

### **Nevada Senate Seat- Senate District 10 Interest Application**

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

#### **Residency Requirement:**

NRS 218A.260 (2) requires that any applicant must have actually, as opposed to constructively, resided in the district for at least 30 days immediately preceding the date in which this application closes.

You can verify that you live within the boundaries of Senate District 10 by referring to the map on the legislative website: <http://bit.ly/2XxVvRm>. Or, you may do an address/elected official search on the Clark County website: <http://maps.clarkcountynv.gov/ow/?@782884,26762114.6>.

#### **Required Additional Information:**

You are required to submit a resume and a statement of interest. At a minimum, your resume and statement of interest should contain political activities, community work, and memberships, in various organizations.

#### **General Information:**

Full Name (First, Middle, Last): Melissa Renee Clary  
Home Street Address: 1431 Sweeney Avenue  
Home Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89104  
Mailing Address: 1431 Sweeney Avenue  
Mailing Address City/State/Zip Code: Las Vegas, NV 89104  
Employer: U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
Occupation: Lead Implementation Manager  
Best Daytime Contact Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email Address: [REDACTED]

#### **Declaration of Eligibility:**

For the purpose of applying to fill the vacancy in the office of a Legislator in the following legislative district, Senate District 10, I, the undersigned Melissa Clary, do swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I actually, as opposed to constructively, reside at 1431 Sweeney Avenue, in the City of

# Las Vegas

\_\_\_\_\_, County of Clark, State of Nevada; that, as required by NRS 218A.260, my actual, as opposed to constructive, residence in that legislative district began on a date at least 30 days immediately preceding the date established pursuant to NRS 218A.262 for the close of filing of applications to fill the vacancy; that I am registered as a member of the Democratic Party; that I am a qualified elector pursuant to Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada; that if I have ever been convicted of treason or a felony, my civil rights have been restored; that I will otherwise qualify for the office if appointed thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the Constitution of this State concerning the number of years or terms for which a person may hold the office; that I understand that knowingly and willfully filing a declaration of eligibility which contains a false statement is a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor; and that, as required by NRS 218A.200, I will have been an actual, as opposed to constructive, citizen resident of this State for 1 year immediately preceding the date of my appointment and that, during such period, I will have resided at the following residence or residences:

1471 Sweeney Ave.

Street Address

Street Address

Las Vegas

City or Town

City or Town

Nevada

State

State

From 2/14 To Present  
Dates of Residency

From To  
Dates of Residency

Street Address

Street Address

City or Town

City or Town

State

State

From To  
Dates of Residency

From To  
Dates of Residency

(Attach additional sheet or sheets of residences as necessary.)

Melissa R. Clary  
Name of Applicant

M. Clary  
Signature of Applicant

\* Loose Notary Certificate Attached \*

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 19th day of the month of January of the year 2021  
by Melissa Renee Cary

M. Howard  
Notary Public or Other Person  
Authorized to Administer an Oath



**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 considered.*

M. Cary  
Signature

1/19/2021  
1/18/2021  
Date

**Submitting Application:**

Your signed application and supporting documents must be received no later than **NOON, January 19, 2021**. You may email your completed application packet to Katie Walpole, [Kathleen.Walpole@ClarkCountyNV.gov](mailto: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.

\* This Notary Certificate is attached to a Nevada Senate Seat - Senate District 10 Interest Application \*



### **Statement of Interest - Melissa R. Clary**

Senate District 10 (SD10) is an urban, diverse district encompassing leading economic powerhouses in the gaming and hospitality industry, in addition to McCarran Airport and University of Nevada, Las Vegas. As a Nevadan by choice since 2005, and SD10 resident since 2010, I am well-equipped with the knowledge and networks necessary to address issues facing this district and our State. The skills and abilities that I have obtained while living in SD10, make me an ideal leader to work with our Nevada Legislature to thoughtfully evaluate and deliver on important quality of life issues.

I am highly involved in nearly every facet of service to our State. In addition to my resume and application, I highlight my involvement in some of SD10's greatest issues as evident by the district's demographic report.

