



**MARICOPA CITY COUNCIL APPLICATION FORM**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for the City of Maricopa. Please fill out the following form and return it to the City Clerk by one of the following means:

<p><b>Email - Fax - Questions</b>                  Email: <a href="mailto:vanessa.bueras@maricopa-az.gov">vanessa.bueras@maricopa-az.gov</a>                  Fax: 520-568-9120                   Questions?: 520-316-6971</p>	<p><b>In Person</b>                  City Clerk                  City of Maricopa                  39700 W. Civic Center Plaza                  Maricopa, AZ 85138</p>
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Contact Information	
Name:	Michelle Buchanan
Address:	[REDACTED]
City, State, Zip:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Phone Number:	[REDACTED]

General Information			
Are you a full time Maricopa Resident?*	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Do You Live Within The City's Incorporated Limits?*
			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are You A Registered Voter?*	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	*All candidates shall be qualified electors of the city and shall have resided in the city for at least one year.
Have you ever served on any elected or appointed Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, Council, etc. (City of Maricopa or otherwise) in the past?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If yes, please list: Homestead North HOA Architectural Committee; Elected Precinct Committeeman for Pinal County Republican Committee		

**Short Essay Questions (use additional sheet of paper if necessary):**

1. In 300 words or less, please tell us why you are the BEST candidate to fill the vacancy on the Maricopa City Council.

Please see attachment.

2. In 300 words or less, please tell us what attributes, qualities, special skills, talents, awards, knowledge, you would offer to further enhance and diversify this city council.

Please see attachment.

3. In 300 words or less, please discuss the three (3) most important issues you see facing the City of Maricopa today.

Please see attachment.

4. In 300 words or less, please discuss what it means to you to be good policy maker and serve for the common good.

Please see attachment.

**Please Attach:**

1. Current Resume (Required)
2. Letters of Recommendation or Endorsement (Optional)
  - Should include:
    - How long the endorsers has known the applicant
    - Why the applicant meets the ideal candidate profile
    - Any other pertinent information the Council might need to consider the applicant

### Short Essay Questions

**1. In 300 words or less, please tell us why you are the BEST candidate to fill the vacancy on the Maricopa City Council.**

I am the best candidate to fill the vacancy on the Maricopa City Council because of my heart and compassion to serve my community. Since I moved to Maricopa in 2012, I wanted to get involved with my community. I have volunteered with the American Legion Auxiliary, fed the homeless in Phoenix with the Streets Don't Love You Back, helped organize the Navy Birthday Ball for consecutive years, assisted Military Assistance Mission in service of our active duty and reserve service members as well as our veterans, and I contributed to picking up waste to keep our city looking beautiful. I have a vested interest in what happens as I live here and want to enjoy the rest of my future here in Maricopa. I am a military spouse who has had to move several times, but I came back to my home because I always felt like this was my home. Since I have returned in June 2021, I threw myself back into as much as I could. I still currently help with the American Legion Auxiliary, my local HOA Architectural Committee, and I also got involved in my local political party as a precinct committeeman. I aim to serve Maricopa to make this a continued wonderful place to live.

**2. In 300 words or less, please tell us what attributes, qualities, special skills, talents, awards, knowledge, you would offer to further enhance and diversify this city council.**

I can tell you being a military spouse and married to my husband for ten years that this has made me a more adaptable person and one who gets things done. I am not afraid of a challenge and I like to stay involved whether it's serving my community or helping our veterans. This is something that means a lot to me. When I lived in Washington State, I worked on finishing my bachelor's degree in Applied Management and I always have had a knack for budgets. I volunteered with Navy Marine Corp Relief Society and helped service members with their finances, including creating budgets, and assistance on loans they needed in times of emergency. My knowledge on how to create a balanced budget is something I pride myself on both personally and professionally. I also help anyone who asks because I realize that sometimes life can be stressful and throws many obstacles at us and we could always use a little help. If I don't know the answer to something, I am willing to find it. I enjoy researching a problem and getting informed to make not only informed decisions, but educated decisions that make sense. I believe in a servitude type leadership in how I can help others get to where they want to go, address their needs or concerns, and help others to achieve their goals. I think to be a good leader we have to be willing to compromise and to help others and that is what I aim to do.

