

March 24, 2020

Dear Applicant,

We are pleased to announce that we are prepared to resume our interview process starting tomorrow, Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. We would like to thank all of you for your cooperation and patience while we moved to an all in-home teleconferencing format for the remainder of the interviews. This format will ensure your health and safety, as well as that of our staff and contractors and is in keeping with the direction from the Governor and public health officials. As we resume, we ask for your continued patience and understanding during the initial meetings as there may be minor technical issues.

For those of you whose interview was cancelled on Monday, March 22nd and Tuesday, March 23rd, we will be reaching out to you individually to reschedule your interview. Those interviews will probably be held on a Friday in the near future and you will be scheduled into the same time slot as you were previously scheduled unless there is a compelling reason that prohibits your interview at that time. Our staff will call each of you individually once we have identified the days for those rescheduled interviews.

If you have an upcoming interview, we will send you an email with a link that will allow you to attend the meeting remotely. That link will be sent to you at least 15 minutes prior to your interview. When you receive the link, you may open it and enter into the meeting using a Zoom format. The technicians from our contracting video service, Video Streaming, will test your connection to ensure the best video and audio presentation possible at that moment. In addition, they will provide you with directions for changing your lighting or seat position if that will improve the quality of your presentation. They will also confirm a telephone number that you have provided that we will call if you lose your video connection. In the unlikely event that this occurs, the remainder of your interview will be by telephone exchange between you and the Applicant Review Panel (Panel). Finally, if you do not receive your link to the meeting within 15 minutes of your interview or you have any difficulties before or during your interview, please call our Applicant Review Panel Zoom Technical Support immediately at (916) 868-9307.

As we stated in our March 20, 2020 email, please be assured that the place and mechanism of your interview will not be a factor the Panel considers as it selects the 60 most qualified applicants. I know many of you have already heard this from the Panel's public remarks during the last several interviews, and also in speaking to staff from the State Auditor's Office who have contacted you over the last few days to arrange your interview, but I want to repeat it for emphasis. There will be absolutely no detriment to



Page 2
March 24, 2020

you or your opportunity to serve on the 2020 Commission because you interview remotely.

Although we are not conducting any in-person interviews, for now, we have not yet closed our meeting space to members of the public. However, we strongly encourage everyone to stay home and stay safe, as even members of the Panel will be appearing remotely at certain times. Please also know that, as has been the case from the beginning of the interviews, we are not taking in-person public comments during the interview phase of this meeting. You may continue to submit public comments about applicants or our process via email and our website. After all interviews are finished, the Panel will take up the previously-noticed agenda item for public comment during the meeting and before the Panel takes any action. For these reasons, you can fully participate in this meeting from home, remain engaged in the process and still comply with state and local stay-at-home orders. We will continue to monitor events and, if Californians are still under orders to remain at home when interviews conclude in late April, we will determine the safest way to take public comment at this meeting, before the Panel takes any action.

The Panel is committed to identifying the 60 most qualified applicants to draw the political boundaries for California's State and Congressional districts by our statutory May 15, 2020 deadline. The Panel's decisions will be based on the application materials and interviews—regardless of whether the interview was conducted in person or will now be conducted remotely. We are pleased to note that the remote interviews conducted so far have been successful, thanks to the work of our contractors and staff, and we hope to continue that success.

We look forward to meeting you remotely and hope you and yours are well, healthy, and safe.

Sincerely,

Christopher Dawson
Applicant Review Panel Counsel

