



City of Rochester Hills  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME Zef Ivanaj COUNCIL DISTRICT 03  
DATE 11/20/2019 ROCHESTER HILLS RESIDENT FOR 05 YEARS  
OCCUPATION Automotive Engineer

INTERESTS/REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS

I have a desire to give back to my community. I have been helping people with job searches pro-bono considering I had some trouble when I first start out and wanted to get more involved recently. This was the reason I joined a humanitarian group as Treasurer to provide scholarships to students pursuing higher education and why I later joined the Cumberland Hills Subdivision Association as Secretary to help that board with their objectives. My goal is to use my time and skills to help advance the communities I live in and the communities my children will grow up in.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES ON WHICH YOU HAVE SERVED (LIST MUNICIPALITIES AND DATES)

Currently serving as the Secretary of the Cumberland Hills Subdivision Association - Rochester Hills, MI (March 2019 - Present)  
Currently serving as the Treasurer of the Great Highlands Association - Rochester Hills, MI (November 2016 - Present)

ELECTIVE OFFICES THAT YOU HAVE HELD

N/A

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Michigan State University Recruiting Lead for Fiat Chrysler Automobiles. Responsible for recruiting new engineering hires across all organizations for the company.

PERTINENT EDUCATION

B.S. and M.S. in Mechanical Engineering

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

I enjoy spending time with my two daughters mostly. During other times, I enjoy reading and conducting research on topics that interest me (history, science, finance).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Through my experience with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, I was responsible for studying compliance related to the EPA, CARB, and PROFEPA (Mexican regulatory agency) and ensuring there are processes in place to design our vehicles to comply with these regulations. Further, I served in corporate audit for two years where I gained knowledge on SOX items as well as being able to evaluate financial & operational controls and risk mitigation.

# Zef Ivanaj

---

## SUMMARY

An experienced project leader specializing in processes involving compliance with government regulation (EPA, CARB, SOX). Almost ten years of professional experience in various roles in the automotive industry with increasing responsibility in all roles.

## EXPERIENCE

**Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA)** Auburn Hills, MI  
Active Chassis Project Lead *Apr 2019 - Present*

- Manage the planning and execution related to the design of electrified chassis components such as power steering, brake system module, and passive safety components
- Responsible for creating a budget proposal and maintaining a budget for the design and development (\$5-10 million managed for 2019)

Corporate Leadership Development Program *Mar 2017 - Apr 2019*

- Internal consultant role studying high risk processes in the corporation followed by identifying improvement opportunities
- Led 2018 risk assessment process for engineering departments to determine high risk assignments in 2018 that were selected as improvement opportunities
- Named as an engagement lead less than six months into program; the typical timeline for program members to lead engagements is 12 months
- Improvement projects included department restructuring with the goal of meeting regulatory compliance

Mich. St. University Recruiting - Engineering Team Lead *Sept 2015 - Present*

- Reinvigorated recruiting effort after previous leadership team vacated their positions
- Led all functional engineering team leads to coordinate on-campus recruiting efforts
- Reported directly to Product Development Vice President with recruiting status

Electric Power Steering (EPS) Design and Release Engineer *Oct 2016 - Mar 2017*

- Responsible for managing suppliers to ensure all milestones related to vehicle production timing are met
- Developed unique solution to all new Wrangler to meet objectives while saving cost

Advanced Aero/Thermal Systems Engineer *May 2013 - Oct 2016*

- Managed the integration of aerodynamic and thermal systems to meet requirements and optimize vehicle fuel economy for emissions tests and real-world
- Department lead for continuous improvement initiatives related to best practices
- Developed industry first air-cooled Motor Generator Unit (mild-hybrid)

Chrysler Institute of Engineering Leadership Program *Jan 2011 - May 2013*  
Two-year rotational leadership development program focused on leadership, initiative, and impact consisting of six rotations

## PHILANTHROPY

**Great Highlands Association** Farmington Hills, MI  
Treasurer *Nov 2016 - Present*

**Cumberland Hills Subdivision Association** Rochester Hills, MI  
Secretary *Mar 2019 - Present*

## EDUCATION

**Purdue University** West Lafayette, IN  
M.S.E. in Mechanical Engineering *Graduated: Dec 2013*

**Michigan State University** East Lansing, MI  
B.S. in Mechanical Engineering *Graduated: May 2009*