

Board and Commission Application 2025

Submitted by:

Submitted On: 2025 03 12 13:05:58

Submission IP:

Status: Open

Priority: Normal

Assigned To: City Clerk City Clerk

Due Date: Open

This form may be used to apply for one or more Board/Commission positions.

All fields marked with * are required and must be filled.

* **First Name**

Frank

* **Last Name**

Kenniasty

* **Street Address**

Street Number and Name

Unit Number

* **City**

* **State**

* **Postal Zip Code**

* **Preferred Phone Number**

Alternate Phone Number

Ex. (123) 456 7890

* **Email**

* **What is your occupation?**

Attorney

* **Who is your employer?**

Skydio, Inc.

* **Board/Commission of interest**

☒ **Economic Development & Advisory Commission (EDAC)**

☐ **Museum of San Carlos History Board (Museum)**

☐ **Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission (PR&C)**

☐ **Planning and Transportation Commission (PTC)**

* **If you selected more than one Board/Commission of interest above, please rank your preferences here, starting with your first choice.**

N/A

If only interested in one Board/Commission, enter N/A

* **What community activities are you presently involved in, or have been in the past?**

Volunteer at San Mateo County Legal Aid.

* **How much time do you envision giving to the Board/Commission? How often are you out of town? What other commitments might affect your attendance to Board/Commission meetings?**

Two hours per week. I am not often out of town (less than four weeks per year).

* **Why do you want to be a member of a Board or Commission? What do you feel you could contribute to the Board or Commission?**

As a resident of San Carlos for the last two years, I have been thoroughly impressed with this vibrant hub within Silicon Valley, blending small town charm with cutting edge innovation. My career as an attorney and business leader in technology, aerospace, and telecommunications has deepened my appreciation for how thriving local economies drive community success. I want to serve on the Economic Development Commission because I’m passionate about ensuring San Carlos remains a place where businesses—and the residents they support—can flourish sustainably. Having worked with startups like Skydio and global firms like Motorola Solutions, I’ve seen firsthand how strategic economic policies can unlock growth while balancing community needs. I’m eager to give back to the city that’s been my home by contributing my expertise to shape its economic future. With over 25 years of experience in commercial legal operations, compliance, and business strategy, I bring a unique blend of skills to the EDAC. My work negotiating complex contracts—spanning SaaS, hardware, and global markets—equips me to advise on policies that attract high-quality businesses to San Carlos. For instance, at Skydio, I developed a commercial contracting playbook that reduced legal risks while accelerating deals, a model I could adapt to streamline business onboarding here. My leadership roles, supervising teams of up to 16 professionals, have honed my ability to collaborate and align diverse stakeholders—a key asset for fostering partnerships between the city, businesses, and residents. Additionally, my expertise in regulatory compliance and intellectual property law can help San Carlos appeal to tech and innovation-driven firms, ensuring they thrive within a supportive framework. My military background could also provide a unique perspective on the EDAC. I’d contribute by advocating for practical initiatives—like infrastructure upgrades or targeted incentives—while ensuring the city’s economic growth aligns with its ‘City of Good Living’ ethos. I’m excited to leverage my professional insights and local perspective to strengthen San Carlos’ economic vitality.

* **Do you have any particular perspective on how the City should grow in the next five to ten years? Required if interested in Planning and Transportation Commission, otherwise enter N/A.**

N/A

* **What do you think the City of San Carlos should do to attract and retain high quality businesses? Required if interested in Economic Development & Advisory Commission, otherwise enter N/A.**

I believe the City of San Carlos should focus on a multi-faceted approach to attract and retain high-quality businesses, leveraging its strategic location in Silicon Valley, its community charm, and its commitment to sustainable growth. First, the city should prioritize streamlining permitting and regulatory processes to make it easier for businesses to establish and expand here. High quality firms, especially in tech and innovation sectors, value efficiency and predictability, so reducing bureaucratic hurdles could set San Carlos apart from neighboring cities. Second, enhancing infrastructure—such as reliable high-speed internet, modern commercial spaces, and improved transportation options—would make the city more appealing. For example, better connectivity to Caltrain and regional hubs could attract businesses reliant on talent from across the Bay Area, while also addressing employee concerns about commuting and housing costs. Partnering with organizations like the San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA) could help secure funding or expertise for these upgrades. Third, I think San Carlos should double down on its 'City of Good Living' identity by promoting a vibrant, walkable downtown and supporting small business incubators. Highlighting local success stories through initiatives like the Small Business Spotlight program can draw attention to the city’s supportive ecosystem, encouraging larger firms to invest here. Offering targeted incentives, such as tax breaks or grants for sustainable practices, could also appeal to high quality businesses that prioritize innovation and corporate responsibility. Finally, retention requires listening to existing businesses. Regular engagement through forums or surveys—perhaps facilitated by the EDAC—could uncover specific needs, like workforce development programs or affordable housing solutions for employees. By fostering a collaborative environment where businesses feel heard and supported, San Carlos can build long-term loyalty. I’d love to contribute to these efforts on the Commission by bridging community insights with actionable economic strategies.

