

Form Name:
Submission Time:

Citizens Commission
March 15, 2019 4:34 pm

Name	Kevin Johnson
Address	
Phone	
Email	
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've spent much of my life working for democracy, and believe we won't have representative elections, or policies in line with the majority, until we control campaign contributions and election spending, and that requires the 28th Amendment. I founded Election Reformers Network in Jan. '17, and lead a team supporting reforms that can reduce polarization and increase public confidence in our democracy.</p> <p>I served on the Board of Common Cause MA ('08-'18), and was involved in successful campaigns to establish automatic voter registration, our State Ethics Commission, early voting, and others. In 2012 I led the signature gathering and campaigning in my town in support of a successful ballot question for the 28th amendment. I testified on the Hill on "Why Citizens United is bad for Business" in support of SB 772, calling for an amendment. I've published nine opeds and research papers over the last year on election-related issues, presenting original analysis and a centrist perspective.</p> <p>I owe that bipartisan perspective to seven years working on democracy promotion overseas at the National Democratic Institute (NDI), where we engaged all political stakeholders and knew that reform needs as broad a base as possible to take root. NDI also gave me a kind of mental library of the different democratic systems and institutions in use in the world. I've run since 2002 a successful small business, regulated by the SEC, so know issues related to regulation and the innovation economy.</p>
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Résumé or Summary of Qualifications Upload	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3282862/71887710/486201331/71887710_kevin_johnson_resume_2019_for_citizens_commission.docx
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Political Party Affiliation, if any, over the previous five years	Democratic
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If multiple or other, please explain	Now a registered independent, previously registered Democrat
City or Town where you reside	NEWTON
Employment Status	Employed
Occupation	Financial Services
Employer	Liberty Global Partners

KEVIN P. JOHNSON

DEMOCRACY REFORM EXPERIENCE

ELECTION REFORMERS NETWORK (ERN), Newton, MA: *Founder and Executive Director* 2017-Present
ERN supports election reforms that reduce polarization and increase public confidence in our democracy. ERN's founding members have extensive experience with election reform in the U.S. and around the world.

- Built organization from scratch: recruited board, raised funds, designed and implemented business plan to leverage diverse network of election experts in support of US reform.
- Executed eight grants to support ranked choice voting, independent redistricting, and congressional reforms.
- Backed three winning state ballot initiatives, in Maine, Missouri, and Utah.
- Published [nine opinion pieces](#) in media outlets including *Daily Beast* and *IVN*; topics include reform results in Trump counties, comparison of state redistricting commissions, and adopting RCV to presidential primaries.
- Generated [original research](#) demonstrating statistical link between extremism in Congress and plurality voting.
- Advisory Board member for Fairvote and Voterchoice MA.

COMMON CAUSE MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, MA: *Board Member, 2008-2018; Board V. Chair 2011-2014*
Common Cause is a nonprofit advocacy group supporting transparent and accountable government.

- Led successful Newton ballot question campaign for constitutional amendment overturning *Citizens United*.
- Provided [testimony](#) to the MA Joint Committee on Election Law: "Why *Citizens United* is bad for Business."
- Provided guidance to successful legislative campaigns for early voting and automatic voter registration.
- Led phone banking efforts that helped persuade MA legislators to pass bills such as National Popular Vote.
- Part of a team organizing citizen participation in the highly regarded 2011 MA redistricting process.
- Member, Advisory Council to Common Cause National President Bob Edgar.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE, Washington, DC: *Senior Program Officer* 1992-1998
NDI conducts technical assistance programs to support elections and political institutions in new democracies.

- Served as in-country senior manager for democratization programs in Indonesia, West Bank and Gaza, and several countries in Africa.
- Designed and led programs in:
 - Constitution drafting
 - Election monitoring
 - Parliamentary institution building
 - Grassroots civic education
 - Political party training

OTHER EXPERIENCE

LIBERTY GLOBAL PARTNERS, Boston, MA: *Co-Founder and Managing Partner* 2002-Present
Liberty Global provides consulting and capital raising for private equity and VC firms investing in emerging markets.

- Built firm from start-up to leading player in emerging markets capital raising and consultancy.
- Raised more than \$6bn for clients' investment funds targeting Africa, Brazil, China, India, and SE Asia.
- Frequent speaker or moderator at private equity conferences in Asia, Latin America and the US.
- Well versed in financial regulatory issues; holds series 7, 24, & 63 licenses; responsible for firm compliance.

MONITOR/OTF GROUP, Cambridge, MA: *Consultant, Director Business Development* 2000-2002
Monitor was a strategic consulting firm; OTF was a VC-backed competitiveness consulting firm incubated by Monitor.

ZEPHYR MANAGEMENT, New York, NY: *Director* 1999- 2000
Zephyr is an emerging markets private equity investment firm with funds in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS, Togo, West Africa: *Volunteer* 1988-1991

EDUCATION

THE WHARTON SCHOOL, Philadelphia, PA: *MBA, Concentrations in Finance, Public Policy* 1998-2000
YALE COLLEGE, New Haven, CT: *BA in English Literature; varsity lacrosse* 1981-1985