



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: May 6, 2022

In Control: Municipal Court Advisory Committee

DEPARTMENT: Municipal Courts

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Carla Obledo

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Appointment and Reappointment of full-time and part-time Municipal Court Judges.

SUMMARY:

Applications were received from persons interested in being appointed or reappointed as full-time and/or part-time San Antonio Municipal Court Judges. Terms for the judges are two years, expiring April 30, of even-numbered years. Duties include the performance of Magistrate duties, as assigned by the Presiding Judge.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Municipal Court Judges are appointed by City Council every two years (even-numbered) years, with an effective date of May 1. Municipal Court Judges must: (1) be a U.S. citizen; (2) a Texas resident; (3) a licensed attorney in good standing; (4) have practiced law in Texas for a minimum of two years; and (5) a resident of the City of San Antonio for at least three years immediately preceding appointment.

The Subcommittee of the Municipal Court Advisory Committee undertook the appointment process in the Spring of 2022 to consider the applications and make recommendations for appointments.

The Committee was not able to interview all of the applicants at the Committee meeting on Wednesday, April 27. The remaining applicants will be interviewed Friday, May 6, 2022.

ISSUE:

The current San Antonio Municipal Court judges terms expire April 30, 2022. The judges will remain in holdover until the City Council takes action to appoint and/or reappoint judges.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Judicial salaries and compensation are part of Municipal Court's General Fund FY 2022 Adopted Budget.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative would require qualification of new applicants, leaving current judges in holdover until new appointments can be made. This will not change the term of office. Appointments are for the remainder of unexpired terms, beginning May 1, even-numbered year and ending on April 30, two years later.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends interview by the Subcommittee, and, upon conclusion, appointment/reappointment of qualified applicants as determined by the Subcommittee.