

City Council Application

Reference #	11819116
Status	Complete
First Name	Sean
Last Name	Sobel
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Cell Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Street Address	[REDACTED] Derbyshire Road
Place of Employment	Sobel, Wade & Mapley, LLC
Position	Partner
Length of residence in Cleveland Heights	12 years
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?

I have a few perspectives that can add additional depth to the Cleveland Heights City Council. First and foremost, my perspective as a new parent is of great value to the council as I can connect with parents, educators, and other professionals who have a high stake in creating and maintaining a community that is best positioned to be a diverse, vibrant, and safe place to plant roots and raise a family. As a Cleveland Heights small business owner, I am passionate about how our city attracts and retains talent and businesses. I am proud to have started my law firm in the Cedar-Fairmount neighborhood.

Additionally, I am a skilled listener and mediator. I work tirelessly on behalf of my clients and would be able to transition that skill on the council as a listener, mediator, and advocate for Cleveland Heights residents. I have great experience as a deliberator, and can foresee obstacles while maintaining a positive outlook. I value relationships and my approach to building relationships across lines of difference allows me to better understand the multi-faceted realities facing our City.

I am a learner who gets excited by new opportunities and the chance to learn alongside others. I would jump into council work wholeheartedly, but also relish the chance to learn more while acclimating to the council.

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

J.D. - Case Western Reserve University
School of Law
B.A. - University of Wisconsin-Madison

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

Ohio State Bar Association Leadership Academy - 2019

-The OSBA Leadership Academy is a five-month program that prepares lawyers across the state of Ohio for effective leadership in the OSBA, profession, and community.

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association 3Rs Volunteer - 2017-2019

-Volunteer to teach constitutional law to students at Cleveland School for the Arts

Equitas Health Name & Gender Change Legal Clinic Volunteer - 2017

-Provided free legal service to transgender individuals who were interested in changing their names and/or gender markers on identification documents.

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?

1) Business Development

As a Cleveland Heights business-owner, I understand how vital it is that the City continues to attract businesses to set up shop in the Heights. This can be done not only through the City Council's continued support of developments such as Top of the Hill, but also through common sense proposals that incentivize businesses to come to the City, and if they are already here, grow their businesses through expansion.

2) Safety

As the parent of a one-year-old, I have a renewed appreciation for how important it is that Cleveland Heights is a safe place for all its residents. I am extremely proud of the vital work that our police and fire services performs for the City, and I would do everything in my power as a City Council member to support their efforts. When it comes to the issue of safety, the most important thing I can do as a City Council member is listen to and learn from residents from every part of the City as to the issues they are facing and how they can best be solved.

3) Ensuring Cleveland Heights Remains Welcoming

As a civil rights attorney, I want to live in a community that is as welcoming as possible to all individuals. I am incredibly proud of how inclusive of a community Cleveland Heights is, and it is a big reason why I decided to start a family and a business here. Cleveland Heights must continue its support of anti-discrimination measures and explore additional opportunities to present itself as a community that welcomes all.

4) Transportation

A community is more vibrant and welcoming when its residents are outside either biking or walking. I proudly bike to my office many days of the week and I would prioritize additional work around adding and maintaining safe lanes for bike-riders throughout the City.

Communities are coming up with more and more innovative ways to promote biking and walking, and the City should be on the forefront of these efforts.

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?	No.
State any additional information you would like to have considered.	None.
Would you like to upload a Resume?	Yes
Resume or CV Upload (5 MB Limit)	Sean_H._Sobel_1_2019_Resume.pdf (112k)
Item # 23	I agree to electronically sign this form.
Signature	/s/ Sean H. Sobel
Last Update	2019-01-14 22:38:46
Start Time	2019-01-14 21:08:20
Finish Time	2019-01-14 22:38:46
IP	
Browser	Chrome
OS	Mac
Referrer	https://www.clevelandheights.com/1085/City-Council-Application

EXPERIENCE

Sobel, Wade & Mapley, LLC, Cleveland, Ohio

Partner, January 2017-Present

Founder of law firm that focuses on plaintiff's employment law and civil rights.

The Spitz Law Firm, LLC, Beachwood, Ohio

Associate Attorney, April 2014-January 2017

Manage sizable caseload consisting entirely of Plaintiff-side employment litigation. Conduct over 50 depositions, serve as lead counsel in mediations and arbitrations while responsible for motion practice, including summary judgment and oral arguments with favorable results. Prepare weekly blogs that focus on emerging trends and recent updates in employment law.

Janik, L.L.P., Cleveland, Ohio

Associate Attorney, July 2013-December 2013

Worked directly with insurance clients on coverage and litigation issues. Drafted coverage opinion letters and pleadings, including appellate briefs and motions for summary judgment.

Baker & Hostetler LLP, Cleveland, Ohio

Staff Attorney, June 2011-July 2013

Assisted labor and employment trial team with deposition preparation in large-scale wage and hour case. Reviewed documents for evidence of investment fraud in connection with the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC.

Javitch, Block & Rathbone, L.L.C., Cleveland, Ohio

Associate Attorney, August 2010-June 2011

Law Clerk, October 2009-August 2010

Represented insurance companies in automotive subrogation actions. Responsible for all aspects of litigation, from discovery and motion practice to serving as first-chair attorney in multiple trials with favorable results.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, D.C.

Office of Federal Operations Legal Intern, June 2009-August 2009

Drafted appellate decisions on complaints of employment discrimination filed by federal employees. Received extensive training on the statutes enforced by the EEOC, such as Title VII, Age Discrimination in Employment Act and Americans with Disabilities Act.

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Youngstown, Ohio

Judicial Extern for The Hon. Peter C. Economus, May 2008-July 2008

Drafted orders and opinions for the judge's final review. Conducted research on legal and procedural issues for age and sex discrimination, wrongful death and § 1983 civil rights claims.

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Named a 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 "Rising Star" by Ohio Super Lawyers.

Selected through a nomination process, peer evaluation and internal research, and represents only 2.5 percent of Ohio attorneys.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Ohio, 2010

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, 2010

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, 2012

EDUCATION

Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio

J.D., May 2010

GPA: 3.21/4.00

William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition

- Team Member, 2009-2010
- Selected as team member through a competitive tryout. Responsible for preparing an appellate brief and presenting oral arguments in a national competition.

Canada-United States Law Journal

- Executive Editor, 2009-2010; Associate Editor, 2008-2009
- Edited articles dealing with border security, international arbitration and NAFTA.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland Big Buddies Program

- Vice-President, 2008-2009; Participant, 2007-2008

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

B.A., Political Science, May 2007

Interfraternal Council & Panhellenic Association Judicial Board

- Chief Justice, 2005-2006; Justice, 2004-2005
- Led disciplinary hearings and issued written decisions for fraternities and sororities.

Humorology

- Director, writer and cast member for non-profit, student run musical production benefiting Camp Heartland, a camp for HIV-positive children.