

DATE: February 15, 2022

TO: City Clerk

FROM: City Representative Henry Rivera, District 7

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell, 2nd floor, El Paso, TX TELEPHONE 915-212-0007

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

Agenda for the Council Meeting of March 1, 2022

Reappointment of Casey Antonio Williams to the Ethics Review Commission by City

Item should read as follows: Representative Henry Rivera, District 7

BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Ethics Review Commission

NOMINATED BY: City Representative Henry Rivera DISTRICT: 7

NAME OF APPOINTEE Casey Antonio Williams
(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: N/A

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

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

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

NAME OF INCUMBENT: Casey Antonio Williams

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: 2/20/2022

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

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 3/1/2022

TERM BEGINS ON: 2/21/2022

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 2/20/2024

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1st TERM: X
2nd TERM: _____
UNEXPIRED TERM: _____

CASEY ANTONIO WILLIAMS, ESQ.

EDUCATION

Texas Tech University School of Law Doctor of Jurisprudence, J.D.	2008-2011
University of Texas at El Paso Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, B.A. Minor: Legal Reasoning Graduated Cum Laude	2004-2008
El Paso Community College Associates of Arts in Speech Communication, A.A.	2002-2004
Maxine Silva Health Magnet High School High School Diploma Graduated with Academic Distinction	1996-2000

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Texas Tech University School of Law CALI Award of Excellence for First Amendment Law	2010
Texas Tech University School of Law Jurisprudence Award for Comparative Law the English Legal System	2010
Texas Tech University School of Law Jurisprudence Award for Sexuality and the Law	2010
Pi Kappa Delta Informative Speaking National Champion/Showcase Award Winner	2006
University of Texas at El Paso Student Government Association Attorney General	2005
University of Texas at El Paso Debate Team Captain	2005
Pi Rho Pi Nationals Extemporaneous Speaking Bronze Medalist	2004
Pi Rho Pi Nationals Impromptu Speaking Gold Medalist	2003
El Paso Community College Speech and Debate Team Most Valuable Player Award	2003
El Paso Community College Speech and Debate Team Leadership Award	2003
El Paso Community College Speech and Debate Team Captain	2003

WORK EXPERIENCE

Antonio Williams, Esq. Attorney at Law Attorney/Owner	2015- Present
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I have run and managed my own private practice law office for the last 5 years. My law practice focuses primarily on removal defense in Immigration Law—which is one of the most challenging areas of immigration law to practice in at this time. As an immigration attorney I have succeeded in defending and winning a majority of the Asylum, Withholding of Removal, and Protection under the Convention Against Torture Cases that I have represented my clients in over the last 5 years. I have volunteered hundreds of hours every year in providing pro-bono representation, training, and legal consultations every year—which has allowed me to substantially exceed the amount of pro-bono services my State Bar of New Mexico recommends each year for its attorneys. My law office was recognized by the El Paso Sun City Pride Board in 2019 and elected me Grand Marshall of the 2019 Gay Pride Parade for the pro-bono work I have done as an attorney who has represented and won dozens of cases for gay men and transwomen who feared persecution in their countries of origins from their governments or people their government cannot or will not control.

Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc. Law Graduate (Doctor of Jurisprudence)	2011-2014
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Trial Unit:

I represented detained and non-detained clients in federal immigration court. During my time in the trial unit, I represented and managed over 150 cases—12 of the cases that I managed went to trial and I won 8 of those cases, which included cases involving Cancellation of Removal for Non-Residents, Cancellation of Removal for Residents, Asylum, Bond, Voluntary Departure, Adjustment of Status, Cuban Adjustment of Status,

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, Administrative Closure by Prosecutorial Discretion, and a Stay of Removal.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Outreach Program:

Subsequently, after working in the Trial Unit, I was asked to coordinate our office's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Outreach Program. My responsibilities required me to establish meaningful ties with the community in West Texas, with specific attention paid to local high schools, universities, colleges, non-profit organizations, churches, and political leaders, by conducting several educational outreach presentations about the federal government's new Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program. I succeeded in doing so, by completing 50 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals outreach presentations to more than 1000 people in less than six months throughout El Paso County. The presentations were made in English and Spanish to small and large groups of high school and college students, high school teachers, college professors, business leaders, community activists, locally elected politicians, candidates running for office, school district trustees, and high school administrators.

Additionally, I represented a majority of our office's clients who qualified for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and who came to our office seeking assistance with their applications. In that capacity, I screened, counseled, and prepared our client's applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals for submission to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Offices for consideration. In less than six months, I succeeded in increasing the volume of Deferred Action cases at DMRS by 100 % more a month with the presentations I had made throughout the year, and completed more than 30 applications for Deferred Action. A large majority of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals applications that I filed for our clients earlier this year have been approved by USCIS so far.