SD10 has a higher percentage of Veterans living with a disability, living below poverty and nearly double the national average for unemployed Veterans. As a 10-year Federal employee for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and former community member of the Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care board (SNHCoC), I understand the issues Veterans face regarding access to healthcare, employment, and housing. I have made it my career "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan," and will seek legislation that improves the quality of life for our Veterans through increased affordable housing programs and availability, reduces barriers to quality employment and ensures access to affordable healthcare.

My previous volunteerism as a community board member on the SNHCoC emphasizes my involvement in homeless issues in SD10, including zip codes considered ground zero for homelessness. In working with first responders and social service providers, I regularly engaged the community and local businesses to aid in funding affordable housing, job training, and donating resources. The Nevada Legislature, in collaboration with local government and nonprofits, can make greater headway this session by introducing improved affordable housing policies. My bureaucratic background is invaluable in negotiating these policies for implementation.

A higher percentage of residents in SD10 have a much lower median household income than the State and national average. A higher percentage of residents rely on food stamps and SNAP/TANF programs and are living without healthcare insurance. A growing percentage of residents rent versus own their homes. These worrying economic statistics are indicative of challenges SD10 residents face in meeting basic needs. I have campaigned for and supported fellow Democratic candidates who fought for our families' economic advancement and wellbeing. In 2019, through my own run for office for Las Vegas City Council, Ward 3, homelessness and affordable housing issues were the focus of my campaign. Finishing a close second in a highly competitive general campaign, underscores my hardworking tenacity and ability to gain supporters as a relatively unknown candidate. Through regular canvassing of our community, I learned how disparate our economy is and how hard it is for residents to stay afloat.

As a neighborhood association leader for nearly a decade, I helped revive the struggling Huntridge Neighborhood and shaped it into one of the most active neighborhood associations in the City. Community activism and project implementation under my leadership serve as an example to new

association boards and community organizations across the valley. I successfully built community coalitions: rallying neighbors to attend public meetings, speak up, and change outcomes. I continue to empower neighbors by providing access to important government resources, bringing greater transparency, and understanding to public processes affecting daily life. And through the arduous bureaucratic struggles, I showed neighbors we could have fun: planting trees in our neighborhoods, producing movies in the park on weekends, hosting outings to First Friday Arts District events, and more. I lovingly served historic downtown neighborhoods through years of neighborhood involvement to address capital improvement projects and economic redevelopment for blighted areas, and advocate for greater public safety measures.

In 2012, I founded the nonprofit organization The Huntridge Foundation with the mission to preserve the architectural integrity, history and culture of the Huntridge Theatre and the surrounding community. I served as Secretary/Treasurer for the organization and raised awareness of the historic property's significance and economic value. In 2017, I worked with former Assembly members Heidi Swank and Elliot Anderson on Assembly Bill 371, establishing *Restore Nevada's Treasures*, a revolving loan fund designed to help preserve and rehabilitate endangered historic buildings across the State of Nevada. Recently, the Foundation celebrated a private-public partnership effort between the State, City, and a private developer to purchase the property and bring the landmark back to life in SD10.

I will advocate for Nevada's higher education system and ensure UNLV gets fair funding. We should make it easier for Nevadans who want to attend college. There is greater opportunity for promoting private sector partnerships and to facilitate the direct hiring of new college graduates. As a UNLV graduate, I speak firsthand about our higher education system challenges and successes and the difficulty finding employment in our economy. Like many of our youth today, I borrowed student loans for school and understand the challenge to start out on your own burdened by debt. We cannot forget younger generations who cannot afford home ownership and rising rents on smaller salaries that have not kept pace with cost of living.

Beyond SD10's needs, I am well-versed in the balancing act to consider rural Nevadans' needs also. I am restoring a historic movie theater in rural Nevada. The project emphasizes the value of historic preservation, the arts and rural tourism as economic engines for our State. During the COVID-19 pandemic, more and more urban residents sought opportunities for nature and solitude beyond our district. The pandemic showed us how connected we are and how our counties rely on each other. A silver lining was that more Nevadans sought the natural beauty of our State and opportunities for outdoor recreation. The Nevada Legislature has tremendous opportunity to expand upon legislation in these areas and I am confident in my ability to bridge the divide between districts to produce meaningful legislation.

