

City of San Antonio



Minutes Municipal Court Advisory Committee

2023 – 2025 Council Members

Chair: Jalen McKee Rodriguez, District 2
Teri Castillo, District 5 | Melissa Cabello Havrda, District 6
Marina Alderete Gavito, District 7 | Manny Pelaez, District 8

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

10:00 AM

Council Briefing Room,

The Municipal Court Advisory Committee convened a regular meeting in the City Hall Council Briefing Room beginning at 10:05 AM. City Clerk Debbie Racca-Sittre took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Committee Members present:

Members Present: Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, *Chair*
Teri Castillo, *Member*
Melissa Cabello Havrda, *Member*
Marina Alderete Gavito, *Member*
Manny Pelaez, *Member*

Members Absent: None

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Approval of the minutes from the Municipal Court Advisory Committee meeting on April 24, 2024.**

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve the minutes of the April 24, 2024 Municipal Court Advisory Committee meeting. Councilmember Castillo seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: McKee-Rodriguez, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito
Absent: Pelaez

Briefing and Possible Action on the following items

2. Interview of applicants for Part-Time Municipal Court Judges. [Carla Obledo, Municipal Court]

Chair McKee-Rodriguez announced that there were eleven part-time judge positions to fill and all current judges had reapplied and other attorneys also submitted applications. He clarified that applicants who had already been interviewed in the previous meeting on April 24, 2024 would not be re-interviewed but would be considered.

Executive Session

Chair McKee-Rodriguez recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. The following six candidates for part-time judge were interviewed in Executive Session per Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters), and discuss related legal issues, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney):

1. James Abanka
2. Rolando Arguelles
3. Lauren Lefton (incumbent)
4. Elizabeth Martinez (incumbent)
5. Alfredo M. Tavera (incumbent)
6. Aida Ann Zaragosa (incumbent)

Chair McKee-Rodriguez reconvened the meeting in open session at 11:08 a.m. and announced that no official action had been taken in executive session.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to recommend the reappointment of Anthony Arriaga, Veronica Legarreta, Cheryl Mendoza, Frank D. Sandoval, Mario A. Vega, James Abanka, Rolando Arguelles, Lauren Lefton, Elizabeth Martinez, Alfredo Tavera, and Aida Ann Zaragoza for the remainder of unexpired terms ending April 30, 2026 to City Council at the next available A Session meeting. Councilmember Alderete Gavito seconded the motion.

Councilmember Cabello Havrda moved to Approve. Councilmember Alderete Gavito seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: McKee-Rodriguez, Castillo, Cabello Havrda, Alderete Gavito, Pelaez

Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, Chair

Respectfully Submitted

Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk