



SAN RAFAEL CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Department: City Clerk

Prepared by: Lindsay Lara, City Clerk **City Manager Approval:**

TOPIC: FIRE COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW APPLICANTS AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL ONE FOUR-YEAR TERM TO THE END OF MARCH 2025 ON THE FIRE COMMISSION DUE TO THE EXPIRATION OF TERM OF NADINE ATIEH HADE

RECOMMENDATION:

Interview the following applicants and make an appointment to fill one four-year term to the end of March 2025 on the Fire Commission due to the expiration of term of Nadine Atieh Hade.

Name
Nadine Atieh Hade
Sam Rodriguez

BACKGROUND:

Nadine Atieh Hade’s term expired at the end of March 2021. The City Clerk’s office recruited for applications and received two applications by the deadline of July 2, 2021.

The [Fire Commission](#) consists of five members and two alternate members who advise and support the goals and objectives of the San Rafael Fire Department. In concert with the Fire Chief, Fire Commission Members contribute their experience and expertise with department-related initiatives, such as Public Education and Information, Emergency Preparedness, support of the San Rafael Fire Foundation, Essential Facilities Project, Photography and documenting Fire Service History.

ANALYSIS:

The deadline for submitting applications was July 2, 2021 and the City Clerk’s Office received two (2) applications. Staff recommends the City Council interview the two (2) eligible applicants and make an appointment to fill the one term.

FOR CITY CLERK ONLY

Council Meeting:

Disposition:

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

The call for applications for the Fire Commission was advertised through mass email notification, Canal Alliance, the City website, Nextdoor and Facebook social media platforms.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Interview the two applicants and make an appointment to fill one four-year term to the end of March 2025 on the Fire Commission.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Two (2) Applications
2. Municipal Code Excerpt

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, June 07, 2021 10:03:08 AM
Last Modified: Monday, June 07, 2021 10:10:17 AM
Time Spent: 00:07:09
IP Address: 199.88.89.34

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Q1

Contact Information

First and Last Name	Nadine Atieh Hade
Address	[REDACTED]
City/Town	SAN RAFAEL
State/Province	CA
ZIP/Postal Code	94901
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]

Q2

Fire Commission

What Board would you like to apply to?

Page 3

Q6

How long have you lived in San Rafael?

5 years

Q7

Business Information

Company	City of San Rafael
Address	1400 Fifth Avenue
City/Town	San Rafael
ZIP/Postal Code	94901

Boards and Commissions Application

Q8

How did you hear about this vacant position?

Other (please specify):

Currently a commissioner

Q9

Do you participate in any civic activities? If so, what are they?

Volunteering, support non-profits, engage in local government

Q10

List any civic organizations of which you are a member:

San Rafael Fire Commission

Q11

Education:

Bachelors - Cal Poly; Major in Finance and Accounting; Minor in Speech Communications

Q12

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

I want to continue to give back to my Community and provide my financial expertise when needed.

Q13

Describe possible areas in which you may have a conflict of interest with the City:

I work for the City of San Rafael

Q14

Respondent skipped this question

Upload your resume.

Page 4: Demographics

Q15

Ethnicity

[REDACTED]

Q16

To which gender do you most identify?

[REDACTED]

Q17



How old are you?

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:47:50 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 8:15:13 PM
Time Spent: 00:27:22
IP Address: 73.15.154.184

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Q1

Contact Information

First and Last Name	Sam Rodriguez
Address	[REDACTED]
City/Town	San Rafael
State/Province	CA
ZIP/Postal Code	94903
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]

Q2

What Board would you like to apply to?

Fire Commission,
Planning Commission

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Q6

How long have you lived in San Rafael?

5 years

Q7

Business Information

Company	Rodriguez Strategic Partners
Address	4460 Redwood Highway, Suite 16-367
City/Town	San Rafael
ZIP/Postal Code	94903

Q8

City Manager's Newsletter

How did you hear about this vacant position?

Q9

Do you participate in any civic activities? If so, what are they?

Executive Committee Member of SF Workforce Investment Board
Member, Sierra Club-Marin County
Volunteer, North Bay Aquatics
Volunteer Advisor, RISE (Tuition Free College)

Q10

List any civic organizations of which you are a member:

San Francisco Workforce Investment Board
Sierra Club-Marin County
North Bay Aquatics Swim Club - Marin County
MSEL - Marin School for Environmental Leadership (Terra Linda H.S.)

Q11

Education:

B.A. University of Texas at Dallas
Harvard University, JFK School of Gov't, Activity-based Budgeting Certificate
University of London, Ealing, Comparative Politics

Q12

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

I have more than 20 years of combined federal, state public policy experience combined with private sector management in the telecommunications, technology and emerging industries sectors. Moreover, I am passionate about public and civic service and the role it can bring to enhance quality of life for all with a fair, balanced and evidence based decision making process.

Q13

Describe possible areas in which you may have a conflict of interest with the City:

Do not have a conflict of interest

Q14

Upload your resume.

Sam Rodriguez Bio (1) (4).pdf (76KB)

Page 4: Demographics

Q15

Ethnicity

[REDACTED]

Q16

To which gender do you most identify?

[REDACTED]

Q17

How old are you?

[REDACTED]

Sam Rodriguez



Sam Rodriguez, Founder of Rodriguez Strategic Partners LLC, has built a strong track record over the past 25 years as a consensus builder and collaborative strategist at the federal, state and local level on many policy issues including education, economic development, cannabis regulation, science, technology, telecommunications and workforce development. Sam has always taken pride in his ability to understand the nexus between policy and politics when solving complex issues affecting a dynamic matrix of vested interests.

