

Application Form

Profile

LeJon

First Name

A

Middle Initial

Payne

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Pittsburg

City

CA

State

94565

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 5

N/A

Employer

Job Title

Length of Employment

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Transitional Community Advisory Board: Submitted

Seat Name

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Cambridge College

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Doctorate of Education/Social Justice

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Cambridge College

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Specialist Degree/Leadership Adminstration

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Oglethorpe University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Masters of Teaching

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

LeJon A Payne

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

CA Administrative Credential

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

CA Teaching Credential

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

I have over 20 years of experience as an educator. I have worked as a teacher, coordinator, specialist, assistant principal, and principal. I have a Bachelor of Social Work Degree, a Master of Arts in Teaching, a Specialist Degree in Leadership Administration, and a Doctorate Degree in Leadership Administration - Social Justice.

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I am deeply passionate about empowering communities, particularly African American families who continue to face systemic inequities. Over the past 22 years, I have served as a spiritual leader, social worker, educator, and community organizer across California and abroad. My work has consistently centered on uplifting vulnerable populations — especially women and children — through literacy, financial literacy, STEM/STEAM education, and holistic support. In Contra Costa County, I previously served at First AME Community Church in Bay Point, where I worked with the local food bank, partnered with shelters for women and children, and organized civic engagement and civic awareness programs. These experiences gave me a firsthand understanding of the needs and strengths of African American communities in the county. Beyond Contra Costa, my recent work as Pastor of Wright Chapel AME Church, an educator and principal, and as Commissioner for the Contra Costa County Women and Girls Commission reflects my commitment to building systems that promote equity, access, and well-being. I am now seeking the opportunity to serve Contra Costa County as a member of the Transitional Community Advisory Board. I believe the African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub is a transformative initiative that will give voice, resources, and hope to those who need it most. My lived experience and professional background equip me to provide thoughtful guidance in reviewing criteria, ensuring fair and inclusive selection processes, and supporting outreach to diverse community members. I am committed to working collaboratively with fellow board members and the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice to ensure that the Hub reflects the priorities, resilience, and aspirations of African Americans in Contra Costa County. Volunteer Experience: Rocketship SSC Vice President, Rocketship Advisory Board, Contra Costa County Women and Girls Commission, Brookins AME Church, Oakland, First AME Community Church, Bay Point, Girls Inc., Girl Scouts of America, multiple women's shelters, and numerous schools and organizations. Through these partnerships, I have organized and led STEM workshops, literacy initiatives, clothing drives, and resource campaigns to empower and strengthen community well-being.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I bring extensive experience as a community advocate, social worker, educator, pastor, principal, and nonprofit co-founder, which has prepared me to add significant value to the Transitional Community Advisory Board. In my role as principal, I have partnered with numerous community organizations to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of students and families, ensuring that schools remain a hub of equity and support. I have also collaborated on the Rocketship School Site Council and served on the Rocketship Regional Advisory Board, the Contra Costa County Commission for Women and Girls, and the Social Justice Committee for the California Conference AME Church. Through these leadership and advisory roles, I have developed a deep understanding of the systemic challenges facing African American communities and have been actively involved in creating and implementing programs that promote equity, access, and holistic wellness. I am committed to using my skills and experiences to contribute meaningfully to the mission of the African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub and to ensure that its development reflects the needs and priorities of the community it is designed to serve

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please explain:

The Contra Costa County Women and Girls Commission meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 pm.

