



**CITY OF PLANO
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

CITY SECRETARY'S USE ONLY				
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory				
Council Meeting Date:		2/27/12		
Department:		Legal		
Department Head		Diane Wetherbee		
Agenda Coordinator (include phone #): Betsy Allen # 7545				
CAPTION				
A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Plano, Texas, approving the hiring of an Assistant City Attorney II by the City Attorney; and providing an effective date.				
FINANCIAL SUMMARY				
<input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATING EXPENSE <input type="checkbox"/> REVENUE <input type="checkbox"/> CIP				
FISCAL YEAR: 2011-12	Prior Year (CIP Only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Budget	0	13,194	0	13,194
Encumbered/Expended Amount	0	0	0	0
This Item	0	-13,194	0	-13,194
BALANCE	0	0	0	0
FUND(S): GENERAL				
<p>COMMENTS: Funding for this item, in the amount of \$13,194, is included in the approved 2011-12 Budget. This position does not increase the number of authorized positions in Legal. City Charter authorizes the hiring of attorneys with the approval of the City Council.</p> <p>STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: The hiring of an Assistant City Attorney II meets the City's goal of Financially Strong City with Service Excellence.</p>				
SUMMARY OF ITEM				
The City Charter authorizes the City Attorney to select attorneys for hire with the approval of the City Council. It is the City Attorney's recommendation that David Thomas Ritter be hired as an Assistant City Attorney II for the City Attorney's office. See attached Memorandum regarding qualifications for the proposed new hire.				
List of Supporting Documents:		Other Departments, Boards, Commissions or Agencies		
Memorandum		n/a		

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 15, 2012

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney

SUBJECT: HIRING OF DAVID RITTER AS ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY II

This memo is to provide information regarding the qualifications of David Ritter as a new hire for the position of Assistant City Attorney II. In accordance with Section 4.05 of the Plano City Charter, I am requesting City Council approval of my selection for this position.

The legal department has two vacancies created by the departure of Luke Williams on March 2, 2012 and Susan Keller on November 22, 2011. The filling of these positions is within the current budget allocation and authorized number of positions for my department.

It is my recommendation that David Ritter be hired to fill one of the Assistant City Attorney II positions for my office. Mr. Ritter is currently an associate for an environmental law firm representing landowners in water contamination and property damage cases. He formerly worked for the law firm of Taylor, Olson and Adkins, et al. for four years, a private firm that represents TML risk pool clients and provides general counsel services to municipalities. At the Taylor/Olson firm, Mr. Ritter handled land use and condemnation litigation for cities and school districts including appeals. He has also worked in the area of tort claims defense, open records, police and fire employment, zoning, and property acquisition and development for cities. Mr. Ritter began his career with Baron and Budd, P.C. as a litigator in the area of toxic torts where, among other cases, he represented cities, states and water management districts in water-contamination litigation. He also advised clients on corporate structure, SEC compliance, mergers and acquisitions, insurance and indemnity, and recovery from dissolved corporate entities. Mr. Ritter obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Austin College and received a Juris Doctor Degree from Southern Methodist University.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me.

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Plano, Texas, approving the hiring of an Assistant City Attorney II by the City Attorney; and providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, Section 4.05 of the City Charter of the City of Plano gives the City Attorney the authority to select attorneys, with the approval of the City Council, to represent the City in litigation and to advise city departments and boards; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has selected David Thomas Ritter to be hired as an Assistant City Attorney II and is requesting the City Council's approval of same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS, THAT:

Section I. The City Council approves the hiring by the City Attorney of David Thomas Ritter as Assistant City Attorney II, such approval to be effective with the date of his employment and compliance with all prescreening requirements.

Section II. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED this the 27th day of February, 2012.

Phil Dyer, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Diane C. Wetherbee, CITY ATTORNEY