

Please complete the following information and submit with current resume or biography to the address below. Application process is open until January 15, 2021.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Mary A. Younger

Home Address: 215 E. Whittier Street

City: Columbus State: Ohio Zip: 43206

Columbus Neighborhood: South - German Village

Primary Phone Number: 614-226-6137

Preferred Email Address: mayoung@att.net

Reference #1 Kevin Mulrane 614-488-2552 cell

Reference #2 Mitchell Williams 614-214-3188 cell

Reference #3 Judge Steven McIntosh 614-462-3550 Chambers

We are seeking to seat a Civilian Review Board that reflects the rich diversity of our community. Providing this information will help us reach that goal but is completely optional.

Birthdate (Month/Day/Year): February 13, 1949

Gender: Female

Ethnicity: Italian/American, born in Italy

LGBTQ: No

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Occupation/Employer: Retired August 14, 2020 from Franklin County Public Defender

Title/Position: Staff Attorney

Work Address: 373 S. High St.

City: Columbus State: OH Zip: 43206

Educational Background: JD from Capital University, BA from OSU

QUESTIONS:

1. What inspires your interest in becoming a member of the Civilian Review Board? What insights from your community involvement, lived experiences and/or your job/career would you bring to this work?

2. If appointed, explain how can you make clear and unbiased recommendations based on the facts presented? (limit 300 words)

3. Do you have any experience related to a civilian review board? If so, please explain

4. Please share anything else you would like to be considered during the review of your application

If you are not selected to be part of the Civilian Review Board, would you be interested in becoming involved in other ways with neighborhood safety in Columbus? Yes No

Submit completed application and current resume or biography via email to:

Email: civilianreviewboard@columbus.gov

Mail or deliver to:

Attn: Office of the Mayor/Civilian Review Board
90 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Telephone: 614-724-4438

Please be advised that the following information will be used to determine eligibility in consideration of a potential appointment to the Columbus Civilian Review Board. Further, such information may be deemed a public record and may be disseminated where appropriate. Applicants must reside in Columbus, Ohio. In consideration of each applicant, the City of Columbus and Mayor's Office shall abide by all laws of the State of Ohio and the City of Columbus.

1. At first I did not know how I felt about a Civilian Review Board. Then, over the years after much reflection and as events evolved I came to see it as a very positive tool. As soon as I heard that a Civilian Review Board might be a possibility in Columbus, Ohio I became very interested. The inspiration for my interest comes from a deep belief that the job of a law enforcement officer is a powerful and influential position. That particular officer could change the life of those with whom he/she come into contact for the very positive or he/she could ruin their lives forever.

I have always been involved in the Criminal Justice System to some extent. I began when I was a volunteer auxiliary police officer with Columbus Police. This was while they still had a functioning auxiliary force. I did that for one year. I did receive the Peace Officer Certificate after completing 300 hours of training at the academy, and then working with regular officers in different capacities from directing traffic to vice.

My most important contact with law enforcement came from watching my husband. He was a police officer with The Ohio State University for 34 years before retiring. He was a superb officer because he never became a part of the problem. He definitely served his community. I had the opportunity to observe a model officer do his job for 34 years.

I then decided to go to law school. After law school, I went to work for the Franklin County Public Defender Office and worked there as a criminal defense attorney until I retired on August 14, 2020. I was an attorney in that office for 36 years. My job was to try and to resolve felony cases. Once I was assigned a client, I would first interview him and then begin working the case. This could include involving social workers, investigators, law clerks or hiring experts. It would depend on what the case needed. I would then interface with the prosecutors and judges and do whatever was necessary to advocate for my client. When it came to representing my clients, no stone was left unturned. Being an attorney in the Public Defender's Office required much. I was good and I was respected.

This is the same kind of work ethic that I would bring if selected to the Civilian Review Board. I know how important the decisions made are to the individual officer, the aggrieved individual and the people of Columbus and to decency in general. I have a respect for the law and a regard for the Constitution. I have analyzed and prepared cases for the past 36 years. I know how to do the work within my given parameters.

2. If appointed I know that I can make clear and unbiased recommendations based on the facts. I have always held positions where I have had to evaluate facts and client's positions and then make recommendations for them based on clarity and objectivity. I worked with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Central Ohio for seven years as a National Accounts representative. My position required that I service and sell large accounts . I worked with companies to install a health care package which fit the needs of that particular company. I then helped to implement the program and to help the employees understand what their employer had purchased for them. I retired from the Franklin County Public Defender Office on August 14, 2020. I had this position for 36 years. I represented indigent defendants charged with felonies in Franklin County. My position consisted of making clear and unbiased recommendations based on the law and the facts. I read the law (statutory and case law), consulted with experts, investigators, and doctors if necessary, and then met with my client or my client and his family . My function was to make recommendations and to guide the process. This would be whether one was charged with theft or aggravated murder. The decision was always my clients, but they always wanted clear and concise recommendations. I would review the facts of the case, apply the law and then give my advice as to what I believed a jury might do with these facts. My client would then have to decide whether to go to trial or accept the plea offer which the prosecutor had presented. This required much guidance and negotiation. Sometimes a client was unable to see what was in his/her best interests . This then became delicate, but the ultimate decision was always theirs and one always had to remain clear and unbiased.

3. At the present time I am one of two Complaint Liaisons for the City of Bexley. I began this in September, 2020. My function is to aid anyone who needs help to navigate the complaint process. The citizen can go on line to fill out a complaint form and if they need help, there are two of us who can help with anything at all. From that point, after the complaint is filled out, it is investigated. It can end here or go to a review board with the Mayor making the final decision.

4. If chosen to be on the Civilian Review Board I believe that I would approach any investigation in the same way in which I approached my felony cases. I know that in order to accomplish a fair and just result one must do the work. Since I am retired at this time I have the time to do that. I believe that the Civilian Review Board needs to become a body which comes to be trusted and relied upon by the citizens in our community. Both law enforcement and the community need to have faith and to trust this board. Board must do the hard work, be unbiased and owe no allegiances. I believe that I would be an excellent choice because of my work ethic, respect for the law, law enforcement, the Constitution and also all of my years as a criminal defense attorney. That is, everything had to be questioned and analyzed. This will serve everyone.

Thank you.