

AGENDA MATERIAL

DAN ECKSTROM DATE 12/20/22 ITEM NO. CC31
2619 South 8th Avenue
South Tucson, Arizona 85713

November 30, 2022

The Honorable Ray Carroll
Justice of the Peace, Green Valley Justice Court
601 North La Canada Drive
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Dear Judge Carroll:

I am most pleased to write this letter of personal reference and recommendation on behalf of Dr. Da'Mond Holt, who is seeking his appointment as a Judge Pro Tempore for the Green Valley Justice Court/Pima County Consolidated Justice Courts. I am writing on as an engaged community activist, who has work closely with many other community members serving on the bench, during my more than 32 years of public service as a local elected official that included serving 17 years as Mayor/Councilmember of the City of South Tucson, and 15 years as a Member and Chairman of the Pima County Board of Supervisors. In each of these positions, I had the honor to review applications and appoint members to the bench both as city magistrates and judge's pro-tempore.

I have enjoyed working directly with Dr. Holt, and to talk and engage with him about his personal and professional goals. It is during these conversations that he has openly shared with me his personal background, as well as his vast professional experiences that fully qualify him to serve on this bench. In every instance that I have worked with Dr. Holt, I have found him to be highly motivated, organized and reliable. As the Founder and CEO of Fresh Start International, Dr. Holt has effectively established a one-stop center to aid and start the process of assisting individuals with critically needed civil rights restoration and record expungement. With a focus on rebuilding, restoring and reducing recidivism in our region, he has directed two highly successful Expo events recently attended by 1,000 participants. For two years, the City of Tucson and Pima County have fully supported and sponsored this event, whose participants included Pima County Superior Court, Pima County Justice Court, the Pima County Attorney's Office, the Pima County Public Defender's Office, City of Tucson Courts, plus representative of local law enforcement agencies. Through his efforts, Fresh Start has also become recognized as a community safe haven where underserved, disadvantaged and marginalized individuals of communities of color, can find a means to escape imminent neighborhood dangers of crime, drugs, gangs and violence by engaging in new learning opportunities designed to make a positive difference in their lives.

Overall, Dr. Holt is extremely well liked by all that work with him and he was very respectful in his department, attitude and willingness to lend a helping hand wherever it is needed. He demonstrates considerable initiative and self-motivation in taking charge of each of his undertakings. As the Founder of Fresh Start International, a Trauma Specialist, the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church and Chair of the Tucson Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Dr. Holt has effectively utilized his time and talents to foster and promote collaborative partnerships throughout our community. It is for each of the above stated reasons, that Dr. Da'Mond Holt carries my highest recommendation for his appointment. Should you have any questions or desire more information, please feel to contact me directly at (520) 247-9250.

Respectfully,


Dan Eckstrom

Pima County Chairman/Supervisor, Emeritus
South Tucson Mayor/Councilmember, Emeritus

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November 30, 2022

Honorable Judge Raymond Carroll
Green Valley Justice Court
601 N. La Cañada Drive
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Dear Judge Carroll:

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my recommendation of Dr. Da'Mond Holt to become a Judge Pro Tem with the Pima County Justice Court. I have known and worked with Dr. Holt for nearly a decade and over that time I have come to know him on both a professional and personal basis.

Professionally, Dr. Holt and I have worked together on many different projects. He was a valuable resource and community connector as the police department worked through the civil unrest following the death of George Floyd. He recently was appointed as the board chair of the Pima County Sheriff's Department Civilian Advisory Review Board to ensure accountability and equity within the sheriff's department. Recently, Dr. Holt was instrumental in bringing a Fresh Start Program to Tucson; a One-Stop-Shop where formerly incarcerated persons can access legal and practical services to help them begin a personal fresh start. Through this program Dr. Holt played an intriguing role in bringing together city, justice, and superior level courts to help squash certain misdemeanor convictions, clear warrants, and restore the rights of formerly incarcerated individuals who are looking to restructure, rebuild, and restore their lives.

In addition to all of this, I can attest to the sincerity of his passion, drive, and commitment, as I have seen him carry it forward in his personal life as well. I know Dr. Holt to be passionate, a hard-working family man, whose morale compass is deeply rooted in the tenants of his religious faith.

Taking all of this into consideration, I am confident that Dr. Da'Mond Holt would be an excellent Judge Pro Tem. Please do not hesitate to contact me at chad.kasmar@tucsonaz.gov if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Chad Kasmar
Chief of Police

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**Office of the Clerk of Superior Court
Pima County**

Pima County Superior Court Building
110 West Congress
Tucson, Arizona 85701-1317

Gary L. Harrison
CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Tel: (520) 724-3200
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December 1, 2022

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Dr. Damond Holt. I have known Dr. Holt since he came to Tucson November 1, 2013, and has shown a concern for the community from the start.

Dr. Holt has always displayed a high degree of integrity and responsibility. He is definitely a leader that has the ability to always achieve a positive outcome. In addition to his excellent scholastic accomplishments: Senior Pastor at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church and founder and organizer of Fresh Start International, a program created to assist the incarcerated in the state of Arizona.

Pastor Holt has been recognized by the office of Arizona Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and asked to speak at the 2022 Arizona Judicial Conference.

He is also a most dependable community organizer and leader; his good judgment is anchored by his communicating, analytical and problem - solving skills and concerned outlook, which ensures a logical approach to his endeavors.

Dr. Holt is a real force in the Tucson community as well as the State and would be, in many ways, a necessary asset in this position.

I am happy to give Dr. Holt my wholehearted endorsement.

Feel free to contact me
Thank you.

Gary L Harrison
Clerk of the Superior Court
(520)907-4866
garrylharrison1955@gmail.com

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Ronald A. Wilson
Wilson & Associates, LLC
P.O. Box 2133
Tucson, AZ 85702
520-390-9680

Honorable Ray Carroll
Green Valley Justice Court
601 North La Canada Drive
Green Valley, AZ 85614

November 7, 2022

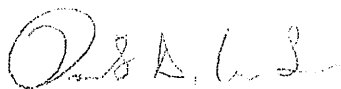
Dear Judge Carroll,

I am writing this letter of reference in support of Dr. Damond Holt for Judge Pro Tempore. I have known Dr. Damond Holt for more than ten years. I have personally worked with him and observed him as a servant leader in this community. I am pleased to write this character reference on his behalf.

Since Dr. Holt came to Tucson, I have noticed him dedicate a significant amount of his time finding impactful ways of serving the people of Arizona. Much of his work involves ministering to the impoverished, incarcerated and the marginalized. He is also known and respected nationally for his research and findings on trauma. He has demonstrated on several occasions a genuine interest in the future of Arizona by creating partnerships with community organizations, government agencies, schools, and faith based institutions. He has also served as a member of the Tucson Urban League Board of Directors as their Board Chair. In addition, he works collaboratively with the Pima County Board of Supervisors, Tucson City Council and the Arizona Supreme court Administrative Office of the Courts.

Dr. Holt is available for new challenges because of his desire to learn and grow further. He is driven in equal measure by both integrity and character. I am confident that Dr. Holt will be an outstanding asset to your community. I strongly recommend him for the position of Judge Pro Tempore. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Judge Ronald A. Wilson (retired)

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