As a highly involved member of my community with active concern for its wellbeing, I am well-qualified to lead State Senate District 10. I acknowledge the fantastic work that Senator Yvanna Cancela has done for SD10, and I thank the Clark County Commission for consideration of my candidacy and for the opportunity to serve fellow residents. With the Commission's support, I am confident in my ability to serve.

**Melissa R. Clary**  
1431 Sweeney Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89104

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## **EDUCATION:**

**Future Senior Leaders Academy Graduate**, Veterans Affairs, Cohort 5, April 2019  
**Federal Acquisition Certification for Program and Project Managers (FAC-P/PM), Mid-level**,  
Veterans Affairs Acquisition Academy, February 2017  
**Federal Acquisition Certification Contracting Officer Representative (FAC-COR)**, March 2014  
**Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)**, Project Management Institute, August 2011  
**Doctoral Coursework, Public Affairs**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV, 2008-09  
**Master's in Public Administration**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV, May 2008  
**Paralegal Certificate, Business and Environmental Law**, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA,  
August 2004  
**B. A., Communication, emphasis in Public Relations**, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA,  
May 2004, Minor in Political Science  
**High School Diploma**, Chaparral High School, Temecula, CA, May 2000

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

### **Lead Implementation Manager, GS 2210-14**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs November 2018-Present  
Office of Information and Technology (OIT)  
IT Operations and Services, Service Management and Planning

Lead and manage enterprise-wide information technology (IT) Development Operations requests for internal customer implementation and support; manage National Implementations project portfolio in Policy and Planning IT areas, including developing, delivering, and supporting IT systems and services.

### **Implementation Manager, GS 2210-13**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs June 2013-November 2018  
Office of Information and Technology  
IT Operations and Services, Service Management and Planning

Managed enterprise-wide IT project portfolio in Policy and Planning IT areas, including developing, delivering, and supporting IT systems and services.

### **Management Analyst, GS 0343-12**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs January 2011-June 2013  
Office of Information Technology, Region 1  
6900 N. Pecos Rd., Rm. 2F285  
North Las Vegas, NV 89086

Managed information technology (IT) administrative programs and projects for 33 hospital campuses in Region 1.

**Project Development Manager**

Workforce Connections  
7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89128

November 2010-January 2011

Managed State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) grant and green workforce initiative for the agency.

**Management and Program Analyst, GS 0343-13**

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
Budget and Capital Investment Planning Division  
400 C Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547

February 2010-November 2010

Performed financial and budget management for USAID IT capital planning and investment projects, spanning 100 developing countries.

**Business Specialist**

City of Las Vegas  
Department of Leisure Services  
749 Veterans Memorial Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89101

January 2005-January 2010

Administered capital asset project management and policy governance.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Founding Board Member and President, Friends of Gem Theater, 2020  
Site Steward, State of Nevada, State Historic Preservation Office, 2018-Present  
Board Member, Emerge Nevada, 2017-2019  
Public Relations Chair, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Nevada Chapter, 2016-2018  
Member, Sierra Club, Southern Nevada Chapter, Great Smoky Mountains Service Project, 2016  
Board Member, Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board, 2015-2018  
Board Member and Former Chairwoman, Mesquite Club, 2013-Present  
Founding Board Member and Secretary/Treasurer, The Huntridge Foundation, 2012-2018  
Board Member, Huntridge Neighborhood Association, 2011-13, 2014-2018  
President, National Organization for Women, Southern Nevada Chapter, 2006-08, 2013-16

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

Member, Nevada Preservation Foundation, 2015-Present  
Graduate, Emerge Nevada, 2013  
Member, World Affairs Council, Las Vegas Chapter, 2012-13  
Member and Past-Secretary, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) 2008-2016  
Graduate, Clark County Leadership Program, 2008  
Member, Pi Alpha Alpha, National Honor Society for Public Administration, 2008

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:**

Special Contribution Monetary Award, Veterans Affairs, 2012-19  
Individual Performance Monetary Award, Excellent Achievement Rating, Veterans Affairs, 2011-19  
Team Performance Award, Floyd Lamb Park Ranch House Renovation, City of Las Vegas, 2010  
Individual Achievement Award, Mayor's Commendation for Public Service, City of Las Vegas, 2010  
Team Performance Award, Sustainability Committee Leadership, City of Las Vegas, 2008  
ASPA Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Southern Nevada Chapter, 2007