



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE ON

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Please complete the application by typing or printing legibly in ink. Applications should be submitted to the Town Clerk (360 South County Road, Palm Beach, FL 33480, via facsimile 561-838-5417, or via e-mail to townclerk@townofpalmbeach.com) no later than 5 p.m., 11 calendar days prior to the Town Council meeting in which the appointment will be considered. Completion of this application requires that applicant has reviewed certain Town documents as noted in this application. To review or obtain a copy of the documents please contact the Town Clerk's Office (561-838-5416). Please feel free to attach any additional background information to this application form. (Please be advised that members of the Planning and Zoning Commission must file an annual financial disclosure form per State law.)

Name: Eric Christu Residence Address: 1500 N. Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach, FL 33480

Mailing Address: SAME Home Telephone: (561) 758-7544

E-mail Address: ericchristu@aol.com Work Telephone: (561) 758-7544

I am a registered voter of the Town of Palm Beach ECC (please initial) KD

Appointment to Planning and Zoning Commission requires the applicant to be a registered voter in the Town of Palm Beach. Please attach a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Voter Registration card with your application. Failure to provide the copy of the required voter registration card shall be grounds for rejection of the application.

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission? (Please explain and attach additional pages if necessary)

I wish to continue my service on the Commission as either a voting member or alternate as I believe this is an important time for planning issues in the Town and I hope to continue to offer my expertise in planning and zoning. As a full-time resident with children attending school on Palm Beach, I am absolutely committed to carrying out the mission of the Commission in a thoughtful and diligent manner.

2. How many meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission have you attended in the last year? All scheduled meetings.

3. If you have served on any boards/commissions/committees in the Town of Palm Beach or elsewhere, please list them and include details such as length of service, attendance record, etc.

Town of Palm Beach Planning and Zoning Commission 2017 to present - alternate member

I have also served as a Chair Person of a Florida Bar Committee, as past President of the Federal Bar, and on numerous local Bar Committees and charitable organizations for the past 20 years.

4. Are you willing and available to attend meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission as described below?

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| A. Meetings which last a full day (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or even later)? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B. Meetings on consecutive dates? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C. Meetings which might be scheduled for multiple dates within the same month | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D. Meetings scheduled year-round | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

5. Please indicate if there are any periods of time for which you will be unavailable for meetings.

None

6. Do you have any experience in requesting comprehensive plan amendments or zoning approvals from the Town of Palm Beach or other jurisdictions? (Please explain. Attach additional pages if necessary)

I have experience with handling and litigating zoning issues in the Town of Palm Beach, and the municipalities of Manalapan and Ocean Ridge. These have included handling zoning approval matters for clients, as well as litigating zoning issues.

7. Are you a member of any of the following organizations? (Check all that apply)

☒ Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce

☒ Palm Beach Civic Association

☐ Citizens' Association of Palm Beach

☒ Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach

☐ North End Property Owners Association

☐ Other _____

8. Present occupation. Attorney

No. of years. 35

Employer.
Shutts & Bowen LLP

9. Past occupation(s). N/A

No. of years. _____

Employer(s). _____

10. Do you have a degree in, or have you taken courses in, any of the following fields of study: (Check as many as are applicable)

☐ Architecture

☐ Landscape Architecture/Design

☒ Law

☐ Social Sciences

☐ Urban and Regional Planning

☒ Building Construction and/or Development

☐ Geography

11. Please provide details regarding your educational background:

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C.

B.A. with Honors, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

12. Why do you feel that you are qualified to serve on the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission? (Attach additional page if necessary)

In addition to my current service and experience on the Commission. I have been and remain interested and focused

on planning and growth issues in the Town and spend considerable time following Town developments in these

areas so as to better serve on the Commission and to better understand the issues facing the Town and its

residents. I have a solid understanding of the Town's Comprehensive Plan as well as related statutory enactments and applicable case law. I have experience in handling matters under Chapter 163 of the Florida Statutes, including the Bert Harris Act. I have handled matters involving plats and zoning issues in the Town of Palm Beach and have familiarity with the Town Ordinances and Comprehensive Plan. I feel that with this background and being a long-term resident, I am qualified to serve. See attached CV.

13. To enable Town Council to consider potential conflicts of interest, please provide the following information regarding family members who live and/or work in the Town of Palm Beach, including your spouse, parents, siblings or children.

