

Gilbert D. Martinez, J.D.

July 1, 2013

Dear Independent Citizens Redistricting Commissioners:

My name is Gilbert Martinez – I was one of the 60 individuals selected as the most qualified applicants by the Applicant Review Panel. I am writing to let the commission know that I am ready and willing to serve if called.

I understand the dilemma with the appointment of Catherine Cocco and do not offer an opinion or suggestion about how this commission ought to address this.

However, should the commission decide to seek another person from the pool of 60, I believe I can quickly get up to speed and contribute to the work of this commission. As I saw in the letter to the commission from Peck Young of Austinites for Geographic Representation dated June 30, 2013, I am one of several applicants that may best fit the alternative candidate that this commission may seek.

Since none of the 60 applicants meet the three criteria that the commission may seek -- namely, a female Asian from Precinct 3 -- Mr. Young advises that a compromise on one or more of the categories must occur.

I am biracial, Asian and Mexican-American – born to an Okinawan mother and Mexican-American father. I live in southwest Austin in Precinct 3. I am male.

As noted on my application, I have ample experience serving as president of boards for multiple nonprofit organizations. I also have specific training in ethics both in journalism and in law, and have completed mediation training with the Austin Dispute Resolution Center. I am well versed in collaborative work and parliamentary procedure.

Regardless of the commission's decision, I trust the judgment of the commissioners to make the best decision for the residents of the City of Austin. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gilbert D. Martinez, J.D.

P.S. I am aware that the commission is meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 3. I plan to attend the meeting and be available for the commission if there are any questions of me, but cannot arrive until about 8 p.m.