

City of Fort Worth, Texas

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/25/24 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0596

LOG NAME: 38MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE REAPPOINTMENT 2024

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt Attached Ordinance Reappointing the (9) Municipal Court Judges , Designating a Chief Judge and Designating a Deputy Chief Judge for a Two-Year Term Commencing April 1, 2024, and Ending March 31, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Reappoint Andrew T. Bradshaw, Raquel D. Brown, Simon C. Gonzalez, Melanie A. Houston, Thaddeus A. Iwuji, Carla G. Kelman, Claudia A. Martinez, R. Neel McDonald, and Patricia L. Summers as Municipal Judges for a two-year term commencing April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2026, or until a successor is qualified and appointed in accordance with state law;
2. Designate Simon C. Gonzalez as Chief Judge; and
3. Designate Andrew T. Bradshaw as Deputy Chief Judge.

DISCUSSION:

Reappointment of Municipal Court Judges, Designation of Chief Judge, and Designation of Deputy Chief Judge:

Chapter 30 of the Texas Government Code (the Uniform Municipal Courts of Record Act) sets out the requirements for appointment of judges and the presiding judge for Municipal Courts of Record. Section 30.00006(b) of the Texas Government Code requires the governing body of a municipality to appoint its Municipal Judges by ordinance. Section 30.00006(h) of the Texas Government Code requires the City Council to set the salary for the Municipal Judges. Section 30.00007 of the Texas Government Code requires the governing body of the municipality to designate a presiding judge if there is more than one Municipal Judge in the municipality. Section 10-3 of the City Code requires the City Council to designate a Chief Judge with the duties of a presiding judge. The City Council is also authorized to designate a Deputy Chief Judge.

Currently there are 10 Judicial Places including 1 Chief Judge vacancy.

On Tuesday, June 11th, the Legislative Affairs Committee met to discuss the judicial candidates reviewed for recommended reappointment.

The Legislative Affairs Committee is recommending to the City Council that Andrew T. Bradshaw, Raquel D. Brown, Simon C. Gonzalez, Melanie Houston, Thaddeus Iwuji, Carla G. Kelman, Claudia A. Martinez, Robert Neel McDonald, and Patricia L. Summers be reappointed as Municipal Judges for a two-year term commencing April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2026.

It is further recommended that Simon C. Gonzalez be designated as the Chief Judge at a salary of \$91.35/HR, and Andrew T. Bradshaw be designated as Deputy Chief Judge at a salary of \$81.73/HR. No salary changes are being recommended for the remaining judges being reappointed.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of this recommendation will have no material effect on City funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Valerie Washington 6199

Originating Business Unit Head: William Rumuly 7461

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