

Joshua Klein

Moraga, CA 94556

September 22, 2023

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
Office of the Clerk of the Board  
County Administration Building  
1025 Escobar Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Application for Reappointment to  
Board of Trustees of Contra Costa County Public Law Library

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Last year, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors appointed me to serve as a Trustee of the County's Public Law Library during the 2023 calendar year. I am writing to apply for reappointment as a Trustee for the 2024 term.

In Contra Costa County, as elsewhere in our State, there is a gulf between people's legal needs and their ability to secure representation. The Public Law Library serves an important role in bridging that gap. Members of the public, often referred by courthouse staff, can enter the Library's main branch in Martinez or its satellite branch in Richmond. Once there, they can ask the Library's dedicated and professional staff for guidance in finding the print and electronic resources that will allow them to understand their legal issues and protect their rights. They can also take advantage of programming such as Lawyer in the Library and workshops on court-accounting. For many who are without a lawyer, the availability of the Library as a resource makes the difference between being able to successfully complete their tasks and not. The Library also serves as an important resource for members of the bar, for judges, and for government employees.

These aspects of the Library's mission, and its history, are detailed in an article I wrote in the July 2023 article of *Contra Costa Lawyer*.

There is no doubt that the Library will face challenges – and opportunities – in the years ahead. Among other things, the Library will move into a new (and superior) space once the new county building is completed. It must strive to continue providing excellent service in the face of funding uncertainties. And it must continue to attract and retain staff of the caliber that has made the Library such a useful resource for residents of the County. My service on the Board this year has given me insight into how the Library can meet such challenges and take advantage of such opportunities going forward. In addition, I would also continue to draw upon the knowledge of the legal profession and legal research that I have gained during my career as an attorney in government, private practice, and clerking, as detailed in the enclosed resume.

I am grateful to the Board of Supervisors for allowing me to serve as a Library Trustee in 2023, and I consider my term as a Trustee to be among the most fulfilling parts of my two-decade legal career. I am eager to continue my service if given the chance. For these reasons, I hope you will consider reappointing me as a Trustee for 2024. Thank you for your consideration of this application. And please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or desire anything further with respect to this application.

Sincerely,

Joshua Klein

Enclosure