

Memorandum

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CITY OF DALLAS

2014 AUG -1 AM 9:42

DATE August 1, 2014

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo,
Dwayne Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

SUBJECT **Special Call – Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Meeting**

Monday, August 4, 2014, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Dallas City Hall – Room 6ES, 1500 Marilla St., Dallas, Texas 75201

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Consideration of minutes from the April 29, 2014
Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations meeting
Scott Griggs
Chair
2. Improving Quality of Life through City Attorney's Office
and ACT (Advocates for Community Transformation)
Collaborative Effort
J. Reid Porter, President
Advocates for Community Transformation
Melissa A. Miles
Executive Assistant City Attorney
Chief, Code Compliance Litigation
3. Consideration of Proposed Amendments to
City Code Section 13-5.2 ***Action Item***
Warren Ernst
City Attorney
4. **Closed Executive Session:**
Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act,
Texas Government Code, to discuss Recommendation of
Candidates for Appointment as Associate Municipal Judge
Scott Griggs
Chair
5. Deliberations and Recommendation of
Associate Municipal Judges
Action Item
Scott Griggs
Chair

Scott Griggs, Chair
Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
Theresa O' Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager

NOTICE: A quorum of the Dallas City Council may attend this Council Committee meeting.

August 1, 2014

Special Call Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Meeting – Monday, August 4, 2014

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A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. Contemplated or pending litigation or matters where legal advice is requested of the City Attorney. Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
2. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. Section 551.072 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
3. A contract for a prospective gift or donation to the City, if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. Section 551.073 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
4. Personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint against an officer or employee. Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
5. The deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices. Section 551.076 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
6. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations. Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

DRAFT
Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee
Meeting Record

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at www.dallascityhall.com. Recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the AdHoc Judicial Nominations Committee Coordinator at 214-670-3246.

Special Call Meeting: Tuesday, April 29, 2014 **Convened:** 9:07 a.m. **Adjourned:** 4:32 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Council Member Scott Griggs, **Chair**
Council Member Philip Kingston, **Vice-Chair**
Council Member Jerry Allen
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo
Council Member Dwaine Caraway
Council Member Vonciel Jones Hill

Executive Staff Present:

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Chris Bowers, First Assistant City Attorney

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order**

Presenter: Scott Griggs, Chair

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Committee Chair Griggs called an open session of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Meeting to order at 9:07 a.m., Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla, 6ES, Dallas, TX, 75201. A quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Meeting Record for April 7, 2014 meeting minutes**

Presenter: Scott Griggs, Chair

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Motion made by: **Councilmember Allen**

Item passed unanimously: X

Item failed unanimously:

Seconded by: **Councilmember Kingston**

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

3. **Ad Hoc Committee Judicial Nomination and Appointment Procedures**

Presenter: Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager

Mr. Zapata provided a status update of the Judicial Nominations Committee.

4. **Interviews of full-time candidates for City of Dallas – Municipal Court Judge Positions**

Action Taken/Commission Recommendation(s):

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee went to EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:12 a.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, to interview full-time candidates for City of Dallas – Municipal Court Judge Positions and Deliberation of Appointments as Municipal Judge.

Action Taken/Commission Recommendation(s):

Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee reconvened at 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 to open session.

Chris Bowers, First Assistant City Attorney provided the committee with information from Section 13-5.2(e) of the Dallas City Code., after deliberations

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo that Daniel F. Solis be recommended and forwarded to council for approval as the Administrative Municipal Judge. Councilmember Kingston seconded the motion and it passed with 1 opposed. Councilmember Hill voted in opposition.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hill recommending 18 nominees for 12 Full-time Municipal Judge positions in order of preference to the council for approval. Councilmember Allen seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Recommendations for **Full-time Municipal Judge** vacancies are listed below:

Jay E. Robinson
Cheryl D. Williams
Daniel F. Solis
Michael Acuna
Julie Clancy
C. Victor Lander
Preston W. Robinson, Jr.
Kathryn Hoang
Paula M. Rosales Aldana
Demetrius E. Blacklock
Henry Wade
Daniel L. Ryan
William Marple
Lawrence D. Sharp
David W. Barlow
Roland Monteros
Aura L. Pleitez
Sandra H. White

A motion was made by Councilmember Hill recommending 13 nominees for 18 Associate Municipal Judge positions in order of preference. In addition, the Judicial Nominating Commission is directed to interview, as necessary, and recommend an additional 14 candidates for Associate Municipal Judge positions to the Committee for consideration, prior to the Ad Hoc Committee's next meeting. Councilmember Kingston seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Recommendations for **Associate Municipal Judge** vacancies are listed below:

