

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 4, 2024

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee
Paul E. Ridley (Chair), Jaime Resendez, Chad West

SUBJECT **Judicial Nominating Commission Recommendations of Full-time Municipal Judge including the Administrative Judge and Associate Judge Positions**

As you may be aware, the full-time Municipal Judges, including the Administrative Judge and Associate Judges, are appointed every two years through a Judicial recruiting process that is conducted by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC). The process includes reviewing court operations, accepting applications, conducting interviews, and recommending judges to the City Council Ad Hoc Judicial Nominating Committee.

Recently, the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) initiated a review of applicants to appoint judges upon the expiration of the current term. The job position announcements were posted on March 1, 2024, through April 5, 2024, and candidate interviews were held on the following dates:

- April 25, 2024
- April 30, 2024
- May 13, 2024

The JNC, as required by City Ordinance and pursuant to proper notice, convened into executive session and interviewed candidates for the full-time Municipal Judges including the Administrative Judge and Associate Judge positions of the City of Dallas. For your reference, attached you will find a copy of the total list of interviewed candidates and the Judicial Positions Recruitment Process.

Based on interviews, evaluations, and deliberations the JNC has ranked in order of preference and recommends to the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominating Committee **(3)** three candidates for Administrative Judge, **(15)** fifteen candidates for full-time Municipal Judge, and **(23)** twenty-four candidates for Associate Judge.

Administrative Judge Candidates

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nomination Committee may recommend **(1)** one of the following candidates for Administrative Judge.

1. Robinson Jr, Preston
2. Luis Pumarejo
3. Tara Primeaux

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Full-time Municipal Judge Candidates

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nomination Committee may recommend **(10)** ten of the following candidates for full-time Municipal Judge.

1. Jay Robinson
2. Preston Robinson
3. Amar Thakrar
4. Kevin Brooks
5. Cheryl Williams
6. Demetrius Blacklock
7. Michael Acuna
8. Manuel Haddad
9. Amy Gray
10. Tonya Goffney
11. Mark Murrell
12. Kristen Kramer
13. Julie Clancy
14. Marcia Tillman
15. Hyattye Simmons

Associate Judge Candidates

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nomination Committee may recommend **(18)** eighteen of the following candidates for Associate Judge.

1. Amar Thakrar
2. Melodee Armstrong
3. Desmond Cooks
4. Sandra White
5. Manuel Haddad
6. Cadoc Menchu
7. Daniel McDonald
8. Erane Lasusa
9. Stephanie Neal
10. Amy Gray
11. Kevin Brooks
12. Eric McClelland
13. Edward Johnson
14. Luis Pumarejo
15. Darice Shaw
16. John McCall
17. Lana Byrne

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18. Helen Arizor
19. Tifanee Baker
20. Ashlei Gradney
21. Geoffrey Kellar
22. Tara Primeaux
23. James Abel

On Tuesday, June 4, 2024, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominating Committee will review a report from the chair of JNC, Matthew McDougal, and consider a recommendation for City Council to consider on June 12, 2024. The deadline to appoint municipal judges is August 31, 2022. All judge candidates' applications, resumes, and cover letters, were delivered in a binder to your office on Friday, May 17, 2024.

Should you have any questions or need additional information please contact me at (214) 670-3316.



Jon Fortune
Deputy City Manager

c: Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors