



Asian-American Pacific Islanders Community Commission Application

(Note: This document and accompanying materials become public record once received by Clark County.)

The Clark County Asian-American Pacific Islanders Community Commission (AAPICC) serves as a support liaison between the Asian-American Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community in Clark County, the Clark County Board of County Commissioners (County Commission), and the Clark County Manager's Office (Manager's Office).

Among its duties, the AAPICC shall:

- (a) Advise the County Commission and the Manager's Office on the matters and concerns of the AAPI community;
- (b) Educate the community on intolerance, xenophobia, and anti-Asian sentiment and promote equity for all AAPIs;
- (c) Convene community forums on public safety, human rights, economic development, housing, employment, social services, public health, transportation, education, and multicultural development for the AAPI community;
- (d) Encourage youth to become better trained and qualified for educational and employment opportunities;
- (e) Formulate a vision on how local AAPI history could be blended into the significant history of Clark County;
- (f) Perform other such other tasks as the County Commission and the Manager's Office may direct; and
- (g) Report to the County Commission on an annual basis regarding its duties and responsibilities.

The AAPICC consists of 15 members. Terms of the AAPICC are two years (2-years), and members are eligible for reappointment. The County Commission shall appoint one (1) member to serve as the chairperson and one (1) member to serve as the vice chairperson.

Application Overview:

Along with this application, please submit a letter of interest and a resume to be considered for appointment.

If you have any questions related to the AAPICC or the application process, email Katie Walpole at Kathleen.Walpole@ClarkCountyNV.gov.

Application:

Full Name (First, Middle Initial, Last): Sanje Sedera

Home Street Address: 7824 Silver Plateau Avenue

Home Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89128

Mailing Address: 7824 Silver Plateau Avenue

Mailing Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89128

Employer: Las Vegas Integrative Medicine & Zenith Realty Group

Occupation: CEO

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

Relevant Affiliations: Please list below any other committees you are currently serving on. Please list, if applicable, the jurisdiction and term of appointment. If you were appointed by an individual and not by a local jurisdiction, please include that information. If you need additional space, please attach an additional sheet of paper.

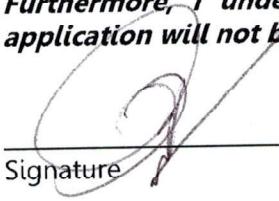
Skills and Experience: Please provide a brief description of your qualifications; include any special skills, interests, experience, or training which you possess or have completed that would benefit the work of the AAPICC. If you need additional space, please attach an additional sheet of paper.

Please see attached letter of interest.

A letter of interest and a resume are REQUIRED. Please attach them to this application.

Certification:

I verify by my signature below that all statements made on this application, as well as any information attached hereto, are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that an electronic signature has the same weight and effect as a handwritten signature. Furthermore, I understand that an incomplete application and any modifications to this application will not be accepted or considered.



Signature

07-18-2021

Date

Submission Information:

Your signed application and supporting documents must be received no later than **5:00PM, July 21, 2021**. You may email your completed application packet to Katie Walpole, Kathleen.Walpole@ClarkCountyNV.gov, or deliver the same in-person to the County Manager's Office, 6th Floor, Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas.

Letter of Interest for the position in Asian-American Pacific Islanders Community Commission.

To : Clark County Commissioners.

As a native of the Island nation Sri Lanka, having lived in Las Vegas for nearly 30 years and being affiliated with numerous organizations I will offer a unique perspective to the Asian-American Pacific Islanders Community Commission especially since there is no one else from my native country represented currently in the commission.

My journey began as a first-generation immigrant to this country in 1992 when I decided to attend Idaho State University to complete my undergraduate studies where I completed a degree in Computer information Systems and qualified for an MBA. During my time in Idaho, I had my very first experience in a leadership role in the USA when I was elected to be the President of the Foreign Student Association.

Upon finishing my studies, I moved to Las Vegas in 1994 and immediately ventured into the real estate industry where I have built a successful real estate company. Over the years I have started several successful business startups in the following industries, healthcare, Insurance, Financial services and hospitality. Experience I gained in the business world helped me to develop a better understanding of the dynamics of this great city which I call my Home. I wholeheartedly attribute the ability to collaborate with others as the key to the success I have had in the business field as well as in the other social settings. Giving back to my community that I live in has been one of my highest priorities. I have served on several boards of nonprofit civic organizations including the Summerlin Lions Club and Summerlin Rotary Club. I have also served in the Citizen Review Board and the Use of Force Board of the Las Vegas metropolitan police department. Recognizing my professional experience in the housing industry, I was appointed as a Commissioner of Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority in 2009. Incidentally, I was the very first AAPI commissioner appointed to this board. After 10 years of service when I left the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority I was the longest serving commissioner of the board that is dedicated to providing housing solutions to the marginalized communities.

Soon after my arrival in Las Vegas in 1994, I was instrumental in galvanizing the efforts in forming the Sri Lanka America Association in Las Vegas. Currently I serve as a trustee of this organization. To promote the bilateral trade between the USA and Sri Lanka, with the assistance of the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Washington DC, I had the privilege of inaugurating the Sri Lanka America Chamber of Commerce which I serve as the Chairman of the board.

