

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

16000 N. Civic Center Plaza

Surprise, AZ 85374

Wednesday, January 15, at 6:00 p.m.

A. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order by Chair Carey at 6:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call – members present: Chair Carey, Vice-Chair Furuya (6:09 p.m.);  
Commissioners Lang, Jessen, Stutzman, and Valles

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Current Events and Reports – Chair Carey announced the passing of Commissioner Hanzel on October 21, 2024, and that there is a vacancy on the board. Staff announced the vacancy has been posted on the City of Surprise website by the City Clerk’s office and that the term expires June 30, 2025.

E. Staff Reports – None.

F. Judicial Selection Advisory Commission Agenda

Call to the Public: No comments from public.

Consent Agenda:

Regular Agenda Item: Non-Public Hearing

1. Consideration and action pertaining to the approval of the May 15, 2024, Judicial Selection Advisory Commission meeting minutes. – APPROVED

Motion: Jessen

2<sup>nd</sup>: Valles

Votes: 6 Yes Votes; 0 No.

2. Consideration and action pertaining to the review of the Judicial Selection Advisory Commission Procedural Rules.

Chair Carey provided a brief overview of the yearly requirement for the commission to have at least one meeting per year to review operating procedures under Chapter 30. – No Discussion

3. Discussion and review of the reappointment process and timeline for Presiding Judge Louis Frank Dominguez.

The commission discussed the reappointment process and timeline, and the fact that it would be the same for Judge Dominguez and Associate Judge Gaudreau.

Motion: Chair Carey

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessen

Votes: 6Yes; 0 No

4. Discussion and review of the reappointment process and timeline for Associate Judge Catherine Ann Gaudreau.

The commission discussed the reappointment and timeline, and the fact that it would be the same for Judge Dominguez and Associate Judge Gaudreau.

5. Discussion and possible action scheduling a future public input meeting and directing city staff to conduct a judicial performance survey of the current Presiding Judge, including inquiring on pending and past disciplinary actions and soliciting information on administrative performance from the Surprise City Court.

APPROVED

Chair Carey sought feedback regarding the last time surveys were sent out during the reappointment process. Associate Judge Catherine Gaudreau raised concerns regarding having enough time to capture a diverse response for her surveys due to her court schedule. It was decided that judicial performance surveys will capture court interactions with judges between January 10, 2025, through February 21, 2025. March 26, 2025, was agreed upon as the date for a Public Input and Judicial Performance Review Meeting of the incumbent judge.

Motion: Carey

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessen

Votes: 6 Yes; 0 No

6. Discussion and possible action scheduling a future public input meeting and directing city staff to conduct a judicial performance survey of the current Associate Judge, including inquiring on pending and past disciplinary actions and soliciting information on administrative performance from the Surprise City Court.

APPROVED

It was decided that judicial performance surveys will capture court interactions with judges between January 10, 2025, through February 21, 2025. March 26, 2025, was agreed upon as the date for a Public Input and Judicial Performance Review Meeting of the incumbent judge.

Motion: Carey

2<sup>nd</sup>: Stutzman

Votes: 6 Yes; 0 No

G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items - None

H. Adjournment --

Chair Carey commented that there is no other business to discuss and made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lang seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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Flynn Carey, JSAC Chair

ATTEST:

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Rhesha Craigen, JSAC Secretary

CERTIFICATION:

I, Rhesha Craigen, 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 January 15, 2025.

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Rhesha Craigen, JSAC Secretary