Legal Orientation Program:

Prior to working in the Trial Unit, I also worked as a bilingual presenter for the Legal Orientation Program at DMRS for two years, which is a federally funded program provided by DMRS to the El Paso County and Otero County Immigration Detention Centers located in El Paso, Texas, and in Chaparral, New Mexico, respectively. The presentations provided at the immigration detention centers were delivered in both English and Spanish to over 3000 recently detained people every year. In our presentations we helped educate and train recently detained people about what their legal rights were while they were detained, what forms of immigration relief they could apply for in court, and how the federal immigration court process worked; as well as, how to defend their cases pro se.

Accomplishments:

I set up and executed a very successful Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that was funded by the Texas Access to Justice Foundation. Additionally, I won the majority of the cases that I took to trial before the Federal Immigration Courts in El Paso, Texas.

Spurgin Law Firm

Bilingual Law Clerk

2009

I completed a summer paid internship as a bilingual law clerk for Steve Spurgin, who is an Immigration Attorney with an Immigration Law Firm located in El Paso, Texas.

Under Mr. Spurgin's guidance and leadership, I conducted extensive legal research in immigration law and criminal law for cases dealing with Cancellation of Removals, Voluntary Departures, Adjustment of Statuses, Asylum applications, and Writs of Habeas Corpus that dealt with violations of our client's 5th, 6th, and 14th Amendment rights as guaranteed by the United States Constitution; drafted legal documents in English and Spanish; translated client correspondence from Spanish into English for use in Federal Immigration Court; and translated English and Spanish for clients and for the attorney during client interviews between the client, their families, and the attorney; as well as, during client visitations and prospective client screenings between clients, prospective clients, and the attorney.

Accomplishments:

Mr. Spurgin won all of the cases that we worked on together and for which I provided legal research.

El Paso County District Clerk's Office

Civil/Criminal/Family Court Clerk and Certified Passport Clerk

2006-2008

Criminal Court Clerk:

I worked as a Criminal Court Clerk for the 409th District Court with Judge Sam Medrano, the 41st District Court with Judge Mary Ann Bramblett, and in the 171st District Court with Judge Bonnie Rangel for six months.

Family Court Clerk:

I also worked as a Family Court Clerk for the 383rd District Court with Judge Mike Herrera for six months.

Civil Court Clerk:

Additionally, I worked as a Civil Court Clerk for the 168th District Court with Judge Christopher Antcliff, the 210th District Court with Judge Gonzalo Garcia, the 205th District Court with Judge Kathleen Olivares, the 243rd District Court with Judge David Guaderrama, and for County Court at Law #3 with Judge Javier Alvarez for six months.

While working as a Criminal, Family, and Civil Court Clerk, I filed and processed motions, court orders, legal correspondence, and law suits that were filed in the District Clerk's office by Judges, Attorneys, and Pro Se litigants. I also managed all the files for the courts I was assigned to; issued subpoenas, citations, and warrants for criminal and civil cases; opened and disposed of family law and civil law cases; and helped format judgments for criminal cases. I also worked as a Certified Passport Clerk and assisted U.S. Citizens and Residents with their applications for a U.S. passport.

LANGUAGES

English-Fluent
Spanish-Fluent
Japanese-Conversational

MEMBERSHIPS/POLITICAL INVOLMENT/AWARDS

Pi Kappa Delta Golden Gavel Awardee 2019
EL Paso Sun City Pride Parade Grand Marshall 2019
El Paso City Civil Service Commissioner 2015-2018 (Appointed unanimously in 2015 by the El Paso City Council for a 3-year term)
El Paso Queer Bar Association President 2016-2017, Vice President 2017-2018, Secretary 2019-2020 (Founding President and Member)
Texas State Democratic Party Executive Committee Man 2016-2018
American Immigration Lawyers Association Member (AILA) 2015-present
American Bar Association Member (ABA) 2015-2019
State Bar of New Mexico Licensed Attorney 2015-present
El Paso City Council Ad Hoc Charter Committee Member 2012 (Appointed unanimously in 2012 by the El Paso City Council)
El Paso Stonewall Young Democrats 2011-2012 (Founder and former President)
Black El Paso Democrats 2008-2019 (Member)
Eastside Democrats 2011-2019 (Member)
Westside Democrats 2011-2012 (Member)
El Paso Young Democrats 2011-2012 (Member)
Democratic Party State Convention Delegate 2012
Democratic Party El Paso County Convention Delegate 2012
Democratic Party State Convention Delegate 2008
Democratic Party El Paso County Convention Delegate 2008