

# **DRAFT**

## **Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Meeting Record**

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com). Recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the AdHoc Judicial Nominations Committee Coordinator at 214-670-3246.

**Special Call Meeting:** Monday, August 4, 2014      **Convened:** 3:02 p.m.      **Adjourned:** 3:54 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

Councilmember Scott Griggs, **Chair**  
Councilmember Philip Kingston, **Vice-Chair**  
Councilmember Jerry Allen  
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Monica Alonzo  
Councilmember Vonciel Jones Hill

**Executive Staff Present:**

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Warren Ernst, City Attorney  
Melissa Miles, Executive Assistant City Attorney

**Committee Member Absent:**

Councilmember Dwaine Caraway

**Guest Present:**

J. Reid Porter, President, Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT)

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE AGENDA:**

1. **Call to Order**

**Presenter:** Scott Griggs, Chair

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Committee Chair Griggs called an open session of the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee Meeting to order at 3:02 p.m., Monday, August 4, 2014 at Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla, 6ES, Dallas, TX, 75201. A quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Meeting Record for April 29, 2014 meeting minutes**

**Presenter:** Scott Griggs, Chair

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Motion made by: **Councilmember Hill**

Item passed unanimously:   X  

Item failed unanimously:       

Seconded by: **Councilmember Kingston**

Item passed on a divided vote:       

Item failed on a divided vote:       

3. **Improving Quality of Life through City Attorney's Office and Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT) Collaborative Effort**

**Presenter(s):** J. Reid Porter, President, ACT

Melissa A. Miles, Executive Assistant City Attorney, Chief, Code Compliance Litigation

The City Attorney's Office and Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT) have jointly authored a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaboratively use litigation strategies and community involvement to work to eliminate blighted structures and drug houses from residential neighborhoods.

The mission of ACT:

Advocates for Community Transformation uses the justice system to shut down drug houses while also intentionally caring for the residents who have been hurt by them. We empower residents to take back their communities from the drug dealers and encourage them spiritually throughout the process.

The vision of ACT:

Our vision is for inner-city residents to live in communities free of crime and urban blight. We utilize ACT staff and volunteer attorneys from private law firms to work alongside willing residents to file lawsuits in civil courts to eliminate the nuisance properties.

The committee had the following areas of concern:

- Number of house demolished
- Program expansion
- Guest Litigator Program
- Municipal Court prosecutors
- Revenue
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Partnership with National Guard
- Funding

**Motion made by Councilmember Allen that the proposed code amendment to provide the guest litigator provision move forward to full city council with the recommendation for approval. Councilmember Kingston seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.**

4. **Consideration of Proposed Amendments to City Code Section 13-5.2**

**Presenter(s):** Warren Ernst, City Attorney

**Action Taken/Commission Recommendation(s):**

Mr. Ernst provided the committee with background of a proposed amendment to City Code Section 13-5.2. An ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Dallas City Code to the following:

- Provided that the City Council and the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee of the City Council may consider all applicants interviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission for vacancies in the office of municipal judge; and
- Update the name of the committee responsible for reviewing and making judicial nomination recommendations to City Council

**Motion made by Councilmember Hill that the proposed amendment to the ordinance move forward to full city council with the recommendation for approval. Councilmember Kingston seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.**

5. **Discuss Recommendations of Candidates for Appointment as Associate Municipal Judge**

**Presenter:** Scott Griggs, Chair

**Action Taken/Commission Recommendation(s):**

The Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee went to Closed Executive Session at 3:44 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2014 pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, to discuss the recommendations of candidates for appointment as associate municipal judge.

**Action Taken/Commission Recommendation(s):**

Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee reconvened at 3:52 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2014 to open session.

**In addition to the 13 individuals that were recommended for appointment as Associate Municipal Judge on April 29, 2014 by the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee, by motion of Councilmember Hill and seconded by Councilmember Kingston, an additional 14 individuals were recommended, subject to approval by the city council of the recommended amendment to City Code Section 13-5.2.**

The consolidated list of the 27 the Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee recommended for **Associate Municipal Judge** are listed below:

- Cadoc Tim A. Menchu
- E.A. (Elizabeth) Srere
- Carl Hays
- Kristine S. Primrose
- Roland C. Anderson
- Daniel E. McDonald, Jr.
- Esther A. Grossman
- Timoteo F. Gonzalez
- Aura L. Pleitez
- Tonya L. Goffney
- Marilyn Y. Davis
- Tony L. Martin
- Michelle Buendia
- Frieda J. Fiske
- William Marple
- Nina Bujosa
- Melodee Armstrong
- John McCall
- Shereen R. Eldomeiri
- Thaddeus Iwuji
- Christina Jump
- Winifred E. Cannon
- Samuel Hawk
- Roland Monteros
- J. Oliver Lee, Jr.
- Bridgett Whitmore
- James C. Beggs

The August 4, 2014 Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

**APPROVED BY:**

**ATTEST:**

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Scott Griggs, Chair  
Ad Hoc Judicial Nominations Committee

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Shun Session, Coordinator  
AdHoc Judicial Nominations Committee