

Cynthia Ann Bender
1460 Lauderdale Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Clerk of Council
Lakewood City Hall
12650 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

February 16, 2011

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am interested in applying for the Ward 1 council seat on Lakewood City Council vacated by Kevin Butler's appointment as our next Law Director. I have been a resident of Lakewood since 1979. My husband and I have raised seven children in Lakewood, and have been very active in both school and civic activities throughout the past three decades.

Currently, I am an active member of the Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team. As such, I participate in monthly training sessions and general meetings, as well as committee work. Most recently, I have participated in the public information officer strike team, helping to develop a job description for that particular position.

I am also an active participant in our Lauderdale Block Watch Club. Along with my neighbor, Carol Krupka, I have served as co-captain for the past four years of our block club. We have coordinated both phone and email trees for better communication throughout the block, which has served us well as neighborhood issues arise. We have also worked closely with Officer Rick Busi, our Ward 1 neighborhood police officer.

My husband and I completed the Lakewood Citizen Police Academy course back in May of 2009. Through the instruction and materials presented in that course, I learned much about how the city police force, and the city in general, operate. That knowledge significantly enhanced my understanding of how city government functions here in Lakewood.

I currently own a property management company based in Lakewood. As a business owner, I work hard to maintain a close eye on my community and relevant community issues. My business mandates that I stay up to date on city building codes and ordinances. I believe that knowledge, as well as my strong overall knowledge of Lakewood, would serve the council well as housing issues are presented before council.

I am very enthusiastic about all the wonderful things that the community of Lakewood has to offer. I feel strongly about working to maintain a high quality of life in our family-oriented community. I have demonstrated throughout many years of community service that I care about Lakewood.

I hope you will give my application consideration. If chosen for this important position, I would work diligently to serve the constituents in Ward 1 and give their concerns a voice on Lakewood City Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Ann Bender". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Cynthia Ann Bender
Lakewood CERT Member
Lauderdale Block Co-Captain

Encl: 3

Cynthia Ann Bender

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216-225-8332

OBJECTIVE

To obtain a challenging position working with people which will allow me to utilize my academic and personal skills to the utmost ability.

EMPLOYMENT

Business Owner, Reliable Property Management LLC 2007 - Present

- Manage multiple rental units throughout Lakewood and Cleveland West
- Serve as leasing agent for units as vacancies arise
- Coordinate rehab and repairs of newly acquired properties for owners
- Oversee financial obligations for multiple owners who are located overseas

Tax Professional, H&R Block Tax Services 2004-2007

- Prepared tax returns for individuals and small business owners
- Served as assistant manager for high-volume office in central Lakewood
- Received district Highest Client Satisfaction Award for the 2006 tax season

Business Owner, Juliet's Treasures Maternity & Infant Clothing 2002-2004

- Owned maternity and infant clothing store in Lakewood
- Managed daily store operations, including purchasing
- Coordinated advertising and marketing strategies to increase sales

Academic Advisor / Instructor, Cleveland State University 1997 - 2002

- Advised freshmen and transfer students on university requirements
- Assisted students in the selection for courses appropriate for their goals
- Taught Introduction to University Life course to incoming freshmen
- Prepared year-end statistics for University Life Course for the Dean

EDUCATION

Master's Program, Cleveland State University 1999-2001

- Department of Psychology – Clinical / Counseling Specialization
- 50 hours earned towards Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology

B.A., Cleveland State University Graduated May 1999

- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
- Graduated Magna Cum Laude, Golden Key Honor Society

B.A., Cleveland State University Graduated May 1999

- Bachelor of Arts in English – Specialization in English Literature
- Fiction Editor of Whiskey Island Literary Magazine

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REFERENCES

Tricia Granfors
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1-440-552-5784

Joe Z. Wegryznowski
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25175 Country Club Boulevard
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
216-962-2252



5200 Dover Center Road
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070


February 14, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Cynthia A. Bender has been an active and valued member of the Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team (WSC) since January of 2009. Cynthia currently serves on a Cuyahoga County Citizen Corps Strike Team and as a member of the Public Information Officer (PIO) Committee, whose members represent the team to the public and media at community events and presentations.

Cynthia is a valued member of the Westshore Regional CERT. Because of her work ethic, cheerful demeanor, the respect with which she treats other team members, and her willingness to go the extra mile, I give Cynthia my highest recommendation. Cynthia's dedication to the team has greatly contributed to the success, preparedness, and continuing growth of the WSC.

Respectfully submitted,


Tricia A. Granfors, Coordinator
Westshore Regional CERT