



City of Rochester Hills

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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NAME **Ryan J. Deel**

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES ON WHICH YOU WANT TO SERVE (please check the boxes):

Appointed by Mayor, Confirmed by City Council

- ☒ Advisory Traffic & Safety (meets monthly)
- ☐ Board of Review (meets as needed)
- ☒ Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (meets 4 times a year)
- ☐ Citizens Pathway (meets as needed)
- ☐ Construction/Fire Prevention Board of Appeals* (meets as needed)
- ☐ Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (meets as needed)
- ☐ Local Development Finance Authority (meets 4 times a year)
- ☐ Naming Standing Committee (meets as needed)
- ☒ Planning Commission* (meets monthly)
- ☐ Rochester Hills Museum Foundation (meets monthly)

Appointed by City Council

- ☐ Cemetery Citizen Advisory Committee (meets 2-4 times a year)
- ☐ Deer Management Advisory Committee (meets 2 times a year)
- ☐ Elections Commission (meets prior to each Election)
- ☐ Green Space Advisory Board (meets monthly)
- ☐ Historic Districts Commission* (meets monthly)
- ☐ Historic Districts Study Committee (meets as needed)
- ☐ Human Resources Technical Review Committee (meets yearly)
- ☒ Liquor License Technical Review Committee (meets as needed)
- ☐ Older Persons' Commission (meets monthly)
- ☐ Public Safety & Infrastructure Technical Review Committee (meets as needed)
- ☐ Retiree Health Care Trust – Board of Trustees (meets as needed)
- ☐ Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (meets monthly)
- ☐ Rochester Hills Museum Foundation (meets monthly)
- ☐ Water System Advisory Council (meets yearly)
- ☒ Zoning/Board of Appeals* (meets monthly)

** Denotes paid positions. Candidates will be required to complete a Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, as required by the Federal Government.*



City of Rochester Hills

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NAME Ryan J. Deel COUNCIL DISTRICT 4
DATE November 13, 2025 ROCHESTER HILLS RESIDENT FOR 22 YEARS
OCCUPATION Attorney

INTERESTS/REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS (Specifically list the reasons you are interested in serving on this/these committees and any qualifications you have for being on this/these committees:

I truly love the city of Rochester Hills. It is the preeminent place to live, work and raise your family. I wish to continue giving back to the city that has given so much to me. I am an attorney, with a private practice in the city of Rochester Hills, so I both live and work within the city.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES ON WHICH YOU HAVE or currently SERVE on (List Municipalities and years):

Rochester Hills Building Authority, RARA Board, Liquor License Technical Review Committee, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, Retiree Health Care Trust.

ELECTIVE OFFICES THAT YOU HAVE HELD:

Rochester Hills Public Library Board
Rochester Hills City Council, District 4 representative

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS you have been or are involved with:

Oakland County Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan, Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library, Rochester Rotary, Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Relevant EDUCATION to the committee(s) you are interested in:

BA, Michigan State University - James Madison College
JD, Wayne State University Law School

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

FCC licensed amateur radio operator, call sign (W8RJD), avid reader.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

My wife Melinda is an attorney and formerly served as the president of the Oakland County Bar Association. We have lived in District 4 since we first moved here in 2003 and love it here!

Ryan J. Deel

WORK EXPERIENCE

DEEL LAW, PLLC

Member, January 2025 to present

Duties: member at estate planning and probate administration practice.

CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS

City Council Member, November 2017 to November 2025

President, December 2019 to November 2025

Duties: member of the legislative body for a city of 75,000 residents. As president, determine the city council agenda and preside over city council meetings.

OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE COURT

Judicial Staff Attorney to Judge Linda S. Hallmark, June 2006 to December 2024

Duties: perform legal research, prepare memoranda of law, work with *in pro per* litigants and attorneys to facilitate resolutions of matters before the Court and prepare draft opinions for Judge Hallmark. Primary areas of practice include divorce, child custody, paternity, child support, name changes, child welfare proceedings, juvenile delinquency, personal protection orders, adult and minor guardianships and conservatorships, decedent estates, and trusts.

