

## City Council Application

Reference #	11817868
Status	Complete
First Name	Rory
Last Name	St. Jean
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Street Address	[REDACTED] East Scarborough Road
Place of Employment	The Sherwin Williams Company
Position	Financial Supervisor
Length of residence in Cleveland Heights	2 Years & 4 Months
Are you a registered Cleveland Heights voter?	Yes
What special qualities, abilities, skills, insights or perspectives do you possess which would be of value in serving on Cleveland Heights City Council?	<p>My two biggest strengths in my professional life include a strong analytical mindset and a continually growing leadership ability. Both of these qualities have served me well at work and outside of the office. I pride myself in being someone others look to when complex problem solving is needed. I am constantly asking questions and looking for answers to help strengthen my knowledge of how a process works and how it can be improved. I have used these abilities and skills to demand more responsibility and more opportunities at work. Outside of work, these qualities have lead me to continually learn and ask questions, whether it be home improvement or the current politically environment I want to understand the why behind everything I put my mind to. That mindset would continue in our local government, I'd ask questions, I'd search for answers, I'd break down important issues in our city and understand each piece of the puzzle to make sure the answer I come up with is the most complete and accurate response I can give.</p>

**What educational training (formal or informal), employment and other life experiences have helped you develop the qualities, abilities, etc., described above?**

I graduated from Kent State University with a Bachelors of Business Administration with a major in Finance and I currently work as a Financial Supervisor at The Sherwin Williams Company where I manage the accounting process for our Latin America Division. My career at Sherwin Williams has moved quickly in the seven years I have been with the company. I have held five positions, each with increasing responsibility. The aforementioned Analytical and Leadership skills have garnered confidence from upper management and thus provided me opportunities to further my abilities. In 2017 I was placed in an Emerging Leaders program at Sherwin Williams. The group was chosen based on whom management felt had the ability to be a leader within the company in their respective areas. This program lasted 6 months and included group and one on one training from several professional development companies such as, PPS International, Development Dimensions International, Mosaic, and The Kent State University Center for Corporate and Professional Development. We covered a multitude of topics such as Crucial Conversations, Leading with Emotional Intelligence, Assessing Your Strengths, and Talent Leadership. This program has improved my ability to be a trusted leader within the company as well develop a better understanding of how to capitalize on my strengths. I believe these qualities and the additional education I have been fortunate to receive provide a firm base to which I can present myself to the community as a proven leader and someone who continues to develop and learn how to improve himself everyday.

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**Please list your recent community, professional or charitable involvements. List the most recent first.**

In addition to the work experience above, I will be participating in the FutureHeights Neighborhood Leadership Workshop series in the first quarter 2019.

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**What are your goals for our community and are there areas in which you believe the City needs improvement? How would your service on City Council help achieve those goals and improve the City?**

First and foremost my experience in the Financial and Accounting fields could serve to improve the financial standing of the city or at a minimum provide additional support in committees that may be lacking such expertise or view point. I also believe that bringing in another proven leader with an analytical/problem solving mindset could add a great deal of value when trying to lean out certain processes and programs in the city, as well as in developing new programs or initiatives. In my 2+ years living in The Heights I've come to understand that our city has a strong reputation for a few things. First, great neighborhoods, we're a community that prides itself in its diverse neighborhoods and charming style. With this comes a responsibility to maintain this badge and I want to make sure that we are focusing on our neighborhoods first. Second, our schools need work. This is no surprise to anyone reading this, it is always a topic of discussion. It will be a constant battle to prove to the community that we are trying our absolute best to improve our schools. With that being said, almost 30% of high school aged children in CH go to private school, not to mention almost 50% of kids in UH choose private over CHHS. Many of these families may choose to send their kids to private school no matter how good a school district we have, but a large number of these families do so out of fear that CHHS would not provide their children a good education and environment to grow. Look at a school district such as Hudson where high school age population attending private school is ~15% and that percentage is only ~11% on average across the state. Our goal should be to bring that number down. We may not be able to make it to 15%, but we must do our best to get more of our community children into Cleveland Heights High School. Neighborhoods start with the families, but they are strengthened at our schools and if we want to be a city with great neighborhoods, we need great schools.

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Do you have other responsibilities which would prevent you from participating in City Council and Council Committee work during certain hours or on certain days?