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

Women & Girls Commission

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

N/A

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Advisory & Leadership Roles: Rocketship School Site Council (SSC) Rocketship Regional Advisory Board Contra Costa County Commission for Women and Girls Social Justice Committee, California Conference AME Church Education Committee, California Conference AME Church Community & Volunteer Service: Pastor, Wright Chapel AME Church (San Francisco) — community outreach, family support, and empowerment initiatives First AME Community Church (Bay Point) — food bank partnerships, civic engagement and civic awareness programs, and support for women and children in shelters Brookins AME Church (Oakland) — outreach programs and literacy workshops Girls Inc. — mentoring and empowerment programming for girls Girl Scouts of America — troop leadership and mentorship Women’s Shelters — organizing clothing drives, care packages, and literacy workshops Educational Institutions — organizing and leading STEM/STEAM and literacy workshops for students The Art of Confidence Foundation (Co-Founder) — providing international performing arts, sports, and literacy opportunities for youth

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and undersand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

LEJON PAYNE

Community Advocate | Educator



Pittsburg, CA

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BIOGRAPHY

Biography: Dr. LeJon Payne

Dr. LeJon Payne is an esteemed community advocate and academician with over two decades of experience as a social worker, spiritual community advocate, educator, and international service community organizer. Her journey in social justice, advocacy, and education is marked by an unwavering commitment to spiritual growth, academic excellence, and community empowerment.

Early Life and Education

Dr. Payne's educational journey began with a Bachelor of Social Work from Clark Atlanta University in 2002. Her passion for teaching and early childhood development led her to pursue a Master of Arts in Teaching Early Childhood Education from Oglethorpe University, which she completed in 2008. Furthering her dedication to educational leadership, she earned a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) in Leadership Administration from Cambridge College in 2009, followed by a Doctor of Education in Leadership Administration from the same institution in 2018. Currently she is enrolled in the Pacific School of Religion, where she will earn her Master of Divinity in 2025.

Professional Career

Dr. Payne has an extensive career in education, having served in various capacities across public, private, and charter schools, as well as in postgraduate studies. Her roles have ranged from classroom teacher to principal, with significant contributions to Maker Education, STEM education, technology integration, community partnerships, and professional development for educators. During her tenure as Principal at Sequoia Elementary in the Oakland Unified School District, she implemented school-wide programs and fostered strong community partnerships. Under her leadership, the school received the Raise the Bar Award for significant gains in literacy among Latino students. As Assistant Principal at KIPP Bridge Academy, she was instrumental in mentoring teachers, enhancing student learning through innovative instructional strategies, and leading the STEM department.

Internationally, Dr. Payne has made significant strides as the Education Manager at GEMS Education in Dubai, UAE, where she managed large-scale educational projects and collaborated with Harvard University on professional development initiatives. Her work in integrating educational technologies, through simulation and virtual reality as well as managing corporate partnerships has left a lasting impact on the global educational landscape.

Community Leader

Ordained as an Itinerant Deacon at Brookins African Methodist Episcopal Church in Oakland, CA, Dr. Payne has dedicated her life to ministry and community service. She has served as a minister, Sunday School teacher, youth leader, and outreach leader and coordinator, organizing youth conferences, fundraisers, and outreach ministries. Her leadership was pivotal in the historic election of the first A.M.E. African American Female Bishop, Vashti McKenzie.

Dr. Payne's spiritual outreach extends beyond local communities. As the Co-Founder and International Service Organizer for the Art of Confidence Foundation, she has coordinated service projects in Nairobi, Kenya, and developed financial literacy programs benefiting members in the States and abroad. Her work in performing arts and financial education has empowered countless youth and fostered international alliances.

Published Author and Speaker

A published author, Dr. Payne has contributed to academic and spiritual literature, sharing her insights on leadership, education, and spiritual growth. Her public speaking engagements have inspired audiences worldwide, emphasizing the importance of faith, education, and community service.

Community Engagement

Dr. Payne's dedication to community engagement is evident in her involvement in various outreach programs. She has coordinated initiatives to feed the hungry, provide clothing, education for refugees and childhood brides and organize toy and book drives for local schools. Her efforts have significantly impacted communities, both locally and internationally.

Personal Life

Dr. Payne is renowned for her compassionate nature, strong leadership, and unwavering commitment to her faith and community. Her life's work embodies her belief in the transformative power of education, community empowerment, and dedicated service to all mankind.