



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: June 2, 2025

LEGISTAR ITEM #: Res 2025-066

SUBMITTED BY: Maya Kiesnowski

DEPARTMENT: Municipal Court

☐ Ordinance	☒ Resolution	☐ Presentation
☐ Admin Business	☐ Public Hearing	☐ Other

REQUEST

Approve Johnny Barajas as an additional Relief Judge for Commerce City Municipal Court who may cover in the absence of the Presiding Judge.

BACKGROUND

The Commerce City Municipal Court would like to add an additional Relief Judge. City Council has the authority to appoint a Relief Judge through Resolution. A Relief Judge can perform the same duties as the Presiding Judge in the event the Presiding Judge is unavailable. The appointment of an additional Relief Judge will give the Municipal Court greater flexibility in operations. Without Relief Judges, the Municipal Court cannot function in the absence of the Presiding Judge.

This resolution authorizes the appointment of Johnny Barajas as a Relief Judge for Commerce City Municipal Court. The pay for a Relief Judge is set as \$100 per hour. The appointment will remain in effect until the Presiding Judge resigns, the appointed Relief Judge resigns, or the appointments are revoked by City Council.

Johnny Barajas has prior experience as a Judge in the region. He is currently the Brighton Municipal Court Presiding Judge, is a retired Denver County Court Judge, and a former Adams County Magistrate. He resides within Adams County.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Contractor	N/A
Amount of Request/Contract	\$N/A

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

Amount Not To Exceed	\$N/A
Amount Budgeted	\$N/A
Budget Year	FYN/A
Funding Source	General Fund-Municipal Court Division
Additional Funds Needed	\$N/A
Funding Source (if funds needed)	10-10-211-601

PROJECT TIMELINE

Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date
N/A	N/A
Years and Months of Contract	Number of Times Renewable
N/A	N/A

JUSTIFICATION

☐ Council Goal	☐ Strategic Plan	☐ Work Plan	☒ Legal
Citation	Commerce City Charter Section 8.4 (c)		

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ASSIGNED

Board or Commission	N/A
Recommendation	N/A
Date of Recommendation	N/A

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

AVAILABLE ACTIONS

• Approve as submitted. • Continue for further research to be done. • Maintain status quo which may result in a reduction in Municipal Court sessions due to lack of Judge coverage.
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve Johnny Barajas as a Relief Judge for Commerce City Municipal Court.
