities, women, disabled, economically disadvantaged and veteran owned that have historically experienced economic and social challenges.

Upload a Resume

Question applies to Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity

The Saint Paul HREEO Commission seeks candidates with strong community involvement experience. Briefly describe your background that relates to the purpose and work of the Human Rights Commission. Include details of work and involvement in human rights and all work that might contribute to the mission of the Human Rights Commission.

Throughout the trajectory of my professional work and volunteer activities, I have remained committed to advancing equity and human rights for people who are most marginalized in our society. For me, this has most taken the form of involvement in careers that make a difference in people's lives. I have worked for SEIU, advocating on behalf of home care workers to ensure that they could be unionized. In addition, I have worked for nonprofit organizations to secure affordable housing opportunities to those who were homeless. In my most current role, I am putting my commitment to use by ensuring that disadvantaged businesses have the opportunity to bid with the state, thereby closing the wealth gap in our communities of color and low wealth communities. In all of these roles, I have been able to build strong relationships with community members and want to build on them by volunteering my time with the Human Rights Commission.

Question applies to Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity

What do you see as crucial issues facing our community, and briefly explain why?

One of the most significant issues facing our community in St. Paul is affordable housing and the rise of gentrification. As more affordable housing properties are being converted to market rate and more investment happens along key areas such as the Green Line, more people of color and immigrants are being priced out of housing options. This is a key human rights issue because housing and a safe place to raise one's family is a right, not a privilege. In order to have a vibrant St. Paul community, we need to be able to ensure that everyone has a safe place to live right here in the community that they love without having to locate somewhere else and forfeit their connections to family, community, and other opportunities. Another issue that is of most importance to our community is the trauma facing our immigrant and refugee communities as a result of what is happening at the Federal level. These communities, of which I am a part of as an immigrant myself, are at risk of losing so much due to the vitriol that is coming out of Washington and St Paul, not only needs to be a sanctuary city, but needs to pass strong policy to ensure that these communities are not further exploited in our city.

Question applies to Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity

Please describe your present and past community involvement which are applicable such as voluntary, social, city, church, school, business, and professional. Include dates of involvement, and any offices or leadership positions held.

In 2010 - 2012, I served on the board of directors at my church in Minneapolis, Christ Church International. I also served as a grant reviewer for Headwaters Foundation for their Community Innovation Grant from 2014 - 2014; in this capacity I reviewed grant application from smaller, capacity organizations and made recommendations for which should be granted funds. At the beginning of 2018, I was also elected to serve on the board of deacons at my church, Church of All Nations, where I will be helping to encourage our church to embrace a more womanist way of being in our ethos and theology.

Question applies to Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity

As part of your duties as a HREEO Commissioner you may be called to serve on a panel regarding fair housing issues. Please describe your experience, if any, working on fair housing issues? Note: lack of experience will not preclude applicants from serving.

Previous to my job with the Department of Administration, I was the Congregation Engagement Coordinator for Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. This is a collaborative of congregations working to end homelessness in the State of Minnesota. In this capacity, I was exposed to the challenges that many people who are homeless face and saw that the lack of affordable housing, incarceration, and underemployment were key issues that limited the capacity of families to find what they needed in terms of housing options. I was able to organize churches to take action, mostly in the form of financial support or providing space to many of our vulnerable families.

Question applies to Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity

List any skills, knowledge, or perspectives that would serve the Human Rights Commission's ability to meet its mission and further the work of its committees.

Experience working for a governmental agency in Minnesota in the EEO Compliance field Knowledge of public procurement industry and compliance Knowledge of fair housing issues Experience working with people of color and immigrant and refugees Experience with community engagement, organizing, and advocacy

Demographics		
Ethnicity		
✓ African American		
Gender		
✓ Male		
01/07/1976		
Date of Birth		