

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Sunday, December 3, 2023 3:07:59 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title Ms.

First Name Mimi

Last Name Turin

Today's Date 12/3/2023

Street Address

City

Zip

Do you live in & are
you registered to vote
in Whatcom County?

Yes

Do you have a different
mailing address?

Field not completed.

Primary Telephone

Secondary Telephone

Email Address

mvturin.law@gmail.com

Step 2

1. Name of Board or
Committee

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force/Law &
Justice Council

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force Position:	Concerned Citizen
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 2
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	No
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to	Attached

the following questions

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I am semi-retired, having devoted my professional career to public service in various capacities that included social work with elderly and disabled clients, as well as operational and administrative responsibilities in a large metropolitan police department, before returning to school to study law. After becoming an attorney in 1990, my career continued in local government, primarily in defense litigation. This experience has provided me with insight into the needs and limitations of multiple government agencies. I retired from the full-time practice of law in 2016 and am now self-employed providing dispute resolution services as an Arbitrator and Mediator, which has given me insight into the competing interests of parties in various walks of life.

I also have undergraduate degrees in Criminal Justice and Psychology, during which time I interned in a women's prison in Florida where I was able to interact directly with prisoners and staff. Later on I represented jail/prison employees in various legal matters. Both experiences provided considerable insight into the challenges facing those systems as well as the individuals who had ended up there.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I firmly believe in community involvement. Although it is human nature for people to complain, I believe that you shouldn't complain if you're not willing to participate and try to improve things. Volunteer service on community boards is one way to do that. For 13 years I served on the Planning and Zoning board where I used to live in Davie, FL, and found it very rewarding to have that involvement and input in the growth of my community. Having worked for several years in the law enforcement area, I've seen firsthand that incarceration is not always the "right fit" for every transgression in society, and believe that I could provide some insight into possible improvements. Having recently moved to Washington state, I would welcome the opportunity to serve in some kind of community capacity and this board, given its focus and purpose, seemed the most appropriate given my background. Thank you.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Ilene Temchin 305.962.8680 (EST)
Mary Kay Robinson 360.303.1911

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Mimi V. Turin

Place Signed /



<u>ARBITRATOR/NEUTRAL ROSTERS</u> FINRA (Financial Industry) AAA (Employment and Consumer Panels) NCDS (Magnuson Moss and Consumer) City of Miami Gardens (Special Master) Better Business Bureau National Futures Association	<u>BAR ADMISSIONS</u> State of Washington, Pending State of Florida, April 1990 Southern District of Florida, July 1991 Northern District of Florida, February 2011 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, April 2003 United States Supreme Court, October 2004
<u>EDUCATION</u> University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, FL: Juris Doctor, December 1989. Dean's List St. Thomas University, Miami, FL: MS in Management, May 1983. BA (Psychology), December 1983. Summa Cum Laude. BA (Criminal Justice), May 1979. Summa Cum Laude.	<u>CERTIFICATIONS</u> - Florida Bar Board Certified in City, County and Local Government Law (since 2001) - Arbitrator qualified in accordance with Florida Rule 11.020 in 2005 - Circuit Civil Mediator: Florida Supreme Court certified since 2016

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Turin Center for Dispute Resolution, LLC, Davie, FL

2016-present: Dispute resolution practice as a neutral (Arbitrator, Mediator and Special Master) adjudicating cases involving labor and employment disputes, Red Light Camera infractions, Code Enforcement appeals, Lemon Law and Warranty disputes (Magnuson Moss), Class action settlement claims, consumer and financial industry disputes. Currently handling cases in Florida, Texas and California; pending admission and business transfer to Washington.

1990-2023: Progressively responsible legal work primarily involving public sector labor and employment issues including for the following entities:

Civil Service Board, City of Ft. Lauderdale: 2017-2023. (Special Counsel to the Civil Service Board): As Board Counsel provided advice to this quasi-judicial Board for appeal hearings from employees, prepared findings and conclusion, and provided training for new board members on Florida Sunshine provisions.