Sam's work experience in both the public and private sectors includes serving as Chief Deputy Director at EDD and as an architect of the State Labor and Workforce Development Agency. Sam spearheaded the integration of technology to better serve employers and job seekers and developed the 'Technology for Teachers Initiative' for interested engineers and network managers who were eligible to be science and math educators for K - 12 schools.

Sam previously was Comcast's California State Director for Regulatory and Legislative Affairs. As the California Director, he successfully pursued a policy agenda that provided an economic platform to help stabilize the workforce and continue new investments in technology to foster growth in a highly competitive market and also played an instrumental role in the approval of the Comcast/NBC Universal merger. Sam's work at Comcast was recognized by the American Association of Political Consultants with a Pollie Award for Public Education through new media.

More recently Sam served as the Director of Legislative Affairs, responsible for California, Nevada and Arizona for the UFCW Western States Council where he spearheaded landmark workplace and environmental legislation to eliminate single use plastic bags and was integral in drafting and advocating for regulations in both medical and adult-use Cannabis in the state of California. Sam's early efforts to collaborate with local government (cities), law enforcement (police chiefs), and Cannabis industry leaders (CCIA) led to the development of a 'Policy and Regulatory Framework' allowing for the issuance of a diverse set of licenses for commercial cannabis in the California market.

For close to a decade Sam has also served as an Appointed Board Member on the California Employment Training Panel and the San Francisco Workforce Investment Board. As a board member of the California Employment Training Panel, appointed by the Assembly Speaker, Sam assesses investment requests that spur job creation and job retention affecting the state's economy.

While in the Federal Government as a Presidential Appointee, Sam worked with three Cabinet Secretaries at the US Department of Energy as the Assistant Director of Science for Education and Communications. He was instrumental in developing strategic communication initiatives to educate stakeholders in the construction of the Joint Genome Institute in California. He excelled at developing new programs and managing complex systems that enhanced access and availability to economically disadvantaged communities. During his tenure, he developed a Community College Science Institute, the first of its kind and received recognition from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government Innovation Awards program. He was also editor of DOE's 'Science in the National Interest' - a newsletter highlighting research and development investments in projects related to energy efficiency, transportation and renewables.

Sam political experience includes serving as Political Director for the California Democratic Party, Director of Hispanic Affairs at the Democratic National Committee and as the Washington State Director for Kerry for President in the general election in 2004. During the early 1990's, Rodriguez was also one of the first in the nation to manage campaigns for minority women running for the US Congress in California and Texas and he was the first Latino to serve as Press Secretary for the President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Over the last two decades he has also traveled to Latin America on numerous occasions as a trainer for the U.S. Department of State with a focus on communications training and campaign management.

He is graduate of the University of Texas at Dallas with a B.A. in Government and Politics.

SAN RAFAEL CHARTER

ARTICLE VIII Executive and Administrative Departments, Section 10. FIRE COMMISSION.

There shall be a board of fire commissioners appointed by the council, the exact number of which shall be set by ordinance or resolution of the council, one of whom may be a councilman. The chief of the fire department shall be an ex officio member of the commission but shall not be entitled to vote as a member of the commission. The members of the commission shall serve for a term of four years and shall be subject to removal by the affirmative vote of three members of the council. The terms of office of members of the commission shall be staggered in the manner provided by resolution of the council. The board of fire commissioners shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed or conferred in this charter or by the ordinances of the city. (Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 121, August 20, 1973: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46, May 31, 1967.)

2.16.010 Board of Fire Commissioners.*

A board of fire commissioners is created. (Ord. 889 § 2, 1967: Ord. 825 § 1, 1965: Ord. 422).

* Fire Commission--See San Rafael Charter, Art. VIII § 10.

2.16.011 Board membership--Compensation.

The board of fire commissioners shall consist of five members appointed by the city council, one of whom may be a councilman. The chief of the fire department shall be an ex officio member of the commission, but shall not be entitled to vote as a member of the commission. All members of the commission shall serve without compensation. (Ord. 889 § 3 (part), 1967).

2.16.012 Board term of office and removal.

The members of the board of fire commissioners shall serve for a term of four years and shall be subject to removal by the affirmative vote of three members of the council. The terms of office of members of the commission shall be staggered in the manner provided by resolution of the city council. (Ord. 889 § 3 (part), 1967).

2.16.013 Board powers and duties.

Subject to the direction and control of the city council, as provided in Section 2.04.030 of this code, the powers and duties of the board of fire commissioners shall be:

To review and recommend concerning the future needs of the fire department in respect to long-range capital needs, including buildings, training facilities, and water mains and hydrant replacements;

To review the relationship of the fire department with other governmental agencies and private entities concerning topics which the commission feels present a true and pressing need for the city's fire service, i.e., mutual aid and the fire rating system of the Independent Insurance Office;

To review, comment and make recommendations regarding the annual operating budget of the department;

To recommend to the fire chief and the city council action concerning initial adoption and future amendments to the fire prevention code, the building code, and other such ordinances which pertain to the prevention of fires within the community;

To receive monthly reports from the department head concerning the general operations and functions of the department;

To perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the city council.

(Ord. 1131 § 1, 1974: Ord. 889 § 3 (part), 1967).