

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES
ADVISORY BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPLICATION FORM

*Please return the **signed and completed application form and a recent resume*** to: City of Pembroke Pines, City Clerk's Office, 601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33025.*

***NOTE: YOUR RESUME MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION IN ORDER FOR THE APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED.**

Please type or use dark ink to complete this form.

Applicant Name Chris Cappannelli

Race* White National Origin* United States

Occupation Retired Law Enforcement (Federal)

Street Address [REDACTED]

Subdivision Walden Lake

Home Telephone [REDACTED] Business Telephone [REDACTED]

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Length of Residence in Pembroke Pines (if applicable) 26 2
Years Months

Length of Time as Business Person in Pembroke Pines (if applicable)
Years Months

Are you a registered voter? Yes Commission District No. 4 Precinct No.

Do you have a criminal record? No If yes, please explain.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? No If yes, please explain.

Do you have any criminal charges pending? No If yes, please explain.

Do you have any relatives employed by the City? No If yes, please state name(s):

Are you aware of any potential conflict of interest that may arise from your serving on this/these board(s)? No If yes, please explain.

Does your business, or your employer have any contractual relationship with, or do any business with the City? No If yes, please explain.

Do you have monies owed to the City that are delinquent? No If yes, please explain.

Do you have any pending code violations relating to property owned by you in the City? No
If yes, please explain. _____

Do you have any violations relating to other City codes? No If yes, please list: _____

*The responses to these items is optional. The City is interested in providing for cultural diversity on its Advisory Boards and Committees, and seeks this information solely in order for the City to further its goal to provide for diversity on its Advisory Boards and Committees.

Which board or committees are of interest to you? Please indicate up to three preferences by ranking. Please denote your first choice with a "1," etc. Please place a number adjacent to any board or committee for which you wish to be considered. If you do not place a number next to a board or committee, the City Commission will not be able to consider you for that board or committee.

_____ Arts & Culture Advisory Board

_____ Affordable Housing¹

_____ Board of Adjustment

_____ Charter High School Advisory Board²

_____ Economic Development Board

_____ Education Advisory Board

_____ Environmental Advisory Board

_____ Citizens Committee/Hurricane Prep
(Ad Hoc)

_____ Planning & Zoning Board

¹ _____ Police and Fire Pension Fund Board

_____ Diversity and Heritage Advisory Board

_____ Social Media Committee (Ad Hoc)

_____ Charter Review Board

_____ **Public Art Committee (PAC) New**

_____ **Budget Committee (A. Castillo)**

_____ Charter Review Board³

_____ Citizen's Budget Advisory Board

¹You must complete the "Supplement to Application for Affordable Housing Committee."

²Representative of Educational or Business sector of the Community

³This Board is convened once every five years.

Please provide a brief statement outlining why you wish to serve on the board(s) you have indicated above.

The matter of pension benefits for public safety officials are of great import to the employee and the taxpayers.

Pension benefits can attract or deter highly-qualified candidates for these critical positions. However

enhanced benefits can come at a significant cost to residents, as benefits might have to be paid out to a

large number of retirees over many years. Therefore, models must be developed and tested to ensure that

compensation programs are stress-tested for long-term viability, being equitable to practitioners and taxpayers.

As a graduate degree holder in Personal Financial Planning, I am familiar with both the benefits and challenges

of single-scope and hybrid retirement compensation packages; I also had exposure to this in

the management component of my doctoral studies. As a retired Federal law enforcement officer,

I enjoy a unique perspective as to the importance of strong post-retirement income sources.

I hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true and complete. Permission is granted to the City of Pembroke Pines to investigate and verify criminal and credit history and any information provided on this and successive documents completed for purposes of my appointment to the City Board or Committee. In return for consideration of my application, I release any person who provides information pertaining to me from all claims or liabilities that might otherwise result from such information or opinions.



Applicant's Signature

09/07/2025

Date

Applications for board and committee vacancies are accepted throughout the year. For additional information, please call the City Clerk's Office at (954) 450-1050.

