



Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m.
Friday, January 6, 2017

CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
CITY COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Submit signed original application and letters of recommendation to the City Clerk's Office by the deadline. No late applications, postmarks, copies, electronic submissions, or faxes accepted.

PLEASE ATTACH THREE (3) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION TO THIS APPLICATION

APPLICANT NAME Kristin Ghilardi	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
EMAIL ADDRESS changinglivesandtakingnames@gmail.com		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: 1. Are you a registered voter? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Applicant must be a registered voter residing in the City of Santa Clarita at time of appointment.) 2. Are you now or have you ever served on a City Commission / Committee? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, which one(s)?		
EDUCATION: Indicate the highest year completed and degrees received: Graduated Saugus High w/Honors, 2 years @ COC - didn't finish degree		
EMPLOYMENT: Employer's name, address, phone and your position or title: Costco Wholesale June '05 - Sept. '15 - Tire Shop Mgr. 21300 Roscoe Blvd Canoga Park, CA 91304 (818) 884-9099 - resume avail. on request		
YOUR REASONS FOR WANTING TO SERVE (Additional information may be attached to application.) I live in this city - on it's streets for the last year. I am interested, on my behalf & also on behalf of all city residents - in making this city great. My son is growing up here. My friends live, work, and play here. Let's be part of a city we support each other in!		

Application and entire application package become public record upon receipt.

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QUALIFICATIONS OR EXPERIENCE (As applicable to the purpose and subject matter of the City Council, and additional information may be attached to application.)

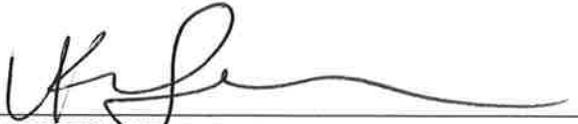
- City resident since 2004
- Alternative insight to city issues due to previous offender/homeless "transient" status
- April 2015 - Advocate to Alzheimer's Assoc. @ Sacramento
- Manager @ Costco for 10+ years

Prior to appointment, voter registration status will be verified.

Upon appointment, a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) is required.

DAYTIME AND EVENING AVAILABILITY IS REQUIRED

I declare that the information furnished herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



APPLICANT SIGNATURE

1/6/17

DATE

Kristin Ghilardi

APPLICANT NAME (PRINTED)

FOR CITY USE ONLY

Received by / date

@ Voter in City limits 5 re 1/6/17

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CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

2017 JAN 6 PM 4:31

CITY CLERKS OFFICE

Kristin Ghilardi letter of rec

January 3, 2017

The first time I met her, she smiled and stuck out her hand, expecting me to shake hers. The smile never left her face when I declined. "I hope your day gets better," she calls back to me, as she carries on with her morning. A couple weeks later I run into her in front of the Good Will Thrift Shop, after hearing story after story about the support and assistance she'd provided to friends of mine. I apologized for my stand-offish behavior during our first meeting-I misjudged her. She later explained that she'd heard of me-that I was the sort-of natural leader for those who resided in "the wash"-and that she was eager to meet the person who many looked to for guidance-she wanted to team up to make a difference together.

Since then, Kristin Ghilardi and I have teamed up regularly. We've worked with Real Life Church's Outreach Program, the Coalition Against Homelessness, attended several events to promote the spread of knowledge and resources available to homeless individuals, worked with several individuals to assist their circumstances in a legal and drug-free environment, and brought food, clothing, and shelter to those in need. We consider ourselves a "street team" of those who have been through it-homelessness and addiction don't seem like obstacles that can't be overcome, when the people supporting you through it have dealt with the same.

I'd like to recommend Kristin Ghilardi for the open spot on the City Council. If the City of Santa Clarita is open-minded enough to allow an individual who has been incarcerated and homeless on its streets within the last year to sit on its City Council, then maybe...just maybe, these issues can be addressed directly, compassionately, instead of swept under the rug again.

Thank you for your time and consideration

"Big John" Archer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Wayne Archer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Big John" Archer.

City Council letter of recommendation

January 6, 2017

Most individuals wouldn't find it so ironic, to find themself endorsing a repeated patron of their place of work. The irony, in regards to this letter of recommendation to aid Kristin Ghilardi's application to the City of Santa Clarita's City Council, is that the day I met her, she was an inmate at the Santa Clarita Sheriff station, and I the jailer. She was arrested for possession of a controlled substance {methamphetamine}. Within a week after, she made a repeat behind-bars visit to the jail for petty theft.

Since our initial meeting, Kristin has appeared on a variety of occasions, either in custody herself a couple times, but most often to visit inmates who have been charged with various misdemeanors, felonies, and/or brought in on warrants to appear. Her appearance is a surprise, to say the least, to acquaintances who have never even been visited by family or friends (if they have any). She speaks of being a liaison between law enforcement and these repeat-offenders who she believes need support and behavior-modification, instead of going through the jailtime/release/jailtime cycle over and over again.

Personally, I know of at least 2 individuals who have benefitted from the time and support she has offered: Alex (a former addict who was almost 8 months pregnant when she met Kristin-her baby was delivered at the Behavioral Health Center at Henry Mayo-and Alex is now working full time and spending her free time with her family) and David (quit using drugs but is incarcerated now due to warrants for failing to appear/complete classes assigned from previous charges).

I can't speak for the Sheriff Department as a whole-I can only testify to what I've seen-this girl will ride a bicycle from Canyon Country to the station in Valencia just to visit someone for 10 minutes-to demonstrate to an inmate who is depressed, down on his/her luck, and feels like they are worth NOTHING-that they are worth SOMETHING, to someone.... And being worth something is all that some of these kids need-Hope. Kristin herself knows how much of a long shot this is. Just as impossible, everyone thought, that Alex would be able to deliver her baby without drugs in the baby's system.

Clearly what the city has done to aid the homeless and those who are in need of behavior modification to combat addiction has not historically been enough. Motivation, support, hope...as a jailer I've had the opportunity to offer the inmates I see over and over these things-but I see them for one, two days at most. The City of Santa Clarita and its residents could both do a bit more to advocate for these individuals instead of pretending like they are going to get better without the necessary support. About Kristin-I can say that she is very sincere, her compassion to those who need support is unmatched, and that she has a good heart. Perhaps she can offer a new perspective on the City Council that hasn't previously been considered, let alone represented.

To whom it may concern,

I find myself recalling a feeble memory of when the story of Chanukah (also known as Hanukkah) was ever explained to me.

A somewhat miraculous tale, involving an unyielding show of faith. But amongst all, to me anyway, a priceless seed in history, planted to implore a culture (and ideally, the world) that together, a little thing called HOPE, goes a long way.

Kristen is a lot like, Shamash, "the helper": The ninth candle of the Menorah; thus used to light the former eight, which are held in place to signify the eight days the oil burned far past its believed life span.

Without the Shamash, however, there would just be several sticks of wax / cups of oil - lacking their intended 'Flare'.

When Kristen makes an appearance in ones day, that first smile she gives to you so freely, is like a Shamash wick touching another's; igniting an instantaneous warmth. One that could only be compared to, that of one I've only ever felt with long acquainted relatives.

She's inspiring, kind, and genuine. A trifecta of character traits I've only ever read about in my favorite books. A rare find. As one of the homeless youth this woman aims to aid in her endeavors as part of this cities council - I am delighted to submit my recommendation on her behalf. She'd be a true asset to obtain.

✓
Sincerely,

Madison Ballmer

1/5/2017