**3. In 300 words or less, please discuss the three (3) most important issues you see facing the City of Maricopa today.**

We do have some issues that face Maricopa and the number one discussed issue is the 347. I believe we are headed in the right direction, but it still needs to be resolved and we have a way to go before we get there. We need to be able to make Maricopa more accessible to the people and to businesses. Which leads me to the second issue we face. Casa Grande has more infrastructure when it comes to businesses building here and growing here. Previously Mayor Price has talked about bringing the Aerospace industry here to create the \$100,000 income a year jobs that we need. In order to make Maricopa more than a bedroom community, we need jobs here that can be careers with the income potential for everyone to thrive. This now leads me to a potential option for Maricopa. I have

## Michelle Buchanan Short Essay Responses

indicated Casa Grade has the infrastructure they need to do business. In order for us to get more here the transportation needs to be able to support this. An option that could help I believe is a Train Depot. If businesses are able to load their goods here, then we could be a hub for more businesses coming here. I am willing to see how this can be accomplished and if it is feasible. The final concern would be higher paying wage careers. In order for the City of Maricopa to bring in higher paying wage jobs, we need the business infrastructure to support it. This means, the City of Maricopa needs to work on the transportation issues that could create these new jobs.

### **4. In 300 words or less, please discuss what it means to you to be good policy maker and service for the common good.**

I think good policy is important. We need policy that makes sense and policy that paves the way for things to get done in this community. I may not have experience writing policy, but one thing I have done is create step by step instructions for Individual Retirement Accounts for Traditional and Roth Accounts. My experience working at credit unions for ten years is that I learned a lot about retirement, retirement accounts, and understanding the dos and don'ts of the law pertaining to this. With that experience of creating step by step instructions to setting up individual retirement accounts, servicing individual retirement accounts, and closing the accounts, I am confident I can learn how to become an effective policy maker. I pride myself on being a quick learner, self-motivated, and someone who takes pride in what I do. Therefore, I feel I would learn to the best of my ability to be able to write good and common good policy.

August 24, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

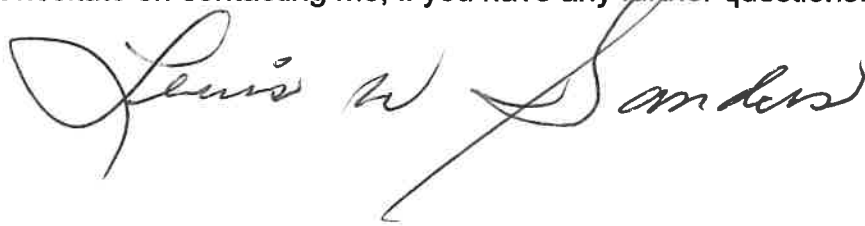
I am writing to recommend Michelle Buchanan for the open Council Member position for the City of Maricopa.

I have known Michelle to be a strong volunteer in our local American Legion Auxiliary and as a Precinct Committee Person in Maricopa and have nothing but positive things to say. There is no doubt in my mind that Michelle will be an excellent addition to the City of Maricopa.

I have always known Michelle to be sound of character, being and having a great sense of ambition. Over the course of this last year, I have witnessed tremendous growth in Michelle's volunteer activities. She is currently on the architectural committee in Homestead. She is managing the Craft Fair fundraiser for local veterans to be held at the Senior center. She is also active in working our current elections for Pinal County. I am certain these cultivated skills will allow Michelle to excel.

Please do not hesitate on contacting me, if you have any further questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lewis W. Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Lew Sanders Contact Info:



## Reference

Dana Lewis (Assistant to the Pinal County Recorder)

Pinal County Recorder's Office

Phone: (520) 866-7569

Email: [dana.lewis@pinal.gov](mailto:dana.lewis@pinal.gov)

Ms. Lewis can answer questions related to my professional role regarding early voting for Pinal county as an election temp hire.

