

DATE: 01/27/2021

TO: City Clerk

FROM: City Representative Cissy Lizarraga

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell TELEPHONE 915-212-0008

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

Agenda for the Council Meeting of February 2, 2021

Item should read as follows: Appointment of Evi Marisa Licona to the Zoning Board of Adjustment in the Alternate Position

BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Zoning Board of Adjustment

NOMINATED BY: Representative Cissy Lizarraga DISTRICT: 8

NAME OF APPOINTEE Evi Marisa Licona
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: N/A

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME ADDRESS: N/A

CITY: N/A ST: N/A ZIP: N/A PHONE: N/A

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: Evi Marisa Licona
(unexpired)

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: 10/01/2020

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

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 02/02/2021

TERM BEGINS ON : 10/02/2020

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 10/01/2022

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

LEGAL EXPERIENCE**EL PASO COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** | El Paso, TX | September 2017 – present**Principal Attorney**

Prosecute Deceptive Business Practice cases, thefts by check, and nuisance abatement cases. Provide screening of cases as well as victim guidance from intake of criminal cases through negotiation and litigation of these offenses. Provide law enforcement trainings, outreach and informational events to foster understanding and awareness about these crimes and how they impact individuals, families and our communities. Continuously engage in legal research and publication reviews to ensure justice is served and that appropriate services are provided to the victims of these crimes.

EL PASO COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE | El Paso, TX | November 2012 – December 2015**Senior Trial Attorney**

Represented clients charged with misdemeanor and felony offenses from pre-indictment through trial. Developed proficiencies managing demanding caseloads, contested hearings, legal motions practice, and jury trials. Expanded legal advocacy skills in high-stakes negotiation, effective legal argument and client communications. Achieved favorable outcomes for hundreds, including clients faced with life sentences, mental illness, and first degree felonies. Accomplished positive results for clients through research, engagement of expert witnesses, and competent preparation.

LAW OFFICE OF EVI M. LICONA | Yakima, WA | January 2009 – July 2012**Attorney, Owner and Sole Proprietor**

Launched a successful solo practice, focused in criminal defense, civil, family, immigration and personal injury law. Trained and supervised paralegals and support staff, and developed business skills managing billable hours, payroll and accounts receivable.

Awarded Contracts: Department of Assigned Council Superior Court Panel Cases, 2011 – 2012, Office of Public Defense Dependency Contract, 2011 – 2012; City of Granger Public Defender Contract, April 2009 – 2012; City of Wapato Public Defender Contract, January 2010 – January 2011; Department of Assigned Council District Court Contract, April 2009 – August 2009.

YAKIMA VALLEY CREDIT UNION | Yakima, WA | October 2006 – October 2008**Chief Legal & Compliance Officer, AVP**

Analyzed internal regulatory compliance and interpreted federal regulations to achieve full compliance in all areas of financial institution. Drafted new programs and procedures, and trained staff in regulatory compliance. Assisted smaller credit unions in the Yakima Valley in compliance efforts and acted as counsel for member debt collections.

COLUMBIA LEGAL SERVICES (CLS) | Yakima, WA | January 2005 – August 2006**Staff Attorney**

Represented clients in administrative health and safety complaints and in policy advocacy for pesticide application and heat related illness (HRI). Drafted legislation as lead counsel on HRI rulemaking. Educated workers with brief services and outreach for pesticide exposure, HRI, education, prisoners' rights, wage and hour, wrongful discharge and drivers' license issues. Served as stakeholder on Labor and Industries' Heat Related Illness Emergency Rule and the Advisory Committee for Cholinesterase Monitoring Rule. Acted as a registered lobbyist under the Public Disclosure Commission in the state of Washington.

NEW MEXICO LEGAL AID, INC. | Las Cruces, NM | August 2002 – August 2004

Two-Year Equal Justice Works Fellow, Staff Attorney

Represented indigent farmworkers in mediations, depositions and trials under the NM Workers' Compensation Administration. Achieved lifetime medical benefits and monetary damages at trials. Created a farmworker advocacy group of community organizers, advocates and non-profits to improve working conditions and rights of farm laborers. Assisted private and government agency attorneys with individual cases involving housing and family law issues.

EDUCATION

JURIS DOCTOR

VERMONT LAW SCHOOL | South Royalton, VT | May 2002

Focus in International Law and Human Rights

Completed 11 Credits in International Trade, Environmental Law & Policy, Summer 2000

Honors: Jessup International Moot Court Team & Advisory Board Member, 2001 – 2002; Client Counseling Board Member and Semifinalist, 2000 – 2001

Community: Women's Law Group (WLG) Fundraising Co-Chair, 1999 – 2000; Latin American Law Students' Association (LALSA) Secretary, 1999 – 2002; National Lawyers Guild (NLG) Member, 2000 – 2002

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY (NMSU) | Las Cruces, NM | May 1999

Majors: International Business and Economics, Minors: Spanish and Waste Management

Honors: Waste Management, Education & Research Consortium Fellowship Recipient, 1998 – 1999; Crimson Scholar & Regents Scholarship Recipient, 1994 – 1995; Honors Program, 1994 – 1997

Study Abroad: Spanish Intensive Study at Tecnológico de Monterrey, Nuevo León, México, Spring 1997

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND RECOGNITION

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES & AWARDS

- ~ Admitted to State Bar of New Mexico, 2003
- ~ Admitted to Washington State Bar Association (WSBA), 2005
- ~ Admitted to State Bar of Texas, 2012
- ~ Admitted to Texas Bar College, 2015
- ~ Member El Paso Bar Association, 2018 to present
- ~ Better Business Bureau Roundtable Workgroup, 2019 to present
- ~ Attorney of the Year Award, County Attorney's Office, 2019-2020
- ~ 37th Annual Texas Criminal Trial College Criminal Defense Lawyers Project Participant, March 2013
- ~ Recognized for Pro Bono Service by NWIRP (NW Immigrant Rights Project), 2012
- ~ Recognized for Pro Bono Service by WBSA, 2010 and 2011
- ~ First recipient awarded Equal Justice Works fellowship in New Mexico, August 2002