



CITY OF DALLAS

**Memorandum**

DATE April 4, 2014  
TO The Honorable Chair and Members of the Charter Review Commission  
SUBJECT Chapter VIII Section 4A  
Removal of Municipal Judges

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As requested at the April 1, 2014 meeting, following are suggested amendments to the provisions for removal of municipal judges.

1. The suggestions are:
  - a. Clarify that a municipal judge automatically resigns if the judge announces that he is a candidate for an elected office.
  - b. Add a cross-reference to III §17.
  - c. Revise the procedures for removal of municipal judges.

2. The current language is:

**“SEC. 4A. REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL JUDGES.**

A full-time or associate municipal judge may be removed from office by a majority vote of all members of the city council if the council determines, after a hearing before the council, that the municipal judge failed to comply with, or maintain compliance with:

(1) any residency requirements for municipal judges established by city council ordinance; or

(2) any other qualifications or requirements for municipal judges established by city ordinance, state or federal law, or other applicable law.”

3. The proposed language is:

**“SEC. 4A. REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL JUDGES.**

A full-time or associate municipal judge may be removed from office by a majority vote of all members of the city council if the council determines, after a hearing before the council, that the municipal judge [~~failed to comply with, or maintain compliance with~~]:

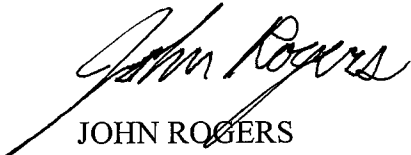
(1) does not meet any residency requirements for municipal judges established by city council ordinance; [ø]

(2) does not meet any other qualifications or requirements for municipal judges established by city ordinance, state or federal law, or other applicable law; or

(3) becomes a candidate for nomination or election to any public office (see Section 17 of Chapter III of this Charter).”

4. The explanation of the amendment is:

a. The new Paragraph (3) mirrors the proposed amendment to Chapter III §17 and clarifies that municipal judges must resign if they run of another office.

  
JOHN ROGERS  
Assistant City Attorney