

Andrew Miller, PhD
110 East Street, B
Annapolis, MD 21401

December 9, 2022

Board of Supervisors of Elections
City of Annapolis
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Chair Smith-Brown and BOSE Members:

I would be honored to serve the citizens of Annapolis as a member of the city's elections Task Force. I hope to contribute to the continued success of my home city's democracy. In this letter, I lay out my interest in the appointment and my relevant experience.

Statement of Interest

I believe strongly that local political institutions matter. Public discourse in the United States tends to center around the federal government, but on a day-to-day basis, it is city-level institutions that are Annapolitans' main conduit to government. Mayors and local officials play more of a role in tackling the major challenges of our time than commonly thought. One of those challenges is protecting and strengthening our democratic processes. Ultimately, the more Annapolitans have a positive experience with municipal elections, the more it will boost their confidence in city government and their confidence in American democracy as a whole.

I do not seek this appointment in order to implement my own set of predetermined policy preferences. Rather, as a member of the Task Force, I would remain flexible and open-minded. This approach will help me learn from fellow members and build a consensus among the members around the Task Force's final recommendations. That said, I will approach this position with three guiding principles in mind:

- 1) Access to the vote should be protected. All eligible citizens who desire to vote should be able to make informed decisions with the lowest burden to them as possible. That means, to the extent feasible, election-related processes should be clear, efficient, and come at limited cost in terms of time and resources.
- 2) Elections should be trusted. With increasing questioning of election results at the national level, it is no longer sufficient for elections simply to have integrity. Rather, they must have integrity, *and* electoral institutions must work to ensure that citizens have full confidence in the integrity of the process.

- 3) Elections should facilitate broad representation. All Annapolitans, regardless of background, should feel that they can gain a degree of representation in local government through participating in elections. This principle applies to Annapoliteans of all political identities, races, genders, and income levels, among other important characteristics.

I would apply these principles, for instance, when analyzing the potential impact of the Charter Revision Commission's election-related positions: expanding the BOSE, proposing a ballot question on non-partisan elections, and aligning municipal election timing with federal elections. The Commission's positions deserve serious consideration and careful evaluation alongside other potential changes within the Task Force's scope.

Relevant Experience

I have extensive training in political science, including with respect to the design of electoral systems. I hold a PhD in political science from the Massachusetts Institution of Technology (MIT) as well as a masters degree in foreign service from Georgetown University. This advanced training will allow me to identify social science research on electoral processes related to the Task Force's deliberations. I can bring this research to bear in discussions held by the Task Force. I can also use statistical analysis skills to evaluate relevant data as necessary.

Through my training, I have become connected with experts that, if the Task Force sees fit, could be consulted on a voluntary basis to provide additional expertise. For example, while pursuing my doctorate at MIT, I worked for Dr. Charles Stewart the founding director of the MIT Election Data and Science Lab. If helpful, I could invite representatives from the lab to inform the Task Force on the latest findings of their research. In a recent BOSE meeting, Chair Smith-Brown suggested inviting members of Fair Vote to provide input to the Task Force. I agree with that suggestion and believe Fair Vote's input could be complemented by discussions with the Center for Election Science, and similar organizations.

My work experience is also relevant for this role. I am currently an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the United States Naval Academy where I teach on electoral systems in the United States and around the world. This comparative approach to teaching electoral processes has given me a strong understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of various election designs and an understanding of potential threats to election integrity. Moreover, my experience with elections is not purely academic. During the 2022 primaries, I served at Bates Middle School as an Anne Arundel County provisional voting judge.

In addition to substantive knowledge, I also have strong writing skills that I anticipate would be helpful for communicating the Task Force's findings through its interim and final reports. I have written numerous academic journal articles; I have a book forthcoming with Cambridge University Press; and, my commentaries have been published in national media outlets such as the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Foreign Policy*, and *The Atlantic*.

Many thanks for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments. I can be reached at 603-728-8621 or acmiller24@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Andrew Miller



City of Annapolis
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS
c/o City Clerk's Office
Regina C. Watkins-Eldridge, MMC City Clerk
160 Duke of Gloucester Street, 1st Floor
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

Elections@annapolis.gov • 410-263-7929 • Fax 410-280-1853 • TDD use MD Relay or 711 • www.annapolis.gov

Task Force to Study the City Municipal Election Law Member Application

(Deadline for Submission: December 28, 2022, 4:30pm)

Personal information

Name Andrew Miller
Address 110 East Street, B
City Annapolis ST MD Zip 21401
Phones Home 603-728-8621 Other _____
E-mail acmiller24@gmail.com

Statement of interest - Explain your interest in being appointed to this task force and what you can bring to the group. List your experience and/or expertise in election law and/or election procedures.

Please see cover letter.

Are you a resident of the City of Annapolis?

Yes No

Are you an employee of the City of Annapolis?

Yes No

If yes, please state your job title, department & duties.

Do you do business with the City of Annapolis?

Yes No

If yes, please detail.

Are you currently serving on any city boards or commissions?
If yes, please list board(s).

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in the State of Maryland?

Yes No

What is your political affiliation? (check one)

Democrat Republican
 Unaffiliated Other (specify) _____

Work experience (titles and duties) - Resume or CV can be attached in lieu of listing.

United States Naval Academy, 2020 - Present
Assistant Professor of Political Science
+ Instruct midshipmen on political science topics including electoral systems
+ Conduct research and analysis on political science topics

Council on Foreign Relations, 2011 - 2013
Assistant Director & Research Associate
+ Redesignated CFR's methodology for predicting global crises including election-related events
+ Conceptualized and managed reports on U.S. contingency planning for CFR's Center for Preventive Action

Deloitte Consulting/BearingPoint, 2008 - 2009
Project Management Officer, Iraq & Afghanistan
+ Managed thirty staff tasked with training Iraq Ministry of Finance officials in operating a modernized budgeting system
+ Assisted in strategic planning efforts for USAID's Afghanistan capacity development program

Educational background (certificates, diplomas, degrees, seminars, etc) - Resume or CV can be attached in lieu of listing.

Anne Arundel County Board of Elections, 2022
Provisional Judge Training

Massachusetts Institution of Technology, 2020
Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science

Georgetown University, 2011
Master of Science in Foreign Service

The George Washington University, 2007
Bachelor of Arts, History & International Affairs

Other experience (volunteer experience, memberships etc.) - Resume or CV can be attached in lieu of listing.

National Memberships:
American Political Science Association
International Studies Association

Local Memberships:
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy (Annapolis Lodge #2225)
Ward One Residents Association (WORA)
Administrative Charging Committee, Anne Arundel County

References

Name Lieutenant Colonel John Childress Phone 410-999-1834
Address 105 Avondale Cir, Severna Park, MD 21146

Signature  Date December 9, 2022

E-mail electronically completed form to Elections@annapolis.gov. Paper copies may be faxed 410-280-1853 or mailed to the Office of the City Clerk at the address above, attention Regina Watkins-Eldridge, City Clerk.