

Profile

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Durham and Wake Counties Research and Production Service District Advisory Committee:  
Submitted

Please select your first Board preference: \*

☒ GoTriangle Citizen Advisory Committee

Please select your second Board preference: \*

☒ Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee

Please select your third Board preference: \*

☒ Capital Area Workforce Development Board

Please select your fourth Board preference: \*

☒ Centennial Authority

Please select your fifth Board preference: \*

☒ Durham and Wake Counties Research and Production Service District Advisory  
Committee

Please select your sixth Board preference: \*

☒ Housing Authority

Thomas	S	McCallister
First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name

6911 Middleboro Dr		
Street Address	Suite or Apt	
Raleigh	NC	27612
City	State	Postal Code

What district do you live in?

None Selected

Home: (336) 577-6171	Home: (336) 279-6587
Primary Phone	Alternate Phone

thomasmccallister@gmail.com

Email Address

Employer	Job Title

**If you live in an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Area, select Yes:**

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☐ Yes ☒ No

**In order to assure countywide representation, please indicate your place of residence:**

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☒ Raleigh

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## **Interests & Experiences**

**Why are you interested in serving on a Board or Commission?**

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My name is Thomas McCallister, a recent graduate from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, where I majored in Political Science and History. I have a diverse background in public administration, international relations, and affordable housing policies. Through my studies and various experiences, I have developed a passion for public service and a deep interest in resolving socio-political issues. My motivation to serve on a board or commission is rooted in my desire to make a meaningful contribution to society and to help shape the policies and practices that affect our daily lives. I believe that my diverse academic background and work experiences have equipped me with the skills and insights necessary to make a significant contribution to the community. I have a keen interest in research, strategic planning, and community engagement.

## **Work Experience**

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In my role with the New Hanover County Planning & Land Use Department, I conducted data-driven research on affordable housing policies, developed an affordable housing dashboard, and created educational materials. This experience has honed my ability to interpret complex data, communicate findings effectively, and engage with various stakeholders - skills that are integral to making informed decisions on a board or commission. Additionally, as a Research Fellow for the Schnog Holocaust Research Fellowship, I undertook extensive research on Holocaust survivors in the Dominican Republic. This role strengthened my research and analytical skills, which I believe are important in serving on a board or commission, where understanding and assessing complex issues are often required. It also instilled in me a deep respect for the importance of historical context in policy making and community development.

## **Volunteer Experience**

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During the 2020 and 2022 elections, I worked effectively as part of a collaborative volunteer team to conceptualize, create, and distribute campaign materials for multiple local electoral candidates. This experience has given me a unique perspective on the importance of community engagement, and the role of policy in shaping the lives of individuals within the community. It has also taught me how to communicate effectively with a diverse group of stakeholders, a skill that is crucial when serving on a board or commission where clear communication is key to consensus-building and decision-making. I also helped coordinate and facilitate high-profile public appearances and political events, providing a robust platform for candidate engagement and policy discussion. These experiences honed my event planning and coordination skills, and taught me how to create environments conducive to open dialogue and productive conversation - skills that will be invaluable in organizing and participating in board or commission meetings. Moreover, volunteering on these campaigns allowed me to see firsthand the democratic process in action, highlighting the importance of transparency, accountability, and public participation in decision-making. This deepened my understanding of and respect for the principles of good governance, which I would uphold and advocate for as a board or commission member.

## Education

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I graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington with Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and History, two disciplines that offered me a comprehensive view of how governmental systems function, the importance of policy decisions, and how historical events shape our present and future. This, combined with my minors in Public Administration and International Relations, has equipped me with knowledge and perspectives essential to understanding, evaluating, and forming policies, a crucial aspect of serving on a board or commission. While studying, I was actively involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. As the President of the Model United Nations Association, I learned about diplomatic negotiations, policy formulation, and global governance, which I believe will enable me to appreciate diverse perspectives, negotiate effectively, and make well-informed decisions on a board or commission. My membership in Phi Alpha Theta and the Natural History Collections Curation Club allowed me to develop a rich understanding of historical events and their implications, enhancing my capacity to make contextually-informed decisions. Furthermore, my education was complemented by practical experience. As part of my curriculum, I undertook several research projects that developed my ability to examine and interpret complex information critically, a skill that will be invaluable when making informed decisions on a board or commission.