Work 8:30-5:30 Monday-Friday

State any additional information you would like to have considered.

I want to be more engaged in this community, I want to learn about what makes my neighbors so proud to live in The Heights and how we can make it better. I joined the FutureHeights program so that I can bring my neighborhood together, my city together and to make sure this city feels like home for years to come. I grew up in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio a suburb of Akron until I was 13 years old. Today, I could barely describe our house on 23rd street, the general layout of the house, sure, but the details are gone. The neighborhood on the other hand, I could describe every detail, from playing basketball at Valley Vista Park, or playing baseball at Richardson Elementary, feeding the ducks at Chestnut Hill Memorial Park, walking to Lad's diner on the corner of Phelps and State Rd with my dad to pick up the Sunday paper, or riding bikes across the city with my friends growing up, the list could go on forever. This is what I remember growing up, this is what I want to make sure everyone remembers about The Heights. We're known for our beautiful, welcoming neighborhoods and that is what should be preserved in the city, the gathering places, where kids and adults come together to share experiences.

Would you like to upload a Resume?	Yes
Resume or CV Upload (5 MB Limit)	<a href="#">R-StJean_Resume.docx (24k)</a>
Item # 23	I agree to electronically sign this form.
Signature	Rory St. Jean
Last Update	2019-01-14 15:32:57
Start Time	2019-01-14 10:31:39
Finish Time	2019-01-14 15:32:57
IP	

**Browser**

Firefox

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**OS**

Windows

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**Referrer**

<https://www.clevelandheights.com/1085/City-Council-Application>

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## **Rory St. Jean**

██████ E Scarborough Rd  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Office: ██████████

Cellular: ██████████

E-mail: ██████████

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### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Sherwin Williams**

**Cleveland, OH, USA**

##### ***Financial Supervisor – Latin America Division***

May 2018-Present

- Oversee general accounting activities for Mexico & five countries in South America (sales of ~600M USD)
- Responsible for the monthly close process of these six countries
- Managing two analysts who are responsible for processing the month end close as well as several other activities throughout the month.
- Manage the monthly reporting process for our division. Profit and Loss statements, Balance Sheets, Trial Balances, and Working Capital reports are some of the major reports produced each month.

#### **Sherwin Williams**

**Cleveland, OH, USA**

##### ***Financial Analyst – Merchandise Control***

January 2016-May 2018

- Managed the physical inventory counts of 4,200 plus TAG Locations throughout the US and Canada
- Was the business lead on the conversion to a new Oracle Payables and ERP system.
- Managed one employee who was responsible for the processing physical inventory activities.
- Reviewed/Forecasted shrink/shrink provision accounts for entire TAG Division (~4,200 stores)
- Trained/mentored the five division inventory analysts from onboarding through advanced inventory responsibilities.

#### **Sherwin Williams**

**Toronto, ON, CANADA**

##### ***Financial Analyst - Canada Stores Group***

December 2013-December 2015

- Managed the Pricing, Financial, and Inventory Analyst Roles during the Integration of Comex in Canada
- Played an integral role in the Integration of Comex in Canada
  - Trained acquisition Management and Store Personnel in SW Inventory and Financial Practices
- Developed budget guidelines and trained new District Management in Oracle Planning.
- Managed six Annual/Interim Inventories in the Canada Stores Division
- Developed new working capital reporting to identify stores that needed improvement
- Monthly Responsibilities Included:
  - Management Reporting; S&E Reviews; Preparing JV's upon request; Budget Preparation/Reviews

#### **Sherwin Williams**

**Cleveland, OH, USA**

##### ***Corporate Internal Auditor***

January 2013-November 2013

#### **Sherwin Williams**

**Toronto, ON, CANADA**

##### ***Corporate Field Auditor***

January 2012-December 2012

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **Kent State University**

**Kent, OH, USA**

*Bachelor of Business Administration - Finance*

December 2011

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### **ADDITIONAL SKILLS/TRAINING**

- Chosen to be a part of the Sherwin Williams Emerging Leaders (Completed April 26<sup>th</sup>)
- Advanced Microsoft Excel; Oracle Planning/EPM/Smartview; Oracle Payables & Hyperion Ledger
- Highly Self Motivated; Quick Learner; Valuable Problem Solving; Exceptional Communication/Presentation Skills