

Form Name:
Submission Time:

Citizens Commission
February 28, 2019 2:19 pm

Name	Charlene Smith
Address	<div></div> <div></div>
Phone	<div></div>
Email	<div></div>
Citizenship Affirmation	I am a U.S. Citizen
Residency Affirmation	I am a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Statement of Intent	I intend to comply with and advance the policy established by this Act.
Statement of Interest	<p>I have a long career as an award-winning political and investigative journalist who has worked on 4 continents - here, Japan, Argentina, and South Africa. This included a stint covering the White House in 2011. News organizations I have worked for include the Los Angeles Times, CBS 60 Minutes, ABC Nightline (under Ted Koppel), CBC-TV, BBC, etc.</p> <p>In South Africa, for a time, as apartheid neared its end I gave up journalism to become full time active against apartheid and formed an organization called the Free the Children Alliance (because so many children were in detention), I investigated death squads at the behest of Archbishop Tutu leading to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission, etc. I am also an authorized biographer, nominated by him, of Nelson Mandela. I worked with CDC on designing a prophylaxis to prevent HIV (2004) in those raped, I counsel those who have experienced violent crime, especially rape survivors.</p> <p>In Boston, I am a member of the League of Women Voters, founded a non-partisan group called Soul Brunch to try & heal political division, am active in my church, St. Andrew's Wellesley, where I initiated a Peace Forum - again to heal political divides, volunteered with Victim Offender Group (VOEG) working with violent offenders in prison. I teach writing and am the author of 14 published works of nonfiction. I'm blessed to be a mother.</p>
Résumé or Summary of Qualifications Upload	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3282862/71887710/481973265/71887710_charlene_smith_resume_2018.docx
Political Party Affiliation, if any, over the previous five years	Democratic
City or Town where you reside	WELLESLEY

Employment Status	Employed
Occupation	Writer
Employer	self

CHARLENE LEONORA SMITH

MULTI-AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

Authorized biographer of Nobel Peace Award winner, Nelson Mandela. Author of 14 published books, chapters in a dozen more. Ghostwriter of 10 more. Writing teacher and coach.

Journalist and documentary film maker on award-winning television documentaries for CBC-TV, CBS 60 Minutes, ABC Nightline with Ted Koppel, the United Nations, BBC's Panorama and Granada. Longtime writer for Los Angeles Times, news and analysis. Multiple awards for journalism including courageous and investigative journalism awards.

Ghostwriter including memoirs by Altron founder, Bill Venter, Federal Judge Harry Rein, Unicef head of mission in Asia and Africa, Jesper Morch, and a dozen more.

Editor of books and Ph.D. theses for clients including KwaZulu Natal Press, Oxford University Press, and Ph.D. students from Oxford, Harvard, MIT, and others.

Master of Fine Arts – Interdisciplinary Arts (Advanced Narrative Non-Fiction)

Massachusetts certified English teacher. Instructor for adult and elementary school writing students. Adult writing students are mostly faculty from Ivy League colleges.

Lived and worked on four continents – in Japan, Zambia, South Africa, Argentina, and the U.S.A.

Citizen: United States of America and South Africa.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Education & Professional Development

- Master of Fine Arts Interdisciplinary Arts – Goddard College, Vermont (Advanced Narrative Non-Fiction Writing and Digital Photography).
- Advanced NonFiction Writing and too, Intermediate Fiction, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- Creative Fiction, Stanford University, CA.
- African Government and Politics, University of Minnesota.
- Terrorism and Counter Terrorism, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
- American Literary Traditions & American Women Novelists, University of Massachusetts Lowell.
- Digital Photography, Advanced Lightroom, Lenses, New England School of Photography, Boston, MA
- Modern & Contemporary Art, 1945-1989, Abstract Expressionists, Collage, Museum of Mordern Art, New York, NY
- Tokyo English LifeLine telephone and trauma counseling, Tokyo, Japan.
- Victim Offender Education Group Facilitator Training, Restorative Justice Victim Offender Education Group (VOEG) – voluntary work with those incarcerated, San Rafael, California and Boston, Massachusetts (Norfolk correctional facility and Souza Baranowski maximum security prison)
- Floral docent, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 2014 - 2016

- Noepe Literary Center Writers' Retreat, Martha's Vineyard 2016
- Yale Writer's Conference 2017
- *Professional Member – PEN America- Author's Guild – Association of Literary Scholars, Critics & Writers- American Society of Journalists and Authors*
- *Facilitator Victim Offender Education Group, Norfolk Prison, MA 2014 - 2016*
- *Massachusetts Notary Public*

Writing Teacher

2010- 19: Online and inclass private courses for faculty, Harvard, BU, and MIT, and private students globally.

2016 - 19: Writing classes, Wellesley Recreation Center and Wellesley Library, Wellesley, MA.

