



SURPRISE CITY COURT

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council, City of Surprise

Cc: Bob Wingenroth, City Manager
Robert Wingo, City Attorney
Mark Schott, Human Resources Director

From: *LFD* Louis Frank Dominguez, Presiding Judge, Surprise City Court

Date: November 9, 2016

Re: Recommendation for Associate Judge

Pursuant to Surprise City Code Section 30-45, I recommend that Catherine A. Gaudreau be appointed by the City Council as a Full-Time Associate Judge for the Surprise City Court.

Selection Process:

On August 8, 2016 the Associate Judge vacancy was posted and advertised in accordance with the requirements of Surprise City Code Section 30-44. Applications were due by September 9, 2016 and sixteen applications were received.

The Judicial Selection Advisory Commission (JSAC) met on September 22, 2016, discussed the sixteen applicants and selected five to be interviewed. A Press Release was issued on October 17, 2016 with the names of the five applicants and dates and times of the interviews. In addition, the JSAC meeting agendas for November 1st and 3rd of 2016 were posted.

On November 1, 2016 the JSAC interviewed Charles Adornetto and Nicole Farnum. On November 3, 2016, the JSAC interviewed Catherine Gaudreau, Daniel Hernacki, and Anita Simons. In accord with Section 30-45 of the Surprise City Code, the JSAC recommended Nicole Farnum, Catherine Gaudreau and Anita Simons to me for consideration.

On November 7, 2016, I interviewed the three candidates.

Catherine A. Gaudreau

Catherine A. Gaudreau has served as an Assistant City Prosecutor with the City of Scottsdale since 2006 and was an Assistant District Attorney with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office from 1991 to 2002. She also has past experience as an Associate in California and Florida. Ms. Gaudreau holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Florida International University.

Ms. Gaudreau has substantial legal experience in the civil and criminal practice of law. Her experience in civil practice includes general commercial litigation and appellate practice, securities litigation defense, product liability, and employment discrimination defense.

Ms. Gaudreau also has extensive legal experience in a municipal court practice. She is well versed on the law, the rules of criminal procedure and evidence, and courtroom protocol. In her criminal practice, she has handled substantive motions and appeals, mental health and competency proceedings, and conducted numerous criminal bench trials and jury trials.

Ms. Gaudreau has developed an outstanding reputation in the legal community for her integrity, legal knowledge, and ability to treat all professionally and with respect. She has a demonstrated ability to handle difficult individuals and situations in an appropriate manner. Ms. Gaudreau has an excellent demeanor and temperament which will serve her well as a judge.

As the Associate Judge for the Surprise City Court, Catherine A. Gaudreau will serve with integrity, provide litigants with an opportunity to be heard, and timely render impartial, fair, and just decisions.

Therefore, I recommend that Catherine A. Gaudreau be appointed as a Full-Time Associate Judge for the Surprise City Court.