Office of the Florida Attorney General, Ft. Lauderdale, FL: 2012-2016. (Assistant Attorney General) provided defense litigation in state and federal court for state agencies and employees primarily for employment claims, but also in personal injury claims, prison litigation, and foster care system aging-out appeals. Prior to retirement, transferred to the Consumer/Lemon Law section and served as Board Counsel to the Arbitration Panels in the tri-county area and prepared findings and conclusions following Board hearings.

Bryant Miller Olive, Miami, FL: 2010-2011 (one-year contract "of counsel") Provided advice and representation to local government entities in labor and employment matters.

City of Miami, Miami, FL: 1999-2010 (Assistant City Attorney) Provided labor and employment litigation defense in State and Federal Court on claims involving Title VII, Civil Rights/Section 1983, FLSA, FMLA, FCRA, Consent Decree with the Department of Justice, Whistleblower, ADA, Appeals (State and Federal), Unemployment Compensation, Workers' Compensation, test validation challenges, Sunshine and law, and Charter and Code challenges. Also served as Board counsel for quasi judicial boards.

City of Hialeah, Hialeah, FL: 1995-1999 (Assistant City Attorney/Police Legal Advisor) Represented the Police Department in Civil Forfeiture litigation, represented the City in labor grievances and arbitrations with the IAFF and AFSCME bargaining units, and prepared legislation. Board counsel for quasi judicial boards.

Dade County Police Benevolent Association: 1993-1995 (Staff Attorney) Provided legal advice and representation to law enforcement and correctional officers in grievance and arbitration matters, internal investigations, collective bargaining, and on-site discharge of firearms situations.

Law Office of Mimi V. Turin, Miami, FL 1990-1993. Part-time legal practice primarily focused on family law for clients from the Dade County Bar's pro bono program.

PROFESSIONAL NON-ATTORNEY EXPERIENCE

Miami Police Department, Miami, FL 1982-1993

1990-1993: Personnel Manager: Managed the personnel functions of this 1,500-member department, and supervised a large staff of professional and clerical employees.

1986-1990: Analyst: Prepared Affirmative Action reports, researched EEOC complaints, coordinated the personnel assignments, and supervised the production of public records.

1982-1986: Identification Technician: Forensic crime scene processing and latent print comparisons.

Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, Miami, FL, 1980-1982

Social Worker/Counselor in the Aging and Adult Program.

AWARDS, PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT & MEMBERSHIPS

- * Adjunct Instructor in labor and employment legal issues - Florida International University, College of Business Administration (2011-2013)
- * Legal Trends - 2011 Florida Legal Elite
- * Florida Bar Fee Arbitration Panel (since 2010)
- * Florida Bar Grievance Committee "K" 2007-2010 (Chairperson 2009; Vice Chair 2010)
- * Town of Davie Planning & Zoning Board (Board Member 2001-2013; Chairperson 2009-2013)
- * Special Master for Code Enforcement proceedings (2007-2012, 2016-2023)
- * Speaker and Instructor (police training on court preparation and presentation skills, ethical issues in employment litigation, Financial Emergency for local government agencies)
- * Memberships and Committees: Association for South Florida Mediators and Arbitrators; Florida Association of Professional Mediators; City, County and Local Government; Labor and Employment; Appellate Practice; Cuban American Bar Association; Dade County Bar Association; Florida Association of Women Lawyers; and Broward Association of Women Lawyers; Broward County Bar Association.
- * Volunteer tutor with Children's Harbor (2011-2012)
- * Implemented and coordinated annual Easter Basket drives and Back-to-School drives benefiting foster children with the Miami Children's Home Society and ChildNet (2008-2011)
- * Volunteer with The Children's Trust (assisted with evaluating RFP submissions for grant funds for summer camps and after-school care programs) (2008-2009)
- * Volunteer Judge for Moot Court competitions
- * Volunteer attorney with the Put Something Back program (1990-1993) and the Guardian ad Litem program (1990)
- * Volunteer tutor to help adults learn to read through the Broward Library system (1985-1986)
- * Volunteer archivist for FamilySearch.org
- * Proficient in Word, ProLaw, LawDoc, LotusNotes, Outlook, Word Perfect, Photoshop
- * Proficient in research including Westlaw, Lexis, Fastcase, Google, GoogleScholar, Ancestry, Family Search, and public record sources
- * Genealogical Society of Broward County (Board Member)
- * Calligraphy and lettering enthusiast