DEEL & DEEL, PLLC

Member Attorney, July 2002 to June 2006

Duties: managing attorney at a general practice law firm with a focus on domestic relations, child protection, juvenile delinquency, criminal defense, collections and probate law.

FALCONE & ROLFE, P.C.

Law Clerk, June 2000 to November 2001

Associate Attorney, November 2001 to July 2002

Duties: performed legal research, drafted pleadings and legal memoranda and appeared in court on behalf of clients. Primary areas of practice included business and tax litigation.

EDUCATION

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

Juris Doctor, May 2001

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts, James Madison College, 1998

Major Concentration, Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy, with
Minor in International Relations.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- State Bar of Michigan (2001)
- Federal District Court - Eastern District of Michigan (2001)
- Federal District Court - Northern District of Illinois (2005)
- U.S. Court of Appeals - 6th Circuit (2001)

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL

- Rochester Area Recreation Authority Board Member (2017-2019)
- Rochester Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (2017-2025)
- Rochester Hills Liquor License Technical Review Committee (2017-2025)
- Oakland County Bar Association Laches Editorial Board (2017)
- City of Rochester Hills Building Authority (2015-2017)
- Rochester Hills Public Library Board of Trustees (2014-2017)
- Arcadia Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors (2014-present)
- Oakland County Bar Foundation Fellow (2013-present)
- Troy Jaycees (2002-2008), President (2003-2004)
- Troy People Concerned, Board of Directors (2004-2011), president (2005-2007)
- Young Lawyers Section, Executive Council, State Bar of Michigan (2004-2006)
- Michigan Creditors Bar Association, director (2006)
- Oakland County Bar Association Inns of Court (2006-2007)
- Oakland County Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education Committee (2011-2012)
- Oakland County Bar Association, Juvenile Law Committee (2002-Present), chair (2010-2011)

PRESENTATIONS

- Michigan Guardianship Association, Mental Health Proceedings (April 2024)
- State Bar of Michigan, Children's Law Section: Put your Best Defense Forward – A Primer for Juvenile Court Trial Work, Case Law Update (December 2, 2016).
- Oakland County Circuit & Probate Court Bench/Bar Conference, Family Division Co-Captain (2015).
- Oakland County Bar Association, Juvenile Brown Bag Lecture Series, State of the Law (annually from 2007 to 2016).
- Michigan State Bar Elder Law Section 10th Annual Spring Conference 2012, Probate Court, DNR and End of Life Decisions (March 16, 2012).
- Michigan Judicial Institute, Domestic Relations Proceedings for Experienced District Court Judges (August 26, 2011).
- Oakland County Bar Association, Youth Law Conference, Technology and the Law (2009)

PUBLICATIONS

- Ryan Deel, *Zooming Your Way to Success*, Laches. September 2024.
- Melinda Deel & Ryan Deel, *10 Highly Effective Strategies for Advocating to the Guardian ad Litem and the Court in Probate Matters*, Laches. February 2023, at pp. 16-17.
- Melinda Deel & Ryan Deel, *Discovery Practice in Child Protection Proceedings*, Laches. March 2015, at p. 9.
- Melinda Deel & Ryan Deel, *Juvenile Competency*, Laches. Sept. 2013, at p. 11.
- Ryan Deel, *Juvenile Proceedings*, in *Michigan Criminal Procedure* (Hon. Travis Reeds & Hon. Brian MacKenzie, eds., 2010-2011).
- Ryan Deel, *Video Recording Children's Statements in Child Protective Proceedings*, Laches, Nov. 2006, at p. 21.

SPECIAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- Legal skills and ability: proficient in legal research and writing, trial court and appellate advocacy, working in a collaborative environment.
- Licensed Amateur Radio operator with the Federal Communications Commission, holding an Amateur Extra license, and a Volunteer Examiner with the Amateur Radio Relay League.
- Technical skills: Proficient with computer hardware and software including: Windows, Linux, Microsoft Office, databases (including Microsoft Access and MySQL).