

DATE: 1.20.22

TO: City Clerk

FROM: City Representative Aleksandra Anello

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell TELEPHONE 915-212-0002

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT XXX REGULAR _____

Agenda for the Council Meeting of February 1, 2022

Appointment of Rene Alberto Vargas to the Ad Hoc Charter Advisory Committee by City

Item should read as follows: Representative Aleksandra Anello.

BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Ad Hoc Charter Advisory Committee

NOMINATED BY: City Representative Aleksandra Anello DISTRICT: Two

NAME OF APPOINTEE Rene Alberto Vargas
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

DOES THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE HAVE A RELATIVE WORKING FOR THE CITY? YES: ___ NO X

IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE HIS OR HER NAME, CITY POSITION AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE:

LIST ALL REAL ESTATE OWNED BY APPOINTEE IN EL PASO COUNTY (BY ADDRESS): N/A

HAS APPOINTEE BEEN A MEMBER OF OTHER CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES? IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES AND DATES: N/A

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO HAVE HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IT BECAME VACANT?

NAME OF INCUMBENT: N/A

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: N/A

REASON PERSON IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE (CHECK ONE): TERM EXPIRED: _____
RESIGNED _____
REMOVED _____

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 02/01/22

TERM BEGINS ON : 02/01/22

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 12/31/99

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1st TERM: X

2nd TERM: _____

UNEXPIRED TERM: _____

René A. Vargas

SUMMARY

- Highly-motivated and ambitious Attorney with a strong litigation background.
- Successful in building outstanding client relationships, and establishing an exceptional rapport with individuals on all levels.
- Enthusiastic and energetic leader with the ability to supervise and motivate others.
- Actively involved in community; former candidate for EPISD Trustee and current member of NE Democrats and El Paso Alliance for Just Schools

EDUCATION

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF LAW, New Orleans, Louisiana
Juris Doctor, 2004; Admitted to Texas Bar, November 2004

TRINITY UNIVERSITY, San Antonio, Texas
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Minor: Spanish, 2000

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in English and Spanish

HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPERIENCE

- Tried 60+ cases in state court, and handled thousands of criminal cases (misdemeanors and felonies).
- Represented clients at pretrial, suppression, and probation revocation hearings.
- Evaluated cases, conducted legal research, and drafted motions and briefs.
- Negotiated with District and County Attorneys to achieve best possible results.
- Hired, supervised, and evaluated Associate Attorney
- Hired, supervised, and evaluated law firm office staff
- Conducted call-in show on Austin Spanish language radio station discussing issues related to Criminal Law

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Approved for the Travis County and Capital Area Private Defender Service felony appointment lists.
- Presented CLE “Dr. Strangelove: The Art of Unfettered Judicial Discretion”.

EMPLOYMENT

2016- Present

El Paso Public Defender’s Office, El Paso, Texas
Chief: Mental Health and Juvenile Units

Supervise seven attorneys while attending to my own caseload

2014 - 2016

LAW OFFICE OF RENÉ A. VARGAS, Austin, Texas
Criminal Defense Attorney (Private Practice)

2007 - 2014

BLACKBURN VARGAS, Austin, Texas
Criminal Defense Attorney/Partner

2005 - 2007

LAW OFFICE OF KEVIN BOYD, Austin, Texas
Criminal Defense Attorney

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Workers Defense Project** (2014-2015): Educated and interviewed Hispanic workers filing employment cases.
- **Austin Partners in Education** (2008-2012): Worked with Spanish speaking 2nd grade students to improve reading comprehension. Delivered presentations to elementary and middle school students at annual “Career Day”.

AFFILIATIONS

- **Texas Bar Association**, Member, 2004-Present
- **Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**, Member, 2007-Present
- **Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**, Member, 2007-Present
- **Texas Hispanic Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**, Member, 2010-Present

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Hon. Judge Marcos Lizarraga
Judge, 167th District Court; El Paso County,
Texas El Paso County Courthouse

Hon. Judge Clifford Brown
Judge, 147th Judicial District Court, Travis
County Blackwell Thurman Criminal Justice

Fred Weber
Caldwell County Criminal District Attorney
Caldwell County Justice Center

Kelli Childress
El Paso Chief Public Defender