

DATE: 11-23-2009

TO: City Clerk

FROM: Mayor John F. Cook

ADDRESS 2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, Texas 79901 TELEPHONE 915-541-4145

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT X REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda for the Council Meeting of December 1, 2009

Item should read as follows: Appointment of J. Brandy Gardes to the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee by Mayor John F. Cook.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM**

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

NOMINATED BY: Mayor John F. Cook DISTRICT: Mayor

NAME OF APPOINTEE J. Brandy Gardes  
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

BUSINESS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: Vinton ST: TX ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO HAVE HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IT BECAME VACANT?  
NAME OF INCUMBENT: New Committee

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: \_\_\_\_\_

REASON PERSON IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE (CHECK ONE): TERM EXPIRED: \_\_\_\_\_  
RESIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
REMOVED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 12/01/2009

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 02/01/2011

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1<sup>st</sup> TERM: X  
2<sup>nd</sup> TERM: \_\_\_\_\_  
UNEXPIRED TERM: \_\_\_\_\_

**J. BRANDY GARDES**

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**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**LEGAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas, El Paso, Texas**

**July 26, 1995 to present**

- Assistant United States Attorney. Personal responsibility for all phases of felony and misdemeanor criminal cases, including investigative procedures, grand jury presentations, plea negotiations, law and motion practice, trial and appeals. Cases include investigations organized foreign smuggling organizations responsible for the illegal entry of hundreds of undocumented aliens into the United States, including members of suspected terrorist organizations; human trafficking white slavery and peonage cases; sex crimes and violent crime prosecutions.
  
- **Awards**
  - Commendation from United States Treasury, U.S. Customs Service, for work in uncovering corruption along the Southwest Border (1996)
  - Commendation from United States Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security for prosecution of passport fraud cases (1996)
  - Commendation from the United States Immigration & Naturalization Service for continuing support of law enforcement efforts and undercover investigations (1997).
  - Commendation from Federal Bureau of Investigation for prosecution of bank fraud cases (1997)
  - Commendation from United States Border Patrol for work in the formation of a Strike Force Initiative to uncover foreign assets of smugglers and traffickers (1998)
  - Victim Assistance Award for assistance and dedication to the victims of violent crime (Silent Crime Investigation) (1999)
  - Commendation from the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, for outstanding contributions in the area of law enforcement and criminal investigations (Silent Crime Investigation) (1998).
  - Commendation from the United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas for handling over 100 felony cases in each year: 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001
  - James H. DeAtley Award for An Exceptionally Complex Difficult or Significant Trial (Gasnov Investigation and Trial) 2002
  - James H. DeAtley Award for An Exceptionally Complex Difficult or Significant Trial (Ennis wire tap trial) 2003-04
  - Commendation from Federal Bureau of Investigation for outstanding contributions in the area of human trafficking and civil rights enforcement (Gasnov investigation and trial) 2002
  - Commendation from the United States Marshals Service for setting policies for and the prosecution of sexual offender registration violators

**Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Fraud Section, Washington, D.C.**  
Trial Attorney, April 1991 to 1995

- Lead counsel in criminal trials relating to Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) and First American Bank of Georgia resulting in convictions for tax fraud, immigration fraud, and conspiracy; Handled investigations and cases against BCCI principals in District of Columbia; Atlanta, Georgia; and Los Angeles, California
- Responsibility for securing conditional forfeiture order against fugitive defendant and criminal plea to racketeering conspiracy, including agreement to forfeit approximately \$550 million; Gathered foreign evidence and witnesses in connection with BCCI investigation, including liaison with foreign law enforcement agencies and governments; Prepared extradition proceedings against fugitives to stand charges in the U.S.
- Provided investigative and prosecutorial guidance, legal advice and assistance to field offices in complex financial and banking cases, and criminal immigration fraud matters
- **Awards**
  - Commendation from Attorney General William Barr for outstanding contributions to complex criminal prosecutions (BCCI Investigations and trials)(1991)
  - Special Achievement Award (1992)
  - Meritorious Award (1993)
  - Commendation from Immigration and Naturalization Service for contributions to law enforcement efforts (1994)

**United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria, Virginia**  
Special Assistant United States Attorney, August 1990 - April 1991

- Lead counsel in fraud trial of attorney resulting in convictions on 64 diverse counts; Successfully argued appeal resulting in expansion of both the definition of harboring under 18 U.S.C. § 1324 and search & seizure law relating to law firms
- Personal responsibility for all phases of various narcotics and general crime cases, including investigative procedures, grand jury presentations, plea negotiations, law and motion practice, jury trials and appeals. Cases included heroin importation, embezzlement from government agencies, violent crime and major fraud cases.
- **Awards**
  - Commendation from Immigration and Naturalization Service for contributions to law enforcement efforts (1990)

