



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 16

Agenda Date: February 16, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Fire Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Charles Hood, Fire Chief

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Extension of Line of Duty Leave

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance would extend the line-of-duty (LOD) leave for Fire Engineer Richard Ortiz. He was charged accrued leave from April 2, 2022 until August 15, 2022 for an on the job injury which occurred while on duty August 21, 2016. This ordinance will restore one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours, or forty-five (45) shifts 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:

Fire Engineer Ortiz was injured while on duty on August 21, 2016. Mr. Ortiz was on Line of Duty leave from August 22, 2016 until March 20, 2017 and October 29, 2021 until April 1, 2022. He began using additional accrued leave on April 2, 2022 until August 15, 2022 and to duty on August 16, 2022.

ISSUE:

Fire Engineer Richard Ortiz seeks an extension of Line of Duty leave from April 2, 2022 until August 15, 2022 for an on the job injury suffered on August 21, 2016. This extension will restore 1,080 hours, or 45 shifts, 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, Fire Engineer Ortiz 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:

Fire Engineer Ortiz may use his restored leave in the future and receive payment for up to one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours, or forty-five (45) shifts of accrued leave. This ordinance has an estimated potential fiscal impact of \$43,456.56 based on current Collective Bargaining Agreement rates.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this Ordinance to extend the Line of Duty (LOD) for Fire Engineer Richard Ortiz.