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Citizens Commission
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Name	Patrick Roath
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
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

If selected to serve, I believe I would bring an experienced and unique voice to the Commission.

I am dedicated to strengthening our fundamental democratic institutions, and view the Commission's work as an urgent extension of these efforts. I believe the Commission's report will be an important milestone on the path to broader civic renewal, as well as a critical step toward restoring citizens' faith in the ability of our government to be genuinely representative.

As the Vice Chairperson of the board of Common Cause Massachusetts, I have been a leader in efforts to improve voter protections and promote a stronger democracy in Massachusetts. I have advocated for automatic voter registration and helped defend state campaign finance rules from legal attacks.

I have direct experience in pro-democracy advocacy, having litigated multiple voting rights cases at Ropes & Gray. My legal training and policy experience afford me a deep understanding of the key Constitutional issues that the Commission will need to navigate.

My political and government experience-at the state and federal levels, in the judiciary and overseas-would also add value to the Commission, and provide on-the-ground, practical context for our work.

If selected, I would proudly represent the many residents who did not grow up in Massachusetts but settled here by choice. I also believe that the membership of the Commission should reflect the younger generation of Massachusetts activists.

Résumé or Summary of Qualifications Upload

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Political Party Affiliation, if any, over the previous five years

Democratic

City or Town where you reside

BOSTON

Employment Status

Employed

Occupation

Attorney

Employer

Ropes & Gray LLP

PATRICK T. ROATH

- Massachusetts attorney with significant legal, policy, and organizing experience in the fields of democracy reform and voter protection.
- Former appellate law clerk with broad experience in persuasive legal advocacy and writing.
- Vice Chairperson of the Board of Common Cause Massachusetts; active in state reform efforts.
- Former aide to Governor Deval Patrick; frequent involvement in state and federal political campaigns.

Experience

Ropes & Gray LLP

Associate, Litigation Group

Associate, Litigation Group

Boston, MA

Oct. 2014 – Aug. 2015

Nov. 2016 – present

Drafted multiple Supreme Court and appellate briefs; argued in federal trial and appellate courts. Significant *pro bono* experience in voting rights cases, including two lawsuits against Massachusetts seeking greater access to voter registration services and challenging the constitutionality of the voter registration cut-off deadline. Office-wide leader of the annual “Walk to the Hill” lobbying event to support state funding of indigent legal services.

United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Law Clerk

Boston, MA

Aug. 2015 – Aug. 2016

Served as a law clerk to The Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr. of the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

United States Attorney’s Office

Summer Law Clerk, Public Corruption Unit

Boston, MA

Summer 2012

Supported federal prosecutors investigating public corruption; performed research on campaign finance issues.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Speechwriter and Communications Aide, Office of the Governor

Boston, MA

Jan. – Aug. 2011

Drafted remarks, talking points, and official written material for former Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

Deval Patrick Committee

Deputy Press Secretary

Boston, MA

Aug. – Nov. 2010

Liaised with local press and contributed to media response efforts for a successful reelection campaign.

The Fulbright Program

Fellow, English Teacher

Terengganu, Malaysia

Jan. – Aug. 2010

Taught English at an Islamic boarding school in rural Malaysia through a U.S. State Department fellowship.

Education

Columbia Law School

J.D. received May 2014, admitted to practice in Massachusetts in November 2014

Honors: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Prize, 2014 (outstanding academic achievement)

James Kent Scholar, 2011–2012, 2012–2013, 2013–2014 (highest annual academic honors)

Activities: Editor in Chief, *Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems*, 2013–2014

Research Assistant, Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity, Spring 2014

Tufts University

B.A. in International Relations, *magna cum laude*, received May 2009

Activities: Editor in Chief, *Tufts Observer* student magazine, Fall 2008

Intern, The White House Press Office, Summer 2009

Volunteering

Vice Chairperson, Advisory Board, Common Cause Massachusetts

Voter Protection Fellow, Hillary for America, New Hampshire, Fall 2016

Voter Protection Volunteer, Obama for America, Florida, Nov. 2012

Interests

Hiking, coffee brewing, literary fiction, distance running, Star Wars, amateur boxing