



BOARD AND COMMISSION APPLICATION

JUL 25 2018

CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

10 N. Division Street

Battle Creek, Michigan 49014-4004

269.966.3378

MANAGER'S OFFICE
CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

PLEASE CHECK THE BOARD(S) OR COMMISSION(S) ON WHICH YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING

(This application will remain active for one year from the date of receipt)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Advisory Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic District Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battle Creek Housing Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Relations Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battle Creek Transit Local Advisory Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Income Tax Board of Appeals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battle Creek Transit Local Coordinating Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> International Relations Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battle Creek TIFA/Brownfield Development Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> License Review Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle Advisory Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Officers' Compensation Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Appeals | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Review (Assessing) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable BC Committee |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Assessment Review Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Service Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Advisory Council |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dangerous Building Hearings Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Advisory Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Appeals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goguaac Lake Board | |

Name LANCE JAMES D.

Last First M.I.

Home Address 211 WESTCHESTER WAY E-mail jlance@kehb.com

Telephone: Home NA Work 269-966-3000 Cell 269-491-2715

Are you are resident of the City of Battle Creek? Yes No For how long? 12+ years

Are you at least 18 years of age? Yes No

Current occupation (students, list school activities) Attorney at Law

Employer/work address (students, list school) Kreis Enderle, 1 West Michigan Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49015

Educational background/degrees (students, list year in school) Juris Doctor 2004, B.A. Anthropology 1998, B.A. Psychology 1996

List any appointive positions/boards/commissions or committees on which you have served and year(s) of service
Michigan Board of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons, Board of Review for the City of Battle Creek, Board of Directors Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

List any organizations to which you belong (professional, technical, community, nonprofit; students, list school organizations) Michigan Bar Ass
Michigan Bar Ass., Calhoun County Bar Ass., Title Insurance Litigation, and Probate Section

Briefly state why you wish to serve and why you believe that you are qualified for the position. Please be specific (use back of form if necessary) See Attached Exhibit 1.

I understand that any or all information on this form may be verified. I consent to the release of this information for publicity purposes.
Signature [Signature] Date 7-24-18

RETURN APPLICATION TO: City Manager's Office, 10 N. Division Street,
Room 206, Battle Creek, MI 49014

**EXHIBIT 1 – City Commissioner Application
(James D. Lance)**

My experience working in the executive and judicial branches of government, in private practice, and in the community developed my comprehensive qualifications that will make me an effective city commissioner, and a diligent steward of the public wellness.

In the Executive and Judicial Branches:

I have had the good fortune to work in the governor's office and for the Michigan Supreme Court. My experience working in these branches of government enhanced my decision making, objectivity, and collaborative skills, all of which are essential qualifications to being a city commissioner.

Another invaluable lesson that aids me is my first-hand experience in the executive and judicial decision-making process. An often overlooked and underappreciated experience while working in the executive and judicial branches of government was participating in the vigorous debates over policy issues and cases. While the practitioners and the general public only saw the end result of the debate, in my position, I gained valuable, eye-opening experience with the deliberation and decision making process. It is a skill that is necessary to be an effective city commissioner considering the various, and often passionate differing viewpoints.

In Private Practice:

I have had the opportunity to obtain valuable experience in a variety of areas of the law. While my primary practice focuses on civil litigation, real estate and estate planning/elder law, I work for a firm that practices in all areas of the law. These areas have included criminal matters (felonies and misdemeanors); zoning issues, bankruptcy matters, and business matters. A diverse background provides me with a competent and expansive knowledge base that affords me the confidence to tackle a broad area of issues impacting the city of Battle Creek.

Practicing law also afforded me with the opportunity to interact with fellow practitioners as we advocated for our clients. While advancing a client's position, it was important to recognize that that opposing counsel was not the enemy but rather, a colleague. This understanding often facilitated the resolution of difficult situations, and also created an atmosphere of respect and fair dealing, the significance of which will benefit serving as a city commissioner.

In the Community:

Being an active part of the community created for me a solid network of friends and supporters. I have attended Neighborhood Planning Commission ("NPC") meetings, and participated in discussions relating to issues relating to my particular NPC. I have served on the Boys and Girls Club of Battle Creek, and Mid-Michigan Junior Achievement board of directors. I have participated in charitable activities such as the United Way and I continue to provide *pro bono* services to the Legal Aid Bureau of Southwestern Michigan. These opportunities allowed me

the chance to interact with members of the community with both sufficient and insufficient means. These interactions give me a grounded perspective. Just as important, I understand and respect the obligations of and significance of being an elected public official within the community, and the examples we must set.

The collective experiences detailed above provide me with a perspective on the proper role as a city commissioner, and as an elected official in the community. I have had the unique experience of working in the executive branch and in the judicial branch of government. These experiences provide me with the solid foundation necessary to become an effective city commissioner. Moreover, my community involvement provides me with a solid background of the challenges and opportunities that the city of Battle Creek faces, and that knowledge will assist me in serving as a city commissioner.

I understand that serving as a city commissioner is a privilege and an opportunity to serve the community. I will stay grounded, humble, and respectful, and will never besmirch the office of city commissioner if appointed. I firmly believe that I am the most qualified candidate for appointment and I thank you for your consideration.