**Profile:**

**Enthusiastic and positive team player** known for contributing to effective creative solutions and marketing techniques. **Effective listener and communicator** and a fast-diligent learner hungry for knowledge. **Detail oriented leader** that embraces ideas and upholds highest ethics in order to maximize the effectiveness of the team. **Productive worker under pressure** and highly motivated.

**Education:**

**Bachelor of Science, Applied Management, Completed/Graduated March 2019**  
Grand Canyon University

**Associate of Science in Business Management & Associate of Science in Marketing**  
Riverside Community College, Moreno Valley, CA 92552  
Graduated February 2014 with Great Distinction

**Experience:**

**Pinal County Recorder Office, Election Cycle Temp [June 2022 to present]**  
Sort, count, and shuck envelopes for early voting processes. Verify signatures for early voters with enhanced skills training course through the FBI. Courier for early voter ballots picked up at drop boxes and satellite locations and delivered to elections office. Work with other non-partisan employees to perform these functions.

**Homestead HOA Architectural Committee Volunteer [April 2022 to present]**  
Part of the architectural committee for our local HOA where I reside and in charge of reviewing proposals, looking at property, and helping make decisions to improve and beautify our community.

**Pinal County Republican Committee, Elected Precinct Committeeman [October 2021 to present]**  
Part of the GOP Pinal County republican party. Assist the precinct in voter registration and circulator of petitions for potential candidates.

**American Legion Auxiliary Maricopa Chapter [Volunteer/Education Opportunities- June 2021 to Present]**  
In charge of education opportunities by creating flyers and scholarship opportunities with the donations we have received for our veterans and family members. Create and post information for scholarships, review applications, follow-up questions, and correspondence for choosing scholarship applicants. Participate in events, activities, including the Veterans Day parade and fundraising activities.

**American Legion Auxiliary Marysville WA Chapter [Volunteer - June 2018 to May 2020]**

Help organize events, creative arts and crafts in support of our local veterans.

**Self-employed Pet Sitter [May 2017 to May 2020]**

Work with clients to meet their needs of their furry family members when they are away, adhering to meals and food preparation, as well as medical requests. Walking pets as well as ensuring basic needs are met and a clean environment when my customers return home.

**American Legion Auxiliary Maricopa Chapter [Volunteer - April 2014 to 2017]**

In charge of social media to promote and inform the public and other members of upcoming activities and events as well as organizing activities for active duty, reserve, and veteran components.

**Military Assistance Mission [Volunteer - January 2013 to April 2016]**

Work with a creative team in promoting, marketing, and assisting with events to honor our activity duty military, wounded warriors, and reserve units with monetary assistance in Arizona.

**Association of the United States Navy, Birthday Ball Committee [Lead Fundraiser Volunteer – January 2013 to October 2016]**

Responsible for fundraising concepts, promoting and creating events, procuring donations and acquiring sponsorships, and working with a creative team to promote and market the U.S. Navy's Birthday Ball event in Arizona to help honor our active-duty military, reserve component, and veterans.

**Children's Therapeutic Communities [Secretary – July 2010 to February 2012]**

Directed calls to appropriate personnel, drafted letters, reports, and memos, organized files for retention, committed to exceptional customer service, rapport, and etiquette via phone and in person.

**Visterra Credit Union [Financial Services Representative II/Team Lead – March 2006 to April 2009]**

Directed incoming/outgoing calls to appropriate departments, facilitated cross-selling opportunities, developed/created a training manual for Individual Retirement Account (IRA) training and streamlined IRA processes/procedures, processed phone requests for check orders, questions, disputes, and identity fraud requests, audited back office functions pertaining to dividends, account opening processes, and IRA accounts and procedures.

**CRC Federal Credit Union [Member Services Representative II – June 2002 to March 2006]**

Processed and directed incoming calls, promoted and increased new accounts, processed check orders, questions on accounts, disputes, and loans, audited back-office functions including accounting processes, night depository, and account opening processes, and audited loan processes.



## Public Records Exemptions

Enclosed please find a copy of the response documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages
		1,5,7