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CHRIS CAPPANNELLI, Ed.D.

[REDACTED]
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33029

• Cell: [REDACTED]

Retired 32-year Federal law enforcement official charged with investigating violations of Federal criminal or administrative law.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (EXCEPT WHERE INDICATED, DUTY STATION WAS HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS - SAC MIAMI)

- 2022: Retired after 32 years of honorable Federal service.
- 2014-2022: Assigned to the Asset Identification and Removal Group (AIRG) with case management of numerous asset forfeiture investigations, the objective of seizing real estate, bank accounts, and other tangible assets of violators. Case agent for the matter of Bartolo Hernandez and Julio Estrada, who profited from the smuggling of Major League Baseball players Jose Abreu, Adeiny Hechevarria, Yasiel Puig, Yuli Gurriel, and Leonys Martin, all of Cuban origin. Provided numerous training presentations to, and ongoing consultations with, other Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies regarding asset forfeiture law, policy and strategies.
- 2014: Assigned as the Parole and Benefits Coordinator. Responsible for drafting various forms of relief and obtaining benefits (such as work authorization) for cooperating defendants and those in an irregular immigration status, such as Deferred Action, Parole or Advanced Parole for both HSI and numerous other Federal, state, and local agencies. Worked with the Undercover liaison to procure immigration benefits in a discrete and secure manner to avoid retaliation against cooperating defendants or witnesses. Worked closely with the office Victim and Witness Coordinator to apply for and obtain "T" (victims of human trafficking) and "U" (victims of general criminal activity) visas. Drafted and advocated for "S" (LPR for informants and at grave risk for retaliation) visa applicants.
- 2013-2014: Assigned to Marine Group investigations. Responsible for developing leads and subsequent intelligence with respect to narcotics smuggling activity on the Miami River (a historical bastion of such activity regarding marine vessels from Haiti and the Dominican Republic). Conducted numerous surveillances coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as state and local law enforcement, to identify and interdict malevolent actors involved in the smuggling of contraband.
- 2011-2013: Re-assigned to JTTF, assuming prior responsibilities with seamless cooperation with the FBI regarding the development of information, investigation, and proactivity in thwarting threats to U.S. safety and security across multiple platforms (e.g., infrastructure, travel modalities, etc.). Assisted JTTF-Boston regarding local (Miami) leads related to the Boston Marathon bombing of 2013.

- 2009-2011: Assigned to HSI headquarters in Washington, DC. From 2009 to 2010, Acted as a Program Manager for human rights investigations, focusing on child soldier utilization the Liberia-Sierra Leone conflict, aiding agents and the United States Attorney's Office in the Buffalo, NY in securing funding and logistical support for their work. Also provided similar assistance to agents in Newark, New Jersey, San Diego, California, and trial attorneys at main Department of Justice with respect to investigations pertaining to the Rwandan Genocide of 1994, traveling twice to Rwanda with case investigators. Provided briefing to former U.S. Ambassador W. Stuart Symington regarding investigative initiatives with the Rwandan government, and numerous training sessions regarding same. From 2010 to 2011, assigned to Domestic Operations from 2010 to 2011, responsible for task and executive reporting for national-level deliverables, simultaneously supporting the Office of the HSI Special Agent-in-Charge, New Orleans. Charged with training nationwide SAC offices on best practices regarding administration, budgets, and similar.
- 2006-2009: Assigned to the Foreign Corruption Investigations Group. Responsible for working with foreign law enforcement operatives to identify the movements, activities, and assets (often valued in the tens or hundreds of millions of dollars) of kleptocrats (despotic foreign leaders). Conducted numerous training sessions in this specialty to other domestic Federal and foreign law enforcement agencies. Subject area expert advisor to former U.S. Ambassadors Stephen Rapp (Special Rapporteur for Human Rights) and Frank E. Baxter (Uruguay).
- 2004-2006: Assigned to the Miami Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). Worked closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to identify trends and potential threats in the sphere of threats to U.S. persons and infrastructure. Participated in numerous surveillances of individuals whose actions were considered adverse to U.S. interests. Responsible for the arrest and initial prosecution of Luis Posada-Carrilles, who, until 2001, was considered one of the most wanted terrorists in the Western Hemisphere for the bombing of a Cubana Airlines flight off the coast of Barbados in 1976. Responsible for Posada-Carrilles' transportation to El Paso, Texas at great risk. Participated in his trial in El Paso in 2011.
- 2002-2004: Entered on duty as a Special Agent (U.S. Customs, later to become ICE/Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Office of the Special Agent-in Charge (SAC), Miami, FL. Assigned to MIA passenger narcotics, and responsible for the investigation and prosecution of individuals intercepted with narcotics. Conducted surveillances and controlled deliveries of contraband to mid-level narcotics transportation agents. Conducted and participated in search and arrest warrant execution. Worked closely with Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs) to draft complaints and warrant applications, appear before grand juries, and prepare for and testify at trials.