2019: Writing Classes, Needham Adult Education Center

2015-19: Needham Enrichment Center, Needham

2015: Summer writing classes, Castle Hill Truro Arts Center, Truro, M.A.

2014: Merchant Taylor School, London, UK (one of the top 8 private schools for boys in England)

2013-14: Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Cambridge, MA.

Executive Positions

Director Communications & Marketing – Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, MA.

Assistant Editor, Financial Mail and Leadership magazine, South Africa.

Political correspondent and deputy news editor, Sunday Times, South Africa.

Political correspondent and deputy News Editor, Business Day, South Africa

Manager, SAfm radio station, largest English radio station in South Africa – first ever woman manager and youngest manager ever.

Journalism

- 2018 - Editorial Board, Health Times, Lagos, Nigeria.
- Judge, Africa Utility Week Awards, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- * Convener and chair of two panels on writing, editing, and communication strategies at American Society of Journalists and Authors Annual Conference, NY, 2016. Speaker on Ghostwriting 2018.
- * Judge, 2013 Magazine Awards, American Society of Journalists and Authors, NY, NY
- Feature writer, Los Angeles Times
- Freelance writer for National Geographic, The Art of Eating, Contact (Assn. of American Zoos), Daily Beast, BrainWorld, Boston Globe, Latitude News, The Guardian (London), Associated Press, etc.
- Producer for ABC's Nightline (US with Ted Koppel) and CBS 60 Minutes. CBC Canada for almost two decades with Tony Burman (who was founding English MD of Al-Jazeera & now teaches at Ryerson University, Toronto)
- Reported on The White House and President Barack Obama for Independent Newspapers, 2011.

Corporate Clients in my role as a Communications Consultant:

Coca Cola, Fifa World Cup (2010), Thebe Investments, Ogilvy PR, World Economic Forum, Oxford University Press, United Nations Health Development Net, Astro Tech Training, Sure Swipe, World Economic Forum, South African Medical Research Council, Breadstand, Episcopal Divinity School (Cambridge), Office Solutions (Weston), World Cup 2010. Centers for Disease Control (Motivated protocol and worked with Dr. Ken Dominguez, Dr. Consuelo Beck Sague, and Prof. David Holtgrave on Protocol for Post Exposure Prophylaxis after Sexual Assault released in 2004.)

Published Books abridged:

- *Mandela: In Celebration of a Great Life* (Random House)
- *Robben Island* (Random House);
- *Committed to Me* (Random House)
- *On the Sidelines Clapping: Gender in Southern Africa* (Heinrich Boll Foundation)
- *Proud of Me: Speaking Out Against Sexual Violence and HIV* (Penguin), nominated for Alan Paton Award, South Africa's most prestigious literary award. Voted one of the top 10 books in South Africa. Translated into Swedish by Leopard Forlag and titled, *Utan Skuld*.

Chapters: *On Donald Trump, Nelson Mandela, Racism and Making Friends with Your Enemies*, Garn Press (NY) 2017; *The Lost Cat, New England Essays* (Paige Press, Harvard Bookstore), *AIDS* (Leopard Forlag, Sweden); *The Woman's March* (Mothobi Mutloatse); *Articulations: Harold Wolpe Memorial Lecture Collection* (Africa World Press); *The Closest of Strangers: South African Women's Life Writing* (Wits University Press).

- Editing: *From Stethoscope to Gavel* - ghostwriting and editing memoir, Federal Judge Harry Rein (2016). Novel *Take My Breath Away* by Sherry Alpert (2016). Business: *Growing Happiness* by David Johnson (Concord Press, 2015). Memoir, ghostwriting and editing, *In Pursuit of a Dream: Bill Venter and the Altron Story* (Shinglewood Press, 2010). Business: Lishen Nair, *Happy Revolution* (CreateSpace, 2012); *Life Matters and Other Stories*, anthology of 15 women writers (Sunset Road Press, 2018).
- Ghost writer of half a dozen more books (I cannot contractually name all).

Some Awards:

- Goddard Alumni Arts Award (2015)
- Sri Chinmoy Peace Torchbearer Award, Arlington MA (2014)
- Prix Italia – Documentary HIV and AIDS.
- CBS Documentary on Nelson Mandela, 12 international awards.
- Distinguished Work Media and Human Rights, SA Women Abroad, Toronto, Canada.
- Winner: Harvard Bookstore Essay Writing Contest for *New England Essays* (2012).
- Mondri Award: Best Feature Writer.
- Courageous Journalism, Rhodes University.
- Features Award, CNN Journalist of the Year.
- Person of the Year, Mail and Guardian Newspaper.
- Woman of the Year: Media and Communications, South African Broadcasting Corporation.

Exhibitions: Photographic

- Boston Camera Club, Cambridge Center for Adult Education 2017
- Wellesley Library 2017