## Comments

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I am deeply committed to using my skills and experiences to make a positive impact on the community. In my view, serving on a board or commission is an excellent platform to do just that, enabling me to use my abilities in public administration, research, and community engagement to contribute to well-informed decision-making and policy development.

[Thomas\\_McCallister\\_-\\_Resume.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

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If you have another document you would like to attach to your application, you may upload it below:

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Please upload a file

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## Demographics

Date of Birth

### Gender \*

☒ Male

### Ethnicity \*

☒ Caucasian

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## Other

### How did you become aware of Wake County volunteer opportunities?

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☒ County Website

If you selected "Other" above, how?

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Please upload a file

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## **ETHICS GUIDELINES FOR COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

By submitting this electronic application, if appointed, I pledge by my signature below that I have read and will comply with the ethics guidelines for advisory boards and commissions as adopted by the Wake County Board of Commissioners, found [here](#).

Thomas S McCallister

# Thomas McCallister

6911 Middleboro Dr | Raleigh, NC 27612 | (336) 577- 6171  
thomasmccallister@gmail.com

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Motivated Political Science and History graduate with a broad knowledge base in public administration, international relations, and affordable housing policies. Committed to utilizing research skills and community engagement to address socio-political issues. Seeking to leverage my academic background, work experience, and passion for public service within a position where I can make a meaningful contribution and further my professional growth.

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## Education

### **B.A. Political Science - B.A. History**

University of North Carolina Wilmington

08/2019 - 05/2023    Wilmington, North Carolina

Minors: Public Administration & International Relations

Extracurricular: Model United Nations Association (President), Phi Alpha Theta, Natural History Collections Curation Club

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## Work Experience

### **Planning and Land Use Intern**

New Hanover County Planning & Land Use Department

01/2023 - 05/2023    Wilmington, North Carolina

- Conducted data-driven research on affordable housing policies and collaborated with various stakeholders to promote housing solutions in the county.
- Developed an affordable housing dashboard and related educational materials, employing outreach strategies to raise program awareness among residents.
- Gained proficiency in ArcGIS and AutoCAD, aiding in the visualization and planning of housing projects.
- Utilized Microsoft Suite and Adobe Creative Cloud extensively for efficient project management and the creation of visually appealing design materials.

### **Counter Sales Representative**

Avis Budget Group

11/2021 - 12/2022    Wilmington, North Carolina

- Responsible for providing excellent customer service, completing rental agreements, and explaining the features of products to customers.
- Assisted customers with vehicle selection, processed payments, accepted reservations, and answered a high volume of incoming calls in a timely manner.

### **Research Fellow**

Schnog Holocaust Research Fellowship

11/2021 - 07/2022    Wilmington, North Carolina

- Conducted extensive research with university faculty on the little-known history of Holocaust survivors in the Dominican Republic, uncovering stories of those who were able to find refuge during the World War II era.
  - Interviewed multiple individuals and synthesized data to produce a comprehensive report on the Dominican Republic's refugee policy and its impact on Jewish communities.
  - Presented findings at a local conference on Holocaust studies, which was attended by fellow researchers in the field.
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## Volunteer Experience

### **Multiple State Legislative Campaign's**

04/2020 - 11/2022    Wilmington, North Carolina

- During the 2020 and 2022 elections I worked effectively as part of a collaborative volunteer team to conceptualize, create, and distribute campaign materials for multiple local electoral candidates, significantly enhancing their visibility and outreach within the community.
  - Coordinated and facilitated high-profile public appearances and political events, thereby providing a robust platform for candidate engagement and policy discussion.
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**Skills:** ArcGIS, AutoCAD, Votebuilder, Minivan, Adobe Creative Suite, Qualtrics, Microsoft Suite, Proposal Writing, Research Experience, Community Engagement, Demographic Analyzation