- 1992-2002: Served as U.S. Customs Inspector at Miami International Airport (MIA), Florida from 1992 to 1995, responsible for the interdiction of narcotics and other contraband in the passenger and cargo environments. Assigned to the Bermuda Preclearance Facility (Bermuda International Airport) from 1995 to 2000, where duties included the advance processing of air passengers enroute to the U.S. and enforcing laws pertaining to undeclared merchandise and currency reporting requirements, as well as manning a local joint task force intelligence unit with the Bermuda Police Service to suppress narcotics and money laundering activity. Upon return to U.S.-based operations, from 1999 to 2002, assigned to Miami Seaport Contraband Enforcement Team, with responsibility for identifying, examining and interdicting large-scale cargo shipments, some of which contained large amounts of narcotics. Assisted in the development, testing, and implementation of the Applied Technology Program, which used novel modalities to rapidly and efficiently scan large cargo shipments in containers.
- 1990-1992: Served as a U.S. Immigration Inspector at John F. Kennedy International Airport, New York. Responsible for the admission of passengers with validly issued visas and similar documents. Identified individuals with counterfeit visas, who made false claims to United States citizenship and referred for adverse action. Adjudicated document files for those applying for Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) status

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 2019-2021: Appointed to the inaugural HSI Miami SAC Advisory Council, reporting to local senior executives and managers regarding issues of concern affecting the health, morale and welfare of rank-and-file employees, as well as crafting proposals for resolution and implementation.
- 2019-2020: Appointed to the inaugural HSI Miami Citizen's Academy as an advisor/instructor. The academy is designed to expose non-sworn citizenry to the agency and its work to better understand HSI's broad investigative mandate and the perils and hardships - as well as rewards - faced by special agents in pursuit of drug traffickers, human smugglers, money launderers, child pornographers and other violators.
- 2019: Recipient, as a member of HSI Miami Asset Identification and Removal Group (AIRG), of the HSI Executive Associate Director's Award for "Excellence in AIRG" for 2018.
- 2019: Nominated, as a member of HSI Miami AIRG, by the South Florida Federal Executive Board (FEB) for its award for Law Enforcement in 2018.
- 2019: Recipient of an Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award by the U.S. Attorney's Office-Southern District of Florida for work on asset forfeiture matters in re. *U.S. v. Emerson BENJOINO* and *U.S. v. Ross RIKER*.

EDUCATION

2018: Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) - Leadership and Management
(Summa Cum Laude, 4.0 GPA – Admitted to Kappa Gamma Pi Honor Society)
Saint Thomas University – Miami Gardens, Florida

2015: Master of Science (M.S.) – Personal Financial Planning
(Summa Cum Laude, 4.0 GPA)
College for Financial Planning – Centennial, Colorado

1994: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) – Economics (Minor in Political Science)
CUNY at Brooklyn College – Brooklyn, New York

REFERENCES

References available upon request.