

INTEROFFICE MEMO

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

TO: Honorable Mayor and
Members of City Council

DATE: September 7, 2021

FROM: R. Joel Stern
City Attorney

SUBJECT: CHAPTER 5 AMENDMENTS; OUR FILE NO. 21-020

The Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 5, Municipal Court, is in need of revision to allow Presiding Magistrate Aaron Doug LaSota the ability to recommend for appointment to council a part-time associate magistrate as well as a judicial assistant who will, in the absence of the associate magistrate and presiding magistrate, handle limited criminal matters such as initial appearances, arraignments, plea agreements and uncontested matters, and on occasion will handle civil traffic and other civil matters. Judge LaSota has noted the administrative justification for these positions in a separate memo. The code amendment also eliminates the reference to pro-tem magistrates since they are only authorized under Arizona law to adjudicate superior court and justice of the peace cases.

This matter will be scheduled for a public hearing on September 21st for council action.



R. Joel Stern
City Attorney