

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**



DEPARTMENT: El Paso Municipal Court

AGENDA DATE: 8/5/25

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

CONTACT PERSON NAME: Annabelle Casas

PHONE NUMBER: (915) 212-0215

2nd CONTACT PERSON NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL:

2- Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City

SUBGOAL:

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action on the re-appointment of Judge Harbor-Valdez and Judge Rivas to fill Part Time Associate Judge vacancy. This position serves as substitute for the elected Municipal Court trial judges at trial and other court hearings; They preside over arraignments and serve as magistrates on graveyard shifts.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Council will discuss the re-appointment of Judge Cori Harbour-Valdez and Judge Jorge Rivas to serve as Substitute Associate Judges in accordance with City Code Chapter 2.44 to a four-year term starting August 9th, 2025, through August 9th, 2029. It is the City Council who appoints and re-appoints Associate Municipal Court Judges in accordance with City Code Chapter 2.44. These positions serve as substitutes for the elected Municipal Court trial judges at trial and other court hearings such as arraignment and magistrates on graveyard shifts. Judge Cori Harbour-Valdez was last appointed on August 17, 2021, and Judge Jorge Rivas was last appointed on August 9, 2021.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH:

N/A

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Yes, it is City Council who appoints and re-appoints Associate Municipal Court Judges in accordance with City Code Chapter 2.44. The Judges were last appointed on August 9th, 2021 and August 17th, 2021.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund. dept # 111 Fund 1000 Division 11060 Account 50100

REPORTING OF CONTRIBUTION OR DONATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

N/A

NAME	AMOUNT (\$)

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****



DEPARTMENT HEAD:

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 2.44.030C of the El Paso City Code permits City Council to appoint one or more part time associate municipal judges to a four-year term; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that such an appointment is needed in order to provide additional support to the elected Municipal Court Judges; and

WHEREAS, it is has been determined that the reappointment of sitting associate judges is in the best interest of the Court;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Council reappoints Jorge Rivas and Cori Harbour-Valdez as Part-Time Associate Municipal Court Judges to serve a four-year term from August 9, 2025 through August 9, 2029.

APPROVED this _____ day of August, 2025.

CITY OF EL PASO:

Renard U. Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura S. Prine, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert Aguinaga Jr

Robert Aguinaga
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Annabelle Casas

Annabelle Casas
Municipal Court Director