**United States District Court for the Central District of California, Los Angeles, California**  
Law Clerk to the Honorable Charles F. Eick 1989-1990

- Research and advise on issues pending before the Court in criminal and civil matters; drafting of Memoranda and Opinions in civil rights cases, Reports and Recommendations in habeas corpus proceedings, and Opinions in designated cases

**Office of the District Attorney, Victim/Witness Division, San Luis Obispo, California:**

- Responsible for interviews with and court support for battered women, molest and rape victims. Advised on pro per dissolutions.
  - **Awards**
    - Commendation from District Attorney for meritorious service to community and law enforcement

**LEGAL EDUCATION**

**Western State University, College of Law, San Diego, California**

- Juris Doctor, *Summa Cum Laude - Valedictorian*, May 1989
- Bachelor of Science in Laws, December 1988
- Law Review, Criminal Justice Journal
  - Editorial Board Member
  - Published: Comment, *Terrorists on Trial: The Legal Dilemmas*  
Note, *Exercising Jurisdiction Over International Terrorists*
- National Dean's List 1987, 1988, 1989
- Research Assistant, Professor William S. Slomanson

**University of San Diego, School of Law, Institute on International and Comparative Law, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland**

- Diploma, 1987 [International Criminal Justice - focus international terrorism]

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**1972 - 1976 – Volunteer - Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (England)**

- Shelter Inspections – working with animal shelters to improve conditions
- Pet Care – working with persons in the community to better care for their pets
- Rehabilitation – working to rehabilitate injured and abused animals

**1976 - 1989 – Volunteer – Various Animal Shelters and Rescue Organizations (California)**

- Volunteer Adoption Coordinator; Shelter Vet Tech
- EARS (Emergency Animal Response Services) Certification as Triage Veterinary Technician and Disaster Response Team
- Worked to draft and pass legislation known as the “Doggie Seat Belt Law”
- Various committees to set policies and procedures for rescues and shelters

**1990 - 1995 – Homeless Animal Response Team (HART) (Northern Virginia)**

- Volunteer Adoption Counselor, Foster Home
- Emergency Care Coordinator
- Board Member

**1996 - 2004 – Animal Rescue League of El Paso**

- Rehabilitation foster home
- Board Member 1998-2004
- President 2000-2002
- Representative on the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

#### **2004 - Present – From the Heart Rescue (El Paso, Austin & Phoenix)**

- Founding member and Director
- Instituted policies and procedures in the following areas:
  - Rehabilitation Program
  - Orphan Animal Program
  - Adoptions & Placements
  - Crisis Response
- Founder – El Paso Shelter & Animal Rescue Coalition (EP-Share)
- Member Texas Animal Shelter Coalition
- Member Arizona Coalition of Animal Rescues

#### **2007-Present – New Hope Alliance (El Paso)**

- Founding member and board member
- Negotiation, drafting and implementation of Memorandum of Understanding between New Hope Alliance (NHA) and the City of El Paso Department of Health for the institution of a new adoption program and rescue program at the municipal shelter
- Drafting and implementation of policies and procedures for the adoption program and rescue program

#### **Awards for Community Service**

- 1994 – Commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel (*Commonwealth of Kentucky - Brereton C. Jones, Governor*) for work with shelters to end euthanasia by gassing or drowning
- 1997 Spirit of Excellence (*KTSM-TV*) for work with orphaned and injured animals
- 1998 Spirit of Excellence (*KTSM-TV*) for work with orphaned, abused and injured animals
- 1999 Community Service Award (*Candlelighters Foundation for Children with Cancer*) for Puppy Love Program
- 2002 Compassionate Women in Business Award (*El Paso Humane Society*) for drafting and working to pass the felony animal cruelty law in the State of Texas
- 2002 Special Recognition Award (*El Paso Veterinary Medicine Association*) for drafting and working to pass the felony animal cruelty law in the States of Texas
- 2002 – Recognition for the Fight Against Animal Abuse (*ASPCA*)
- 2003 – Hero of the Pass Award (Animal Rescue Category), (*American Red Cross*) for the creation of the Canine Blood Bank in El Paso
- 2006 – Hero of the Pass (Animal Rescue Category) (*American Red Cross*) for volunteer work done in New Orleans on behalf of the animals left behind after Hurricane Katrina
- Doing More For Pets National Special Recognition Award 2007

#### **Other**

- Witness in several animal abuse and hoarding cases
- Speaker at conferences on coalition building, sheltering issues and link between domestic violence and animal abuse