Family Member Name	Relationship	Address	Occupation	Employer
Maura Ziska Christu	Wife	1500 N. Ocean Blvd	Attorney	Kochman & Ziska
Caroline Christu	Daughter	1500 N. Ocean Blvd	Student	
Ella Christu	Daughter	1500 N. Ocean Blvd	Student	

14. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a crime other than minor traffic violations?
No

15. If you are currently serving on a Town board, commission, or committee, please identify it in the space below and check the box that indicates you will resign from that position if you are appointed to the position you are seeking in this application.

☒ I will resign from the Commission as an Alternate Member if I am appointed to the position I am seeking in this application.
board/committee/commission

16. In the event you are applying to be a Regular Member of Planning and Zoning Commission and you are not successful, will you accept appointment as an Alternate Member of the Commission should the Town Council wish to appoint you as an Alternate Member? ☒ Yes ☐ No

The following information is needed to facilitate Town reporting requirements in Florida Statute 760.80. Please check one in each category.

RACE

- ☐ African American ☐ Native American
☐ Asian American ☒ Caucasian
☐ Hispanic American ☐ Not known

GENDER

☒ Male ☐ Female

PHYSICALLY DISABLED

☐ Yes ☒ No

I hereby certify that I have read the sections of the Town Code of Ordinances for the particular board/commission/committee that I have selected above and have noted the description of the board/commission/committee and its members' duties, and further I have read the regulations concerning absences and conflicts of interests. I certify the information given by me is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any falsification of material facts will be grounds for rejection of this application or dismissal after appointment.

SIGNATURE:  DATE: 9/19/2019

Please provide a copy of BOTH SIDES of your Palm Beach County Voter Registration card, which shows your Town of Palm Beach address, with your application.

Please note that Commission applications will expire on December 15 of each year.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning and Zoning Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Town Council in all matters relating to municipal planning and development. The Commission is required to follow the concepts and contents of the Town's comprehensive land use plan in all planning, zoning and development related deliberations and decisions. The Commission shall also have such powers and duties as may be prescribed by Ordinance. The members of the Commission must be registered voters in the Town of Palm Beach. The seven regular members serve for terms of three years. Three alternate members of the Zoning Commission may be appointed by the Town Council who serve when called upon by the Chair of the Commission in the absence of any regular member.



ERIC C. CHRISTU

Partner

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West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Eric Christu is a partner in the West Palm Beach office of Shutts & Bowen LLP, where he is Chair of the Firm's Intellectual Property Practice Group. Eric and the Shutts IP Practice Group handle all aspects of patent, trademark, copyright, trade secrets, and other intellectual property matters.

Shutts & Bowen is a full-service law firm that has provided leadership and high-quality legal services to businesses and individuals for over a century. With 300 attorneys located in eight offices in Florida, Shutts offers a full range of legal services to its clients locally, nationally and internationally.

A Martindale-Hubbell AV® rated attorney, Eric has been consistently named one of the *Best Lawyers in America*® and was one of the first to be designated by The Florida Bar as Board Certified in Business Litigation. Eric specializes in complex commercial and business disputes, with a focus on intellectual property, construction, and real estate issues. He also regularly handles matters involving banking, corporate, and employment issues in state and federal courts. His active trial practice includes recent cases involving complex intellectual property issues, probate litigation, partnership disputes, and construction defects.

Eric has served as a member of the *Ad Hoc* Advisory Committee on Court-Annexed Mediation for the Southern District of Florida, past-President of the Palm Beach County Federal Bar Association, and past-Chair of the Florida Bar Business Litigation Certification Committee.

PRACTICE AREA

Litigation
Intellectual Property
Creditors' Rights and
Bankruptcy
Securities Fraud
Litigation

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida Bar
Colorado Bar

EDUCATION

- University of Minnesota, B.A. with honors
- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D.

COURT ADMISSIONS

- Florida Bar (Board Certified in Business Litigation)
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida
- U.S. Tax Courts

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Palm Beach County Federal Bar Association, Past President
- Florida Bar Business Litigation Certification Committee, Past Chair
- American Bar Association's Forum on the Construction Industry, Past Member, Division Steering Committee
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, ad hoc Advisory Committee on Court-Annexed
- Mediation (2009-2014)
- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), Member
- Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews, Board Member
- Town of Palm Beach Planning and Zoning Commission, Alternate Member
- Palm Beach Civic Association, Member

RECOGNITION

- Florida Bar Board Certified in Business Litigation (since 1996)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ Rated, including highest Judicial Rating
- *Best Lawyers in America®*, Commercial Litigation, 2013-2019
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2006-2019
- *South Florida Legal Guide*, Top Lawyers in South Florida, 2008-2018