* **What park improvements or recreational activities would be beneficial to the community? Required if interested in Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission, otherwise enter N/A.**

N/A

*** Please list any other background information (business, education, personal) that might be useful in determining your eligibility.**

FRANK W. KENNIASTY 130 Pearl Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070 240 581 4477 | E mail: fkenniasty@gmail.com SUMMARY Experienced attorney and business partner specializing in commercial contracts, intellectual property law, and compliance. Legal experience includes: SaaS transactions, mergers and acquisition, corporate law, employment law, export control, product counseling, claims and litigation, outside counsel management, and law department leadership. Business experience includes: technology (including autonomous drones), SaaS, telecommunications, and aerospace/defense. Admitted to practice law in Florida, District of Columbia, and Maryland; registered California in-house counsel; registered patent attorney. CAREER EXPERIENCE Skydio, Inc., San Mateo, CA Head of Commercial Legal and Compliance (April 2022 – present) Directs commercial legal and compliance operations, overseeing a team of five attorneys and contract professionals to support GTM sales and procurement, aligning with strategic business goals at Skydio, Inc., a technology startup which manufactures autonomous drones (including SaaS products) with over \$200M in revenue and 750 employees. Spearheaded the development and execution of a comprehensive commercial contracting playbook and compliance program, reducing legal risks and enabling the acquisition of global commercial contracts, including complex hardware and cloud based SaaS agreements. Cultivated a culture of compliance and legal excellence, ensuring Skydio, Inc.'s adherence to complex regulatory requirements while facilitating its expansion into new domestic and global markets. Motorola Solutions, Inc., Linthicum Heights, Maryland Lead Counsel (January 2011 – April 2022) Lead Counsel responsible for commercial legal, compliance, product counseling, and M&A for hardware, SaaS products, and related services. Supervised team of sixteen, including five attorneys, seven contract professionals, and others. Motorola Solutions, Inc. was a publicly traded, international technology company with annual revenues of \$7.5B and 17,000 employees. Comtech Systems, Inc., Orlando, Florida Vice President of Contracts and General Counsel (March 2009 – January 2011) Executive manager for legal and contracts functions, and Empowered Official for foreign trade compliance. Supervised team of three contract and trade compliance professionals. Comtech Systems, Inc. was a wholly owned subsidiary of Comtech Telecommunications, a publicly traded, international communications equipment company, with annual revenues of over \$550M and 1350 employees. Harris Corporation, Palm Bay, Florida Division Counsel and Senior Counsel (July 2000 – January 2009) Chief Counsel and Director of Foreign Trade Compliance for the \$2B Government Communications Systems segment of Harris Corporation. Supervised team of five, including two attorneys and two paralegals. Harris Corporation was a publicly traded, international communications and information technology company serving government and commercial markets in more than 150 countries with annual revenues of \$5.3B and 16,500 employees. Stanley, Dehlinger & Rascher., P.A., Melbourne, Florida Associate Attorney (March 1999 – July 2000) Transactional lawyer for corporate, contract, and real estate matters with law firm. First- chair trial lawyer in civil litigation matters which included preparing pleadings, performing discovery, attending hearings, arbitrations, and trials. Command Technologies, Inc., Satellite Beach Florida, Florida Corporate Counsel and Program Manager (November 1997 – March 1999) Provided legal counsel in the areas of government contract law, business law, tax law, international law, and employment law. Command Technologies, Inc. was a \$30M professional and IT services company primarily serving the Department of Defense and national intelligence agencies and was eventually acquired by BAE Systems. OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE United States Air Force, various positions and locations: acquisition management, engineering, and program management; California, Seychelles. EDUCATION University of Florida College of Law, Gainesville, Florida J.D., with honors (1996) Book Awards: Law & Economics; Corporate Finance & Reorganization. Instructor: Legal Research & Writing; Best Brief, Florida Workers' Compensation Competition. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California M.S., Systems Management San Jose State University, San Jose, California M.A., Political Science United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado B.S., International Affairs/Engineering Sciences Honors: Superintendent's List (academic and military excellence); Russian language award. Group Honor Code Representative; Martial Arts Club; Drum and Bugle Corps.

*** How long have you been a San Carlos resident and/or worked in San Carlos?**

Two years.

*** Are you related to a current City of San Carlos employee? If yes, please provide the employee's name.**

No.

*** How did you hear about this recruitment?**

- ☒ City website
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ City Newsletter
- ☐ Council, Commission or City Staff referral
- ☐ Other

Acknowledgement of Responsibilities

Commissioners serving on the San Carlos Planning and Transportation Commission and the Economic Development Advisory Commission are designated filing officials required to submit a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) upon assuming office, as well as annually thereafter. Form 700 is a public document and will be made available upon request in accordance with disclosure laws.

Furthermore, these designated officials must complete mandatory Ethics Training pursuant to AB 1234.

*** By typing your name below, you confirm that the information provided in this form is true and accurate and acknowledge the above responsibilities and understand that your application is a public document which may be disclosed upon request.**

Frank Kenniasty
