

**CITY OF SURPRISE**  
**JUDICIAL SELECTION ADVISORY COMMISSION (JSAC) MINUTES**

16000 N. Civic Center Plaza

Surprise, AZ 85374

Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- A. Call to Order at 6:01 p.m.
- B. Roll Call - Members present: Chair Swann, Vice-Chair Lang, Commissioners Carey, Gaunt, Hanzel, Jessen, and Stutzman.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Current Events and Reports – None
- E. Staff Reports – Commissioner Gaunt is not seeking re-appointment and Commissioner Hanzel’s term expires at the end of June. City Clerk is reaching out to coordinate processes to ensure the Commission is fully staffed.
- F. Judicial Selection Advisory Commission Agenda

Call to the Public: No comments from public.

Consent Agenda:

- 1. Consideration and action pertaining to the approval of the January 14, 2021 Judicial Selection Advisory Commission meeting minutes – APPROVED

Motion: Stutzman

2<sup>nd</sup>: Hanzel

Votes: 7 Yes Votes

Regular Agenda – Public Hearing:

- 2. Discussion and action pertaining to the recommendation to Surprise City Council for the reappointment of Presiding Judge Louis Frank Dominguez – RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT

Public Comment – Elena Cano, Court Administrator - In support of the reappointment of Judge Dominguez and Judge Gaudreau

Public Comment – Statia Hendrix – Associate Judge at the City of Scottsdale - In support of the reappointment of Associate Judge Gaudreau

Public Comment – Presiding Judge Louis Frank Dominguez – In support of the reappointment of Associate Judge Gaudreau

Motion to go into executive session at 6:20pm

Motion: Lang

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessen

Resume public meeting at 7:36pm

Commissioner Jessen – questions about what the council needs and will receive

Commission Carey – appreciate the detail of the information provided in the reappointment packets as it was helpful in understanding what the court does and how the court does it.

Motion: Jessen

2<sup>nd</sup>: Stutzman

Votes: 7 Yes Votes

3. Discussion and action pertaining to the recommendation to Surprise City Council for the reappointment of Associate Judge Catherine Anne Gaudreau –  
**RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT**

Judge Gaudreau –indebted to Judge Dominguez for his initial recommendation of her initial appointment and his support of her tenure and thanked the commission for considering her reappointment.

Commissioner Gaunt – Judge Gaudreau provided significant information regarding any negative reports included in the packet and is convinced Judge Gaudreau has done a fantastic job as Associate Judge and has no concerns in regards to the items.

Chair Swann – shared the view.

Commissioner Stutzman – reiterated that the packets were outstanding and speaks to their commitment to the community, the time invested in requesting the reappointment, the passion for the community and their work, and for the work inside the courtroom and outstanding work outside of the courtroom. We are lucky to have you both.

Motion: Carey

2<sup>nd</sup>: Gaunt

Votes: 7 Yes Votes

Regular Agenda – Non-Public Hearing:

4. Discussion and review of the Judicial Selection Advisory Commission Procedural Rules.

No requests for amendments or pending issues.

G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items – NONE

H. Executive Session

Consideration and action to enter into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of evaluating, in accordance with Surprise City Code Sec. 30-44(c), Presiding Judge Louis Frank Dominguez.

Consideration and action to enter into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of evaluating, in accordance with Surprise City Code Sec. 30-44(c), Associate Judge Catherine Anne Gaudreau.

Motion: Lang  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Carey  
Votes: 7 Yes Votes

Discussion ensued during executive session which took place from 6:36 p.m. – 7:32 p.m. The delay was in waiting for legal counsel to attend by phone.

A. Adjournment

M: Stutzman  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Hanzel

Chair adjourned meeting at 7:49pm.

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Peter Swann, JSAC Chair

ATTEST:

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Maria Aranda, JSAC Secretary

CERTIFICATION:

I, Maria Aranda, Secretary for the Judicial Selection Advisory Commission of the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Judicial Selection Advisory Commission Meeting of April 22, 2021.

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Maria Aranda, JSAC Secretary

DRAFT