



City of Rochester Hills

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Page | 2 of 3

NAME Nicholas James Swider

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

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Page | 3 of 3

NAME Nicholas James Swider COUNCIL DISTRICT 1
DATE November 11, 2023 ROCHESTER HILLS RESIDENT FOR 1 YEARS
OCCUPATION Attorney (commercial litigation and corporate counseling) at Altior Law, P.C. (Birmingham)

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 believe that I can bring a young, fresh perspective to the committee(s) I serve on, especially as someone who is somewhat of an outsider only recently moving to Rochester Hills and as someone with the legal training and experience who can identify current and potential future issues and create reasonable and logical solutions to solve and avoid those issues.

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

None.

ELECTIVE OFFICES THAT YOU HAVE HELD:

None.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS you have been or are involved with:

See attached Resume.

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

B.A. (University of Michigan - Ann Arbor); J.D (Michigan State University College of Law)
See attached Resume.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

Singing/playing piano for St. Kenneth Catholic Church (Plymouth), boating, water skiing, volunteering for various organizations/foundations.
See attached Resume.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please contact me anytime; I am happy to answer any questions and/or address any concerns.

Nicholas James Swider

EDUCATION

Michigan State University College of Law – East Lansing, Michigan

Juris Doctor and Geoffrey Fieger Trial Practice Institute Certification in Trial Advocacy, August 2016 – May 2019

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Economics, Philosophy, and Crime and Justice, September 2012 – May 2016

WORK EXPERIENCE

Altior Law, P.C. – Birmingham, Michigan

Attorney, June 2023 – Present

- Collaborate with a highly specialized subset of lifelong commercial litigators to represent all types and sizes of companies, business owners, and shareholders including automotive suppliers, banks and financial institutions, private and commercial landlords, and real estate developers
- Litigate all facets of business-related matters, as well pre-suit dispute resolution and corporate counseling, including:
 - Shareholder disputes and business divorces;
 - Business torts and breach of contract actions;
 - Banking and lending workouts and receiverships;
 - RICO Act and securities litigation;
 - Accounting and legal malpractice;
 - Contract negotiations; and
 - Real estate transactions

Zausmer, P.C. – Farmington Hills, Michigan

Attorney, April 2021 – June 2023

- Specialize in commercial, employment, educational, and municipal litigation at both trial court and appellate levels as well as risk advising
- Represent Fortune 500 companies, local and national corporations, county and local municipal entities, and public and private educational institutions and governing boards in wide variety of cases, including:
 - Breach of contract and tortious interference with business expectancy and contractual relations;
 - Class actions;
 - Inverse condemnation, trespass, and sewer and water system disputes;
 - Non-competition agreement enforcement;
 - Wrongful termination;
 - Race, gender, age, pregnancy, and religious discrimination;
 - Defamation;
 - Wrongful death, promises liability, automobile negligence; and
 - Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Great Lakes and Energy, and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission proceedings

Fieger Law Firm – Southfield, Michigan

Attorney, November 2019 – April 2021

- Supported medical malpractice and birth trauma litigation team by conducting pre-suit investigation and review as well as handling expert discovery and motion practice
- Managed independent case load, with the assistance of legal support staff, focusing in:
 - 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act claims;
 - general negligence actions;
 - premises liability;
 - intentional tort claims; and
 - automobile negligence

- Led entire litigation process from new client counseling to discovery to motion practice to trial preparation all while timely and efficiently meeting firm expectations and consulting with fellow attorneys to produce superior work product and best possible case results

Abood Law Firm, P.C. – Birmingham, Michigan & East Lansing, Michigan
Law Clerk, August 2017 – November 2019

- Maintained consistent case load of 50 to 60 cases, including appeals, between both firm offices in fields of criminal defense, family law, and personal injury, concentrating in:
 - alcohol and drug-related misdemeanor and felony offenses;
 - assaultive crime defense;
 - high-asset divorce and property division; and
 - personal injury and general negligence
- Experienced in trial preparation, jury selection, and jury trial in criminal cases
- Participated in client meeting and counseling, case intake interviews, depositions, mediations, arbitrations, settlement conferences, preliminary examinations, and motion hearings in district and circuit courts in all of south-eastern, central, and western Michigan

35th District Court of the State of Michigan, Hon. Ronald W. Lowe – Plymouth, Michigan
Judicial Clerk, Interim Court Officer, April 2015 - August 2015; April 2016 - August 2016; April 2017 - August 2017

- Oversaw and maintained daily courtroom operations as well as scheduling, security, and decorum
- Conducted legal research and opinion-writing as well as devising a restructuring of trial management documentation and procedure to increase court efficiency
- Designed and implemented informational court broadcasting for the general public; a program adopted by other Michigan District Courts through the Michigan Supreme Court Administrator's Office

University of Michigan Office of the President – Ann Arbor, Michigan
Student Assistant, August 2013 – April 2016

- Managed communication between the President, executive officers, and deans of each school and college
- Gathered, organized, and prepared information and agendas for university executive officers
- Conducted policy research and designed implementation strategies for administrative directives and initiatives
- Student co-chair of University Presidential Transition Committee

PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER AFFILIATIONS

State Bar of Michigan Litigation Section, *Lansing, Michigan* – Governing Council Member
 Oakland County Bar Association; New Lawyers Section, *Michigan* – Member
 Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, *Michigan* – Member
 Michigan Association of Corporate Counsel, *Michigan* – Member
 Delta Sigma Phi National Fraternity, *Ann Arbor, Michigan* – Regional Deputy Commissioner and Chapter Advisor
 Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure, *Detroit, Michigan* – Executive Committee Member
 St. Kenneth's Catholic Church, *Plymouth, Michigan* – Pianist and Vocal Music Minister

PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Proactive Risk Management – University of Michigan Fraternity and Sorority Life, August 2022
Avoiding Pitfalls of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts in the Workplace – Michigan Association of Corporate Counsel, April 2022
Anatomy of an Appeal: Preserving the Record Below – Polish American Legal Society, October 2021
Three's a Crowd: Navigating the Tripartite Relationship – Michigan Adjusters Association, September 2021

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Ms. Jennifer Grieco

Shareholder and Vice President, Altior Law, P.C.
401 South Old Woodward Ave., Suite 460
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 535-4016

Hon. Ronald W. Lowe

Judge, 35th District Court of the State of Michigan
660 Plymouth Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 781-0108

Mr. Jeffrey Lance Abood

Partner, Abood Law Firm
470 North Old Woodward Avenue, Suite 250
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 635-0000

Mr. Leo D. Neville

City Attorney, City of Livonia
33000 Civic Center Drive, Floor 4
Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 751-8595

Mr. Philip J. Rodriguez

CEO and Executive Director, Delta Sigma Phi National Fraternity
2960 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208
(618) 971-8508

Mr. Daniel I. Jedell

Shareholder, Zausmer, P.C.
32255 Northwestern Highway, Suite 225
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334
(248) 851-4111