



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

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/Hybrid
Friday, March 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
Mayor and Council Conference Room
First Floor, City Hall
255 W. Alameda St., Tucson, Arizona

LEGAL ACTION REPORT

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, James Rappaport at 9:10 A.M. Those present and absent were:

Members Present:

James Rappaport Chair
Mariam Ferguson
Jeanne M. Gacke
Jennifer Hogan
Sharon Matlack
Dee-Dee Samet (electronic attendance via Microsoft Teams)
Heidi Steiner

Members Absent/Excused:

Dina Dieglio Vice Chair

Others Present:

Ruby Gutierrez, City Clerk's Office
Andrea Barredo, City Clerk's Office (electronic attendance via Microsoft Teams)
Jon Paladini, Pierce-Coleman Law Offices

Guest(s):

Jeffrey Klotz, City Court Presiding Magistrate
Kate Verenna, City Court Magistrate

2. **Approval of Minutes for the January 30, 2026 meeting.**

It was moved by Commissioner Gacke, duly seconded, and PASSED by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, (Vice Chair Dieglio absent/excused) to approve the Minutes from January 30, 2026.

*The City Magistrates Merit Selection Commission may conduct an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. Section § 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of discussion or consideration of appointment to the position of City Magistrate § 38-431.03(A)(2) for the purpose of discussion of records exempt by law from public inspection and § 38-431.03(A)(3) discussion or consultation for legal advice with attorney staff.



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3. Public Comment

Judge Klotz made public comments regarding Judge Verenna.

4. Discussion and possible action for the Reappointment of Judge A. Kate Verenna.*

a) Reappointment Interview as scheduled:

Verenna, A. Kate

It was moved by Chair Rappaport, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, (Vice Chair Dieglio absent/excused) to enter Executive Session as noticed on the agenda.

ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:25 A.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS: All present (Commissioner Samet electronic attendance via Microsoft Teams). (Vice Chair Dieglio absent/excused)

STAFF PRESENT:

Ruby Gutierrez, City Clerk's Office

Andrea Barredo, City Clerk's Office (electronic attendance via Microsoft Teams)

Jon Paladini, Independent Legal Counsel

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 9:25 a.m. to 10:04 a.m.

RECONVENED OPEN SESSION: 10:04 a.m.

Chair Rappaport announced the Commission was back in Regular Session.

It was moved by Chair Rappaport, duly seconded, and PASSED by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, (Vice Chair Dieglio absent/excused) to recommend Judge Verenna for reappointment to another 4-year term on the Tucson City Court.

5. Discussion and possible action of the New Magistrate Application/Questionnaire changes/edits.

It was moved by Chair Rappaport, duly seconded, and PASSED by a voice vote of 7 to 0, (Vice Chair Dieglio absent/excused) to approve the revised application with discussed edits.

6. Discussion and possible action to increase publicity for future Magistrate openings.

It was agreed by unanimous decision to CONTINUE this item.

No formal action was taken.

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7. **Future Agenda Items:**

- a) Appointment of a Vice Chair for the next meeting
- b) Review/discuss improving the logistical and user-friendly online process for the New Magistrate application

No formal action was taken.

7. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

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