As an avid Cricket player I had the desire to organize the sport and introduce it to mainstream Americans. As a result of this, Sri Lanka Cricket and Recreation Club was formed in 2001 and I had the honor of being the founding President of the Association. Taking a step further, realizing that there are other expat communities who enjoy the sport Cricket, I was able to collaborate with those communities in Nevada to form Nevada Cricket Association (NCA) . As the president of NCA, I was able to successfully lobby our municipalities to build Nevada's first two Cricket pitches and today we have 10 Cricket teams taking part in our Nevada Cricket League.

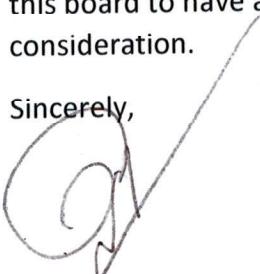
To promote the cultural heritage of the AAPI communities, I was able to collaborate with other Asian American pacific Island communities and was able to organize the very first AAPI heritage month celebration highlighting the cultures of such communities through performing arts.

In 2006 I had the opportunity to meet President Barack Obama during his presidential campaign and I realized how important it is to be part of the political process. For the next several months I became a full-time volunteer for his campaign and quickly realized how the Asian American Community was disconnected from the political process and how it was adversely affecting the progress of the community. As a result, with the help of several likeminded individuals, In 2007 I was able to form Asian American Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus (AAPIDC) as a bridge between the Asian American pacific Islander community and the Democratic party. As the founding Chairman of the organization my goal was to develop opportunities for the AAPI community to be part of the political process and the democratic party to recognize the importance of the AAPI community. I am happy to say that the organization that I founded with several others has blossomed into an extremely progressive political group with several political agendas to help the AAPI community. My activism with the Democratic Party led me eventually to become the First Vice Chair of Clark County Democratic Party and Executive Board member of Nevada State Democratic Party. Continuing my activism in the political spectrum, In 2014 I decided to contest to be the Assembly member of my Assembly District. Though I was not successful in being elected, It gave hope and courage to other AAPI political candidate aspirants to run for public office. Incidentally, I was the very first Sri Lankan American in the USA to run for a public office. Since 2017 I serve as the Board Vice Chair of One APIA - Nevada, 503 -C4 organization which is dedicated to advance the interests of all Asian American pacific Islanders in Nevada, particularly those in the working class through advocacy on issues such as access to health care, education and pathway to citizenship.

In recent times, amid the Covid -19 pandemic, the AAPI community has been subjected to hate crimes and unpleasant treatment by some elements of our community. I have been a part of a group that has actively lobbied for protection of the AAPI community and championed for the passage of Covid 19 Hate Crime Act. As a business owner, I have endorsed my support for some key legislations that passed from the Nevada legislature including the Paid Sick Leave Act for employees and public health insurance options for employees.

In summary, I have collaborated extensively in my professions and activism in many different fields for a better community. I believe I will be able to bring in my vast experience coupled with work ethics to this board to have a better voice for the AAPI community and respectfully request for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sanje Sedera

Sanje Sedera

7824 Silver Plateau Ave, Las Vegas, Nevada 89128

WORK HISTORY

President / CEO - Zenith Realty Group

7465 W. Lake Mead Blvd #100, Las Vegas, NV 89128 (March 2009- Present)

www.Greaterlasvegashomefinder.com

President CEO – Las Vegas Integrative Medicine

3030 S. Jones Blvd #107, Las Vegas, NV 89128 (August 2013- Present)

www.lvimed.com

Farmers Insurance Group – Sanje Sedera Agency - President

4825 S. Rainbow Blvd #207, Las Vegas, NV 89103 (June 2014- October 2018)

South Wind Financial -Senior Mortgage Consultant

2980 S Rainbow Blvd Ste 100F, Las Vegas, NV 89146 (March 2015-Present)

Partner - Cornerstone Mortgage Company

7942 West Sahara Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89117 (March 2001 – October 2009)

Senior Loan Officer - Northern Pacific Mortgage Company

6625 West Sahara Ave, Suite #3, Las Vegas, NV 89146 (March 1999- March 2001)

Senior Loan Officer – Green Tree Mortgage

8683 West Sahara Ave, Suite #3, Las Vegas, NV 89146 (February 1998-March 1999)

Loan Officer- HouseHold Finance

1228 South Nellis Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89104 (September 1997- February 1998)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

MBA – Idaho State University 1995

Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems and Management -Idaho State University 1994

Credentialed Mediator- Clark County Neighborhood Justice Center - Since 2010

Graduate of Citizen Police Academy, Las Vegas- August 2009

AWARDS AND AFFILIATIONS

Vice Chair – One AAPI Nevada (2018-Present)

Trustee-Sri Lanka America Association of Las Vegas -(2017- Present)

President- Sri Lanka America Chamber Commerce (2021 – Present)

President - Nevada Cricket Association (2013-Present)

Commissioner - Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority - September 2011- September 2019

Board member- Citizen Review Board- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department -Jan 2008-2015

Board Member- Use of Force Board – Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department - Aug 2013- 2016

Founding Chair – Asian American Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus (2006-2010)

Vice Chair – Clark County Democratic Party (2009-2012)

Executive Board Member – Nevada State Democratic Party (2010-2012)

Vice President – Summerlin Home Owners Association (2015-Present)

Treasurer- Rotary Club of Red Rock – June 2016- June 2017

Founding Member of Las Vegas Buddhist Temple

CURRENT MEMBER OF

Member - Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce

Member- Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce

Member - Las Vegas Latin Chamber of Commerce

Member – Asian Real Estate Association of America