

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION (RCA)

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office
AGENDA DATE: February 6, 2007
CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Charlie McNabb, City Attorney
DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? **OR AUTHORIZE** the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$amount if applicable.

APPROVE the appointment of Marie A. Taylor as Assistant City Attorney effective February 19, 2007 at an annual salary of \$77,000.00 plus benefits.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when and how to enable Council to have reasonable complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action?

Ms. Taylor is a graduate of Princeton University and obtained her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Harvard Law School in 2002. She was licensed to practice in Texas in 2002 and is currently the staff attorney for Chief Justice David Wellington Chew at the Eighth Court of Appeals where she has obtained quality experience beneficial to the Office of the City Attorney. She will be assigned to handle transactional matters in the City Attorney's Office.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one? If so, when? No

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

This is a budgeted item.

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A

*******REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*******

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____
Charlie McNabb, City Attorney

OTHER:

(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____ **DATE:** _____

Marie A. Taylor

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 2002

Activities: Public Interest Auction, Committee Co-Chair

Black Law Students Association

Harvard Environmental Law Review, Article Editor, Student Notes Editor

Princeton University, M.A. in History, 1996

Specialization in United States history (19th and 20th centuries), U.S. Civil Rights Movement, African-American history and Colonial Latin American history

Connecticut College, B.A. in History, 1994

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, *summa cum laude* with honors and distinction in major

EXPERIENCE

Eighth District Court of Appeals, State of Texas

September 2002-Present

El Paso, Texas

Law Clerk (2002-2003)

Staff Attorney to Chief Justice David Wellington Chew (2003- present)

Under general supervision of the chief justice, provide assistance to the court in all aspects of appellate court practice, including: performing extensive legal research, writing, and analysis of laws, regulations, statutes, judicial decisions, and other legal sources; preparing legal memoranda, proposed orders and opinions in civil and criminal appeals and/or original proceedings; providing legal advice and counsel to court justices; participating in oral presentations to the court in conference; and performing related administrative duties.

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid

January 2002

El Paso, Texas

Legal Externship, Migrant Farm Worker Division

Assisted with legal representation of migrant farm workers on employment-related issues, which included: employer violations of federal labor laws, breach of employment contracts, and substandard housing and workplace conditions. Investigated legal claims, developed case strategies, and drafted case-related legal documents, demand letters, and court pleadings.

Goodwin Procter LLP

May-August 2001

Boston, MA

Summer Associate

Assisted in legal representation of the firm's clients for the Real Estate and Environmental Law Departments. Advised a national natural resources non-profit organization on issues related to charitable donations. Drafted construction agreements for large-scale urban redevelopment and university renovation projects. Investigated innovative uses of eminent domain to preserve low-income affordable housing in Boston, MA.

HALE AND DORR LEGAL SERVICES CENTER

January-May 2001

Boston, MA

Student Attorney, Community Enterprise Project

Provided direct representation to low and moderate income clients on bankruptcy, foreclosure prevention, affordable housing, community development, and non-profit organization law. Interviewed and represented a first-time homebuyer in negotiations with seller, residential property broker, and bank loan officers. Drafted a purchase and sale agreement, a Chapter 13 bankruptcy plan, and legal correspondence. Revised the bylaws and articles of incorporations for a non-profit Asian American AIDS organization in Boston, MA.

Goulston & Storrs, P.C.

May-August 2000

Boston, MA

Summer Associate

Assisted in legal representation of the firm's clients for the Real Estate and Affordable Housing Practice Groups. Drafted loan agreement documents for a large-scale commercial development. Analyzed federal environmental regulations on building construction materials. Researched environmental regulations on permissible arsenic levels in water systems and hazard removal. Provided firm clients with information on Boston zoning laws for a redevelopment project and statutory laws on exclusive easements. Reviewed exclusive rights provisions in lease agreements for a major shopping mall complex.

National Center on Family Homelessness

March 1997- July 1999

Newton, MA

Policy Analyst

Conducted research on federal and state social policies affecting homeless and low-income families, including: affordable housing, social welfare reform, and health care. Drafted policy fact sheets on poverty and welfare reform. Wrote progress reports for a national project on homeless children in the United States and assisted in writing grant proposals and budgets. Assisted in coordination of a three-site community organizing project.

PUBLICATIONS

"A Review of the Eighth District Court of Appeals' Recent Decisions in Criminal Law" for presentation by Justice David Wellington Chew at the 12th Annual El Paso Criminal Law Seminar, Ruidoso, NM, November 5-6, 2004.

"Immigration Enforcement Post September 11: Safeguarding the Civil Rights of Middle Eastern-American and Immigrant Communities," 17 GEO. IMMIG. LAW J. 60 (2002).

AWARDS

Oak of Justice Award, Diocese of El Paso, 2006

BAR

Admitted to Texas State Bar, 2002

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center, El Paso, Texas

President, Board of Directors (June 2003-April 2006)

El Paso Bar Association, Member

El Paso Women's Bar Association, Member

El Paso Young Lawyers Association, Member

Mexican-American Bar Association of El Paso, Member

MOTION

February 6, 2007

Motion made, seconded and carried that **Marie A. Taylor** be appointed by the Mayor with a majority vote of the entire Council as Assistant City Attorney effective February 19, 2007 at a salary of \$77,000.00 per annum plus benefits.

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk