



CITY MAGISTRATES MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the City Magistrates Merit Selection Commission and to the public that the Commission will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public on:

Via Microsoft Teams/Virtual
Friday, January 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

LEGAL ACTION REPORT

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, James Rappaport at 9:12 a.m. Those present and absent were:

Members Present:

James Rappaport Chair
Dina Dieglio Vice Chair
Mariam Ferguson
Jeanne M. Gacke
Jennifer Hogan
Sharon Matlack
Dee Dee Samet
Heidi Steiner

Members Absent/Excused:

None

Others Present:

Ruby Gutierrez, City Clerk's Office
Andrea Barredo, City Clerk's Office
Yolanda Lozano, City Clerk's Office
Jon Paladini, Pierce-Coleman Law Offices

2. Approval of Minutes for the October 31, 2025 meeting.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Dieglio, duly seconded, and PASSED by a voice vote of 8 to 0, to approve the minutes from October 31, 2025.

3. Public Comment

There were no public speakers.

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4. Set Date to Review/discuss reappointment application received by Judge Kate Verenna.

Commission scheduled document review/discuss and the reappointment interview for Judge Kate Verenna for March 27, 2026.

5. Discussion and possible action of the Commission Rules, Regulations and Policies.

Chair Rappaport made comments regarding the options, limitations and potential consequences of changing the existing body of rules.

Discussion ensued.

The item has been tabled indefinitely. No action was taken.

6. Discussion and possible action of changes to the Magistrates Reappointment and Recruitment of new Applicants Questionnaires.

Commission discussed revisions and edits to Chair Rappaport's draft for the new applicant questionnaire. No changes were made to the reappointment questionnaire.

Further discussion regarding two (2) attorney vacancies in August for the City Magistrates Merit Selection Commission beginning. Chair Rappaport suggested that statements of interest be made to the Pima County Bar Association over the coming months.

Commissioner Samet recommended that an increase in publicity could bring a broader range of candidates for Magistrate Judge openings.

No formal action was taken.

7. Future Agenda Items:

- a) **Review/discuss documents related to Judge Kate Verenna.**
- b) **Set Date for Reappointment Interview for Judge Kate Verenna**
The commission scheduled the reappointment interview for Judge Kate Verenna (7a & b) for March 27, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
- c) **Review/discuss New Magistrate Application/Questionnaire changes/edits**
- d) **Discussion and possible action to increase publicity for future Magistrate openings**

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City Magistrates Merit
Selection Commission
P.O. Box 27210
Tucson, Arizona 85726-7210
(520) 791-4213

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Items scheduled for discussion and possible action on March 27, 2026, at 9:00a.m.

7. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

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