

Pastor Gregory B. Harrison



September 30, 2024

Dr. Stephen Thompson
CFO/Treasurer Akron Public Schools
10 N. Main St.
Akron, Ohio 44308

Dear Members of the Akron City School Board,

Please accept this letter and attached resume as my application to the recently vacated Akron School Board seat.

I am a native of Akron, Ohio, graduate of Garfield High School in 1983, and the University of Akron in 2013. I possess a good understanding of the responsibilities and fiduciary responsibility legislators, such as school board members, have in making public bodies work for the people they serve.

I am an experienced advocate and my advocacy work has always been centered around the rights of Akron Public School children and their families. This commitment was further strengthened when I advocated for my own son, a graduate of Garfield High School, when he required and was denied the additional services that he was legally entitled to receive. Also, I have coached youth basketball and football and mentored hundreds of young people.

In addition to having a wealth of experience in community service, I currently serve as Senior Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church and regularly attend community and governmental meetings. I have a solid understanding of the legislative processes, administrative responsibilities and the distinct roles and responsibility in an organization. I am a US Army veteran and retired Law Enforcement officer. Currently, I work as the Community Engagement Liaison for the Office of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost.

Sincerely,

/s/ Pastor Gregory B. Harrison

Gregory B. Harrison



Objective: to work in the public/nonprofit sector, which will allow me to help improve the quality of life for community members and address and mitigate systemic problems by using new, creative, and innovative approaches. I want to be part of a team that establishes and implements policies and other practical solutions to create sustainable, positive outcomes.

EDUCATION/TRAINING/CERTIFICATIONS:

Intercultural Development Inventory, Qualified Administrator, 2023

Cornell University Diversity and Inclusion Certificate, 2022

Critical Incident Training

Read School of Interviewing

Certified Akron Police Crime Scene Technician

University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 2013

BS *Emergency Management*

Minor: *Homeland Security*

EXPERIENCE:

Antioch Baptist Church

2009- Present

Senior Pastor

- Responsible for providing spiritual instruction by preaching and teaching.
- Head administrative and operational officer; supervised and directed church staff
- Develops and implements church programming, activities, and special events
- Engage and participate in community, social, faith-based, and governmental entities
- Develops and manages budget; identifies funding sources; writes grants.

Bethel Baptist Church

2004-2007

Youth Pastor

- Recruited and trained church and community volunteers.
- Coordinated community events to engage youth and parents.
- Directed programs focused on improving children's social and academic skills.

**Black Law Enforcement Officers
Association President**

2001 -2004

- Facilitated community meetings, symposiums
- Maintaining an 11-state regional budget.
- Scheduled, coordinated, and co-facilitated continuing education training and workshops.

**City of Akron
Police Officer/Detective**

1992-2005 (Retired)

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS/BOARDS:

City of Akron Municipal Drug Court Advisory Board
City of Akron Recreation Advisory Board
Akron/Summit County Reinvestment Coalition Executive Board Member
Summit County Infant Mortality Task Force
City of Akron Recovery Court, Advisory Board
City of Akron Racial Equity Taskforce
Greater Akron Fellowship of Clergy

Past Employment:

Self-employed Private Investigator 2005-2015
Cuyahoga Sheriff's Office; Deputy: 1991-1992
United States Army: 1983-1990