

Council Business Meeting

August 20, 2019

Agenda Item	Mayoral Appointment of James Wickre and Laurence Parker as Ashland Municipal Court Judge Pro tempore	
From	John Stromberg	Mayor
Contact	john@ashland.or.us	

SUMMARY

The Council is being asked to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of James Wickre and Laurence Parker as Ashland Municipal Court Judge Pro tempore. This position will serve as Municipal Judge in the absence of the elected Municipal Judge. These appointments were recommended by the elected Municipal Court Judge as Barbara Jarvis, one of the current Judge Pro tempore, is retiring. Previously appointed Judge Pro tempore, Damian Idiart will continue to serve. These three appointed Judge Pro tempore will guarantee availability when a Judge Pro tempore is needed.

POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED

Maintain Essential Services: Public Safety

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION

None

BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

According to Ashland Municipal Code (AMC) Section 2.28.200 Municipal Judge – Pro tempore, “the Mayor, with confirmation by the City Council, shall appoint a Municipal Judge Pro tempore, who shall serve as Municipal Judge in the absence from the City of the elected Municipal Judge, or due to the inability of said elected Judge to serve”. The elected Municipal Judge has the right to submit recommendations for the appointment to the Mayor.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The Municipal Judge Pro tempore will be employed at the expense of the City as decided by the Council or City Administrator. This expense is accounted for in the Municipal Court’s budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommend approval of appointments for Judge Pro tempore.

ACTIONS, OPTIONS & POTENTIAL MOTIONS

I move to approve the appointment of James Wickre and Laurence Parker as Ashland Municipal Court Judge Pro tempore.

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Recommendation Letter from Ashland Municipal Court Judge Pamela Turner

Attachment 2: James Wickre Resume

Attachment 3: Laurence Parker Resume

CITY OF
ASHLAND

July 15, 2019

Dear Mayor Stromberg,

Pursuant to Ashland City Charter section 2.28.200, I would like to recommend that attorneys James Wickre and Laurence Parker each be appointed Ashland Municipal Court Judge Pro tempore.

Mr. Wickre served as the Talent/Phoenix Municipal Court Judge for many years, and currently serves as a Pro tempore Judge in the Medford Municipal Court.

Mr. Parker is a longstanding member of the Rogue Valley legal community who is experienced in courtroom work and criminal law including serving as Ashland Municipal Court's court appointed attorney in the past.

Barbara Jarvis will be retiring by the end of the year. Damian Idiart will continue to serve.

All three of these highly qualified attorneys have law practices in Medford. Having three people willing to serve ensures availability when a Judge Pro tempore is needed.

Very Truly Yours,



Pamela B Turner
Ashland Municipal Court Judge

Section 2.28.200 Municipal Judge--Pro tempore.

The Mayor, with confirmation by the City Council, shall appoint a Municipal Judge Pro tempore, who shall serve as Municipal Judge in the absence from the City of the elected Municipal Judge, or due to the inability of said elected Judge to serve. The Municipal Judge shall have a right to submit recommendations as to the appointment or dismissal of the Municipal Judge Pro tempore, however, this shall not limit the Mayor's power to appoint or dismiss. The Municipal Judge Pro tempore shall be employed at the expense of the City upon such terms as are prescribed by the Council or City Administrator. (Ord. 1399 S19, 1965; Ord. 2266 S5, 1983; Ord. 2268, 1983)

James A. Wickre

ATTORNEY AT LAW

The Estate Building
10 Crater Lake Ave
Medford, Oregon 97504
(541) 772-3371

RESUME

LICENSES: James A. Wickre, Attorney at Law, member of the Oregon State Bar since 1974 and admitted to practice in the U. S. Federal District Court for Oregon

EDUCATION & DEGREES: 1974 - Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Oregon School of Law

1969 - Bachelor of Science from the University of Oregon

MILITARY SERVICE: 1969 - 1971 United States Army with Honorable Discharge

MUNICIPAL COURT City of Phoenix, Oregon 1975 - 2018

JUDGE SERVICES: City of Talent, Oregon 1987 - 1989
City of Talent, Oregon 1995 - 2015

Also at various times:
City of Shady Cove, Oregon
City of Butte Falls, Oregon

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE SERVICES PRO-TEM: City of Central Point, Oregon 1994 - 2012
City of Medford, Oregon 2000 - Present

LEGAL EXPERIENCE: In addition to serving as a Municipal Court Judge as outlined above, I have been in private practice as an attorney in Medford, Oregon continuously from 1974 to the present with a current emphasis in estate planning.

Oregon State Bar Fee Arbitrator
Jackson County Circuit Court Arbitrator
Josephine County Circuit Court Arbitrator

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS: Oregon State Bar - Bar #743418

LAURANCE W. PARKER

Attorney at Law
116 Mistletoe St.
Medford OR, 97501

Phone (541) 772-1032
Fax (541) 779-3430
lpaw@charter.net

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, University of Oregon 1988
Southern Oregon State College, Bachelor of Science/Interdisciplinary 1985
Central Oregon Community College, Associate of Arts 1983

EXPERIENCE

Private Practice 1997 – present, Criminal Defense, Family Law (1997-2005)
Previous Administrator/Current partner, Los Abogados Criminal Defense Consortium
Southern Oregon Public Defenders, Inc. 1992-1997
Center For Non Profit Legal Services 1990 – 1992/Family Law
Cowling and Heysell, 1988 – 1990/ Worker’s Compensation law
United States Air Force 1976 – 1980, Honorable Discharge/Sergeant

SKILLS

Trained mediator
Familiar with issues and challenges regarding the indigent community
Extensive courtroom/trial experience
Veteran advocate

PERSONAL

Married 42 years – two children, four grandchildren
Interests include Golf, Sailing, Theatre, Oregon Ducks
Active member: University of Oregon President’s Club, RVCC, AMVETS, Ashland Elks