

HARRIS COUNTY
PROBATE COURT 1
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Hon. Jerry W. Simoneaux, Jr.
Presiding Judge – Harris County Probate Court 1
Administrative Judge – Harris County Probate Courts
Assistant Presiding Judge of the Statutory Probate Courts

January 4, 2023

Dear Judge Hidalgo and County Commissioners,

I am seeking approval for the temporary appointment of Salvador Benavidez as a second Associate Judge for Probate Court 1 in preparation for the retirement of the current Associate Judge, Ruth Ann Stiles. The temporary appointment will take place on January 30, 2023 and continue through February 24, 2023, which will be Associate Judge Stiles's last day. At that time, the Court will revert to one Associate Judge.

The temporary appointment will provide practical experience and preparation for the duties Mr. Benavidez will be expected to perform as the next Associate Judge, and ensure a smooth transition. Further, this request will have no impact on the court's budget because Mr. Benavidez currently serves as this court's staff attorney and no change in salary is required for the temporary appointment.

The appointment of a second Associate Judge is authorized by Tex. Gov't Code § 54A.203 (a), "After obtaining the approval of the commissioners court to create an associate judge position, the judge of a statutory probate court by order may appoint one or more full-time or part-time associate judges to perform the duties authorized by this subchapter".

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry W. Simoneaux, Jr." in a cursive style.

Jerry W. Simoneaux, Jr.
Judge, Probate Court 1