

DATE: 2/15/16

TO: City Clerk

FROM: Mayor Oscar Leeser

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell TELEPHONE 915-212-0021

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT XXX REGULAR _____

Agenda for the Council Meeting of 2/23/2016
Appointment of Blake Downey as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustments

Item should read as follows: (Mayor Oscar Leeser, 212-0021)

BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: Zoning Board of Adjustment

NOMINATED BY: Mayor Oscar Leeser DISTRICT: Mayor

NAME OF APPOINTEE Blake Downey
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: BDow@scotthulse.com

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 1078 Yasmin

CITY: El Paso ST: TX ZIP: 79932 PHONE: 915-549-4770

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

DOES THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE HAVE A RELATIVE WORKING FOR THE CITY? YES: ___ NO X

IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE HIS OR HER NAME, CITY POSITION AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE:

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO HAVE HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IT BECAME VACANT?

NAME OF INCUMBENT: Margaret Livingston

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: 12/1/2017

REASON PERSON IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE (CHECK ONE): TERM EXPIRED: _____
RESIGNED X
REMOVED _____

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 2/23/2016

TERM BEGINS ON : 2/23/2016

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 12/1/2017

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1st TERM: _____
2nd TERM: _____
UNEXPIRED TERM: X

M. BLAKE DOWNEY

PURPOSE: As a young professional, native El Pasoan, I am seeking a position on the Zoning Board of Adjustment because I can be a just and fair arbiter for the people of El Paso needing assistance in determining their rights and responsibilities under the city's zoning regulations.

EDUCATION:

Texas Tech University School of Law- Lubbock, Texas
Doctor of Jurisprudence, May 2012

Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business- Lubbock, Texas
Masters of Business Administration, May 2012

New Mexico State University- Las Cruces, New Mexico
Bachelor of Arts, Dec. 2008; Major in Communication Studies, Supplementary Major in Law and Society

- *Associated Students of New Mexico State University, 2006-2008: Senator*

EXPERIENCE:

Attorney, ScottHulse, P.C.

- Advising El Paso commercial, non-profit, and educational employers regarding employee handbooks, policies, and day-to-day employment matters
- Working with a variety of El Paso employers to successfully resolve a variety of claims including discrimination, workers' compensation, and unemployment claims
- Counseling local construction related entities on local municipal rulings and ordinances

Attorney, Martin Management Group

- Counseling the executive team of a large automotive, aviation, and land management group with over 500 employees on various employment, insurance, and contract disputes.
- Establishing standardized employment guidelines for each dealership regarding non-discriminatory hiring practices, termination, FMLA qualification, insurance benefit plans under the Affordable Care Act, and random drug testing.
- Negotiating with various governmental entities on zoning issues surrounding commercial land leases and dealership property disputes

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

Calvin L. Lewis, David Strange & Blake Downey, Why Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is Constitutional and not Preempted by Federal Law, 89 U. DET. MERCY L. REV. 283 (2012).

2015, March 4. Post-Game Highlights: State and Federal Employment Case Law Updates. Lecture presented at the ScottHulse Labor & Employment Law Seminar in El Paso, Texas.

2015. Same-Sex Marriage and Emerging LGBT Issues in the Workplace. Lecture presented at the El Paso Bar Association Labor & Employment Seminar in El Paso, Texas.

LOCAL CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:

Texas Tech Alumni Association – El Paso Chapter (President)
Texas Association of Defense Counsel (TADC) –Young Lawyer's Committee
The Rudi Foundation – General Counsel/Founding Member
The El Paso Club – Board of Directors
Progress 321
El Paso Young Lawyers Association
Lambda Chi Alpha Alumni Association