



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: October 21, 2021

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Attorney

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Andy Segovia

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Municipal Court Presiding Judge Reappointment

SUMMARY:

This item will reappoint Carla Obledo as the Municipal Court Presiding Judge in accordance with the recommendation of the Subcommittee of the Municipal Court Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The San Antonio Municipal Courts have jurisdiction over Class C misdemeanor criminal cases. There are ten municipal court judges and one presiding judge. The presiding judge is selected by the City Council from the existing judges, to serve a two-year term, ending April 30 of odd-numbered years. The judge must have United States citizenship, be a licensed attorney in good standing, with two or more years of experience practicing law in Texas, and have three or more years of residency in the City of San Antonio immediately preceding their appointment date.

The presiding judge is responsible for the administrative oversight of the Municipal Court Judges, establishes their work schedule and maintains a central docket for municipal court cases, in addition to other duties set out in the City Code Chapter 20, and Texas Government Code Chapter 30.

The current Presiding Judge, Carla Obledo, has completed her first term and is eligible for reappointment. The Subcommittee of the Municipal Courts Advisory Committee met to interview the judge on Friday, October 8, 2021, and recommends her reappointment to the remainder of an unexpired term ending April 30, 2023.

ISSUE:

The Presiding Judge of the San Antonio Municipal Courts is appointed by City Council.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could continue to hold the judge in holdover until the end of the term.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Annual salary for the Municipal Court Presiding Judge is \$145,000.00, with added monthly car allowance of \$500.00, and is appropriated in the FY 2022 budget. Life insurance and health and retirement benefits currently extended to City employees are extended to Presiding Judge.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Subcommittee of the Municipal Courts Advisory Committee recommends the reappointment of Carla Obledo, the Presiding Judge, for the remainder of an unexpired term ending April 30, 2023.