

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

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office
AGENDA DATE: August 5, 2008
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 **Luz E. Sandoval Walker** as Assistant City Attorney effective August 11, 2008 at an annual salary of \$70,000.00 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. Walker is a former Assistant City Attorney and currently a solo practitioner since January 2005. She will be assigned to the City Prosecutor'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:** _____

MOTION

August 5, 2008

Motion made, seconded and carried that **Luz E. Sandoval Walker** be appointed by the Mayor with a majority vote of the entire Council as Assistant City Attorney effective August 11, 2008 at a salary of \$70,000.00 per annum plus benefits.

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

Luz E. Sandoval Walker

EXPERIENCE:

January 2005
to Present

SOLO PRACTITIONER. Law Office of Luz E. Sandoval Walker,
1013 Montana Ave., El Paso, Texas (915) 542-1877.

I practice in the areas of family law, criminal law and probate. I represent clients in criminal cases in arraignment, pre-trial hearings; discuss plea bargains with the District Attorney's Office; handle bench and jury trials in misdemeanor and felony cases. I represent clients in federal court in pleas and sentencing hearings; prepare objections to pre-sentencing reports. I handle divorces, paternity suits, contested custody cases and child support hearings. I prepare wills; file petitions for declaration of heirship and handle other probate matters.

June 2002
to January 2005

CITY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, 810 E. Overland, El Paso, Texas
(915) 546-2989

I prosecuted traffic violations and violations of city ordinances;. Reviewed complaints from private citizens and City of El Paso employees regarding violations of city ordinances and made determinations whether to bring about a legal action; reviewed and prepared responses to motions filed by defense attorneys and pro se defendants; handled bench and jury trials; prepared appeal briefs; handled requests under the Open Records Act from citizens and organizations; drafted and reviewed ordinances, resolutions and inter-local agreements; prepared and reviewed contracts between various entities and the police department; advised the police department on various issues pertaining to employment, policies and procedures, and various other legal issues.

**February 1999
to June 2002**

**SOLO PRACTITIONER. Law Office of Luz E. Sandoval Walker,
1013 Montana Ave., El Paso, Texas (915) 532-4077.**

My practice was the same as described previously.

**April 1998 to
February 1999**

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 501,
El Paso, Texas 79901, (915) 546-2000, Protective Orders
Unit, Assistant County Attorney**

I was assigned to the Protective Orders Unit. I was responsible for prosecuting family violence cases; handled bench trials before Associate Judges; handled appeals, which consisted of hearings de novo. I was assigned to the Child Protective Services Unit. Handled child abuse and child neglect cases; filed emergency petitions to get children out of abusive homes; attended review hearings wherein the judge reviewed the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services' efforts to bring about family reunification; filed termination of parental rights petitions; handled both bench and jury trials in termination hearings.

**June 1994 to
April 1998**

**ZAVALETA & REYES LEGAL CLINIC, 615 E. Schuster,
Bldg. 1, El Paso, TX (915) 532-4417, Associate**

I represented Claimants in Benefit Review Conferences and Contested Case Hearings before the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission; prepared cases for hearings by meeting with Claimants, witnesses, requesting subpoenas and sending out discovery; wrote appellate briefs and filed responses to Appellants' briefs. I handled criminal appointments; represented clients in bond reductions; filed appropriate motions such as motion for discovery and motions in limine; handled jury trials in misdemeanor and felony cases.

**May 1993 to
May 1994**

**CARUSO LAW OFFICE, 6050 Gateway East, Suite 500
El Paso, TX, Managing Attorney**

My practice focused on personal injury law. I managed the El Paso office with the main office located in Albuquerque, New Mexico; negotiated settlements with insurance carriers; filed pleadings, prepared discovery, attended depositions and prepared cases for trial.

September 1990
to July 1992

**EL PASO LEGAL ASSISTANCE, 1220 N. Stanton, El Paso, Texas
(915) 544-3022, Staff Attorney**

I represented clients in divorces, adoptions, suits affecting the parent-child relationship, real estate matters, consumer law, landlord/tenant law, probate, and immigration matters. I represented clients before the Justice of the Peace courts in eviction cases; represented clients living in federal housing in for breach of contract cases. I prepared wills; represented clients in declarations of heirship and other probate matters.

EDUCATION:

J.D., Washburn Univ. of Topeka, School of Law, 1988