Cadoc Tim A. Menchu
E.A. (Elizabeth) Srere
Carl Hays
Kristine S. Primrose
Roland C. Anderson
Daniel E. McDonald, Jr.
Esther A. Grossman
Timoteo F. Gonzalez
Aura L. Pleitez
Tonya L. Goffney
Marilyn Y. Davis
Tony L. Martin
Michelle Buendia

A motion was made by Councilmember Hill directing the Judicial Nominating Commission to interview five (5) specific candidates for Associate Judge; which are Melodee Armstrong, Nina Bujosa, Roxann Cotroneo, Reina Gonzalez and John P. McCall, Jr. and select an additional 9 candidates of the Commission's choice from either the first or second posting for candidates. Councilmember Caraway seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

The April 29, 2014 Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

Scott Griggs, Chair
Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee

Shun Session, Coordinator
AdHoc Judicial Nominations Committee

Memorandum



DATE: August 1, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Scott Griggs (Chair), Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen,
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo, Dwaine Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

SUBJECT: **Improving Quality of Life through City Attorney's Office and ACT
(Advocates for Community Transformation) Collaborative Effort**

The attached briefing will be presented to the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee on Monday, August 4, 2014.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.



Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Ryan S. Evans, Interim First Assistant City Manager
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Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council

Improving Quality of Life through City Attorney's Office and ACT (Advocates for Community Transformation) Collaborative Effort

A Public-Private Collaboration to Combat Blight and Empower Communities

Presented to:

Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee

Presented by:

Executive Assistant City Attorney Melissa A. Miles,
Chief of Code Compliance Litigation

J. Reid Porter, J.D.
President and Founder of ACT

August 4, 2014



Act.

A Public-Private Collaboration to Combat Blight and Empower Communities

The City Attorney's Office and Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT) have jointly authored a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaboratively use litigation strategies and community involvement to work to eliminate blighted structures and drug houses from residential neighborhoods.

Code Compliance Litigation (Code Lit)

Section of the City Attorney's Office

Code Lit employs six full time litigators devoted to obtaining court orders to address negative conditions that impact the quality of life for Dallas citizens.

- Demolition of vacant substandard structures
- Repair of dangerous substandard structural and living conditions in apartment complexes
- Repair of dangerous substandard conditions in non-residential commercial property
- Enforce group home regulations
- Closure of criminal nuisance properties – drugs, prostitution, gang violence
- Remedy environmental violations
- Cease illegal land uses
- Enforce fair housing laws
- Enforce transportation for hire, non-consent tow and ambulance regulations
- Enforce dance hall and sexually oriented business regulations

Act.

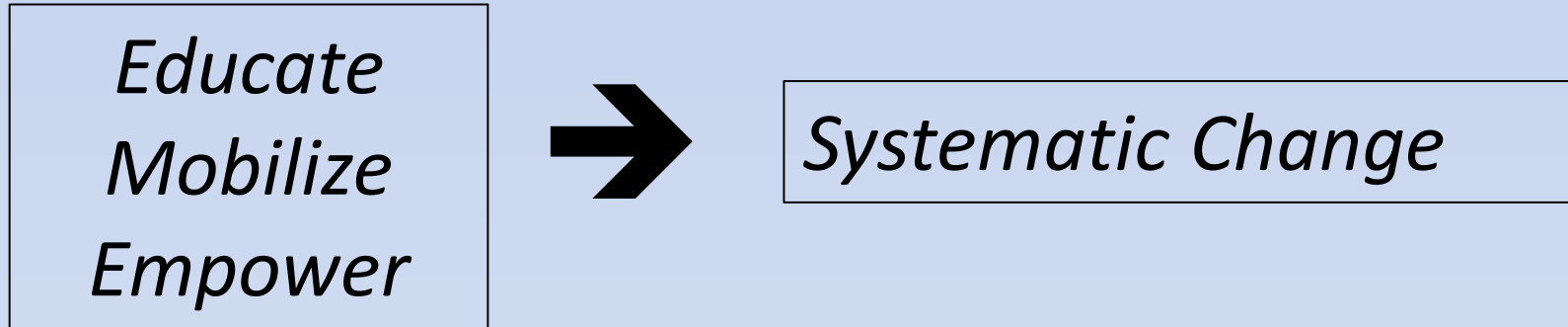
Mission:

Advocates for Community Transformation uses the justice system to shut down drug houses while also intentionally caring for the residents who have been hurt by them. We empower residents to take back their communities from the drug dealers and encourage them spiritually throughout the process.

Vision:

Our vision is for inner-city residents to live in communities free of crime and urban blight. We utilize ACT staff and volunteer attorneys from private law firms to work alongside willing residents to file lawsuits in civil courts to eliminate the nuisance properties.

The ACT Impact



Stats Since 2009

- 41 resolutions to date
- Engaged 116 Clients
- Provided over 200 wills as a crime prevention strategy

The Collaborative Goal:

Bring Together the Organizational Strengths of CAO & ACT

CAO

- The CAO is able to utilize legislatively created legal remedies for cities that result in relatively quick and efficient publicly funded demolitions of substandard structures.
- Working with Dallas Police SAFE Team, Narcotics Division and Gang Unit, the CAO also brings lawsuits authorized by state statute against criminal nuisance properties.

ACT

- As a community centered, faith based organization, ACT is able to take a holistic approach to the needs and concerns of individuals and specific neighborhoods.
- ACT's approach cultivates relationships of understanding and trust with neighborhoods that empowers residents to take a stand against conditions that threaten the safety and quality of life in their neighborhood.

The Collaborative Results

- Expand the information available to each party through legally-permissible information sharing
- Expand the capacity of the Urban Rehabilitation Docket through a Guest Litigator Program
- Capitalize on the efficiency of the Urban Rehabilitation Docket to tackle structurally unsound single-family homes
- Capitalize on ACT's volunteer base to tackle crime-ridden properties
- Encourage active citizenry

The Memorandum of Understanding

- Guest Litigator Program provides ACT attorneys with an opportunity to participate in the CAO's Urban Rehab (Demo) Docket in Municipal Court
- ACT will refer unoccupied demo worthy properties it identifies to CAO's Urban Rehab Docket, increasing the total number of demo cases
- ACT and Code Lit will actively share information and collaborate on nuisance cases brought in civil court

Council Action Needed for Code Amendment

- The CAO's Urban Rehab Docket is a civil (versus criminal) docket
- To facilitate the Guest Litigator Program envisioned by the MOU, a code amendment will be necessary to extend the existing program to include civil litigation

Questions?

Memorandum



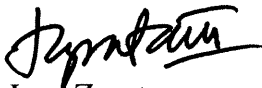
DATE: August 1, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Scott Griggs (Chair), Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen,
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo, Dwaine Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

SUBJECT: **Consideration of Proposed Amendments to City Code Section 13-5.2**

On Monday, August 4, 2014, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee agenda will include a discussion on the "Consideration of Proposed Amendments to City Code Section 13-5.2."

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.



Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
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Memorandum



DATE: August 1, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Scott Griggs (Chair), Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen,
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo, Dwaine Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

SUBJECT: **Closed Executive Session:
Discuss Recommendation of Candidates for Appointment as Associate Municipal Judge**

On Monday, August 4, 2014, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee agenda will include a discussion on the "Recommendation of Candidates for Appointment as Associate Municipal Judge" in closed executive session.

Attached, for your review and consideration, is the Presentation of Nominees for Associate (part-time) Judge of Dallas Municipal Courts memo to the council containing the recommendations from the Judicial Nominating Commission.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.



Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

Attachment

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Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council

Memorandum



DATE July 3, 2014

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Scott Griggs (Chair), Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo, Jerry Allen,
Dwayne Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

SUBJECT **Presentation of Nominees for Associate (part-time) Judge of Dallas Municipal Courts**

As instructed on May 2, 2014, the Judicial Nominating Commission interviewed on June 4, 2014, three (3) of the five (5) specified candidates for Associate Judge, which were Melodee Armstrong, Nina Bujosa and John McCall. Roxann Cotroneo withdrew her application and Reina Gonzalez did not show for her interview.

On June 24, the Commission convened and voted on a list of 14 nominees. The JNC respectfully submits its results to the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee, in addition to the April 4, 2014 previous recommendations of the JNC.

In accordance to item #4 on the May 2, 2014 memorandum from Ad Hoc Chair Scott Griggs, the 14 recommended names for Associate (part-time) Municipal Judge are:

**Shereen R. Eldomeiri
Thaddeus Iwuji
Christina Jump
Winifred E. Cannon
Samuel Hawk
Roland Monteros
J. Oliver Lee, Jr.
William Marple
Bridgett Whitmore
James C. Beggs
Frieda J. Fiske
Deanna JeffersonSmith
Matthew Seymour
Debra Bryant**

Daniel Perez, Chair
Judicial Nominating Commission

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
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Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager
Members of the Judicial Nominating Commission

Memorandum



DATE: August 1, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee:
Scott Griggs (Chair), Philip Kingston (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen,
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo, Dwaine Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill

SUBJECT: **Deliberations and Recommendation of Associate Municipal Judges (Action Item)**

On Monday, August 4, 2014, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee agenda will include "Deliberations and Recommendation of Associate Municipal Judges."

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.



Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

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