

AGENDA ITEM #: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: April 22, 2019

CAR #: 2019-6632



## CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Pro Tem Judge Appointment

**STAFF PRESENTER(S):** Hon. Mayra Galindo, Presiding Judge

**OTHER PRESENTER(S):** None.

**Summary:** Appoint Judges Michelle O’Hair-Schattenberg, Kevin Breger, Cheryl A. Brown, and Craig V. Ring as Judges Pro Tempore of the Goodyear Municipal Court, for Fiscal Year 2020.

### **Recommendation:**

Pursuant to the Employment Agreement of the Presiding Judge and the City of Goodyear, the Presiding Judge will recommend a list of qualified individuals to serve as Judge Pro Tem in the Goodyear Municipal Court. During the annual budget process, the Goodyear City Council may appoint Judges Pro Tem from the list to substitute for the Presiding Judge during periods of authorized absence. The Judge may also secure the services of a Judge Pro Tem from the approved list to preside over conflict cases or as reasonably necessary to address court dockets in a timely manner, thus achieving access to justice at all times within the Goodyear Municipal Court. The following individuals were recommended to the City Council in January 2019, and formal appointment of individuals is requested at this time.

#### *Recommendation A:*

Michelle K. O’Hair-Schattenberg

#### Professional Experience

January 2009 – Present: Pro Tem Judge

January 1995 – January 2009: Judge, Tempe Municipal Court

March 1987 – December 1994: Deputy County Attorney, Maricopa County Attorney’s Office

September 1985 – March 1987: Assistant City Prosecutor, Mesa City Prosecutor’s Office

November 1984 – September 1985: Deputy County Attorney, Maricopa County Attorney’s Office

September 1981 – November 1984: Deputy County Attorney, Navajo County Attorney’s Office

#### *Recommendation B:*

Kevin Breger

#### Professional Experience

2.5 years: Maricopa County Attorney’s Office

15 years: private law practice

*Recommendation C:*

Cheryl A. Brown

Professional Experience

January 2012 – current: Pro Tem, Maricopa County Justice Courts

July 2003 – December 2014: Attorney, Cheryl A. Brown LLC

January 2001 – December 2003: Managing Partner, Swenson Brown PLLC

*Recommendation D:*

Craig V. Ring

Professional Experience

2005 – Present: Presiding Judge, Litchfield Park Magistrate Court

2006 – Present: Judge Pro Tem: City of Goodyear Municipal Court

1996 – Present: Judge Pro Tem, City of Glendale Municipal Court

2013 – Present: Judge Pro Tem, City of Buckeye Municipal Court

2004 – Present: Judge Pro Tem, City of Avondale Municipal Court

1992 – 1996: Assistant City Prosecutor, City of Scottsdale

1985 – 1989: City Prosecutor, City of Upper Arlington, Ohio

1981 – Staff Assistant to the Minority Council, Committee on Energy & Commerce, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington D.C.

**Fiscal Impact:** Funding to support the use of Pro Tem Judges is currently maintained in the Court General Administrative Budget – Part Time funding – in the requested amount of .3 FTE, or \$33,800 for Fiscal Year 2020. There is no requested change to this personnel budget from the FY19 budget.

## **Background and Previous Actions**

Historically, Pro Tem appointments have been handled directly by the Presiding Judge of the Court, however the approval process now falls to the City Council, with the recommendations from the Presiding Judge taken into consideration.

## **Staff Analysis**

Pro Tem Judges allow the Court to provide timely and effective Court services to the public. Having additional skilled Judges available to the Court greatly enhances the Court's ability to process cases, meet mandated time standards, address the growing caseload in the Goodyear Municipal Court, and allows the Presiding Judge to have adequate time away from the Court to attend necessary meetings and maintain professional development and training needs.

## **Attachments**

None.