



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 18

**Agenda Date:** February 22, 2024

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Christopher Monestier

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Extension of Line of Duty Leave

**SUMMARY:**

This Ordinance would extend the line-of-duty (LOD) leave for San Antonio Fire Department Firefighter Ralph Diaz. He was charged accrued leave from January 14, 2023, until August 6, 2023, for an on-the-job illness which occurred while on duty on January 13, 2022. This ordinance will restore one thousand, five hundred eighty-eight (1,588) hours of accrued leave. Approval of this ordinance is only within the authority of City Council. The Local Government Code, Chapter 143.073, states that after the one-year initial period of leave, the municipality's governing body may extend the line of duty illness or injury leave at full or reduced pay. This will allow the Department to consider this period line of duty leave.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Firefighter Diaz contracted an occupational illness while on duty on January 13, 2022. He was on Line of Duty leave from January 14, 2022, until January 13, 2023. He began using additional accrued leave on January 14, 2023, until August 6, 2023. Firefighter Diaz returned to duty on August 7, 2023.

**ISSUE:**

Firefighter Ralph Diaz seeks an extension of Line of Duty leave for leave used from January 14, 2023, until August 6, 2023, for an on-the-job illness suffered on January 13, 2022. This extension will restore 1,588 hours of his accrued leave. Chapter 143 gives the City Council the authority to grant the extension of line-of-duty leave.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Without approval by the City Council to grant the extension of line-of duty leave, Firefighter Diaz would be required to utilize earned sick leave for an injury which occurred during the performance of his official duties with the City of San Antonio.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Firefighter Diaz might use his restored leave in the future and receive payment for up to one thousand, five hundred and eighty-eight (1588) hours of accrued leave. This ordinance has an estimated potential fiscal impact of \$60,547.79 based on current Collective Bargaining Agreement rates.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this Ordinance to extend the Line of Duty (LOD) for Firefighter Ralph Diaz.