

DATE: January 26, 2022

TO: City Clerk

FROM: Mayor Oscar Leeser

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor TELEPHONE (915) 212-0021

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT X REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda for the Council Meeting of February 1, 2022

Item should read as follows: Appointment of Sylvia Borunda Firth to the Ad Hoc Charter Advisory Committee by Mayor Oscar Leeser

**BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM**

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

NOMINATED BY: Oscar Leeser DISTRICT: Mayor

NAME OF APPOINTEE Sylvia Borunda Firth  
(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:**

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

**LIST ALL REAL ESTATE OWNED BY APPOINTEE IN EL PASO COUNTY (BY ADDRESS):**

**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: 02/01/2022

TERM BEGINS ON : 02/01/2022

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1<sup>st</sup> TERM: X

2<sup>nd</sup> TERM: \_\_\_\_\_

UNEXPIRED TERM: \_\_\_\_\_



January 25, 2022

Hon. Oscar Leeser, Mayor  
City of El Paso  
City Hall – Mayor’s Office  
300 N. Campbell  
El Paso, Texas 79901

RE: Ad Hoc Charter Advisory Committee

Dear Mayor Leeser:

Thank you for the opportunity to once again be of service to our community. I have devoted more than one-half of my 37-year career as a lawyer to municipal service and continue to represent municipalities in the El Paso/Juarez Borderplex and around the State of Texas to this day.

Even while I was in private practice, I devoted volunteer time to the City of El Paso by serving on a Human Resources Subcommittee of the Charter Advisory Committee appointed by former Mayor Carlos Ramirez and, also as a member of the Civil Service Commission.

During my time in the El Paso City Attorney’s Office I provided legal support to at least two charter review committees and as a board member and past president of the Texas City Attorney’s Association and member of the State Bar of Texas Government Law Council, I was often involved in providing continuing legal education regarding the law of local government operations. I am very familiar with Texas municipal home rule charters and am well prepared to serve as a member of the Ad Hoc Charter Advisory Committee.

I look forward to working with other committee members to consider the matters referred by City Council and formulate recommendations for the Council, and ultimately the voters to consider.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Borunda Firth

# Sylvia Borunda Firth



---

Sylvia Borunda Firth is a solo practitioner with extensive experience in representing governmental entities including compliance with Texas Open Meetings and Open Records laws, drafting local ordinances and state legislation, negotiating and drafting leases, contracts, interlocal agreements, public procurement and finance. Her practice also includes real estate law.

---

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sylvia Borunda Firth, PLLC: October 2018 – present  
Contract Attorney – Bojorquez Law Firm January 2019 - present  
Everman, Texas: Assistant City Attorney October 2018 – present  
Horizon City, Texas – Assistant City Attorney September 2020 – present  
San Elizario, Texas - Assistant City Attorney January 2021 - present  
Town of Clint, Texas – Assistant City Attorney February 2021 -present  
El Paso City Attorney: December 2011 – May 2018  
Chief of Staff to Mayor/Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for City of El Paso:  
2004 – 2010  
Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of El Paso: 2001 – 2004  
General Counsel, American Garment Finishers, Inc: 1991 – 2001  
Assistant City Attorney, City of El Paso: 1989 – 1991  
Associate, Grambling & Mounce Law Firm: 1985 – 1989  
Associate, Law Office of Merton Goldman: 1984 – 1985  
State Bar of Texas: Licensed November 2, 1984, State Bar No. 00000141

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

University of Texas at Austin School of Law: J.D.	1981 – 1984
St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas: B.B.A. (Magna Cum Laude)	1977 – 1981

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- President State Bar of Texas 2021-2022
- Texas City Attorneys Association: President 2019  
Board Member 2009 –2019
- State Bar of Texas  
Government Law Council: 2016 – 2020  
Local Bar Services Committee: Vice Chair 2019  
Board of Directors: 2014 – 2018 (Minority Director, term extended)  
Executive Committee, Budget Committee, Discipline & Client Attorney Assistance Committee, Ad Hoc Committee for Selection of Executive Director, Public Services & Education Committee - Legislative Policy
- Texas Bar Foundation: Sustaining Life Fellow
- El Paso Bar Association: Board of Directors 2017 – 2020  
President's Award for Exemplary Service to the El Paso Bar 2017
- Texas Bar College – multiple years & present member
- Texas Land Title Institute: Associate Member 2018
- El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce - 2019
- Harvard Kennedy School - Urban Policy Impact Forum: 2009 – 2010

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Board of Directors El Paso Community Foundation: 2021 -Present
- Board of Directors Burkitt Foundation: 2021 -Present
- Texas Bar Foundation: Board of Trustees 2018 – June 2019
- Executive Forum: Former Vice President of Programs  
Board of Directors 2016 – 2019
- REALIZE Board Training Program – Volunteer Consultant 2018 – Present
- United Way Vello Program – Online Tutor 2018- 2020
- Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center Volunteer Attorney 2018 - 2020
- Women's Fund of El Paso: Board of Directors 2009 – 2011
- Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande: Board of Directors 2007 – 2009
- El Paso Psychiatric Center: Chair, Board of Directors 1996 – 2001
- El Paso MH/MR: Board of Directors 1991 – 1996
- Texas Association of Business and Chambers of Commerce: Board of Directors 1993 – 1995
- KCOS-TV (Local PBS Station) Board Member: 2008 – 2010
- Loretto Academy: Board of Trustees 1995 – 1998