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# Board of Supervisors Memorandum

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November 12, 2024

## Appointment to Fill a Vacancy of the Position of Constable, Justice Precinct 9

### Background

The incumbent Constable in Justice of the Peace Precinct 9 failed to qualify for the July 30 Primary Election ballot. There were two write-in candidates, neither of whom received the requisite number of write in votes to qualify and there is no write in candidate for the General Election. On January 1, 2025, there will be a vacancy in the Office of Constable, Justice of the Peace Precinct 9. To allow for the appointment of a Constable to serve Justice Precinct 9 when the position becomes vacant, it is recommended that the Board of Supervisors begin a process to fill the vacant position.

### Discussion

In May 2024, George Camacho, the incumbent Constable in Justice of the Peace (JP) Precinct 9, was found to not have enough valid signatures on his nominating petitions. Two candidates filed to run as write-in candidates on the July 30 Primary Election ballot. The number of write-in votes required to win is equal to the minimum number of signatures required for the nominating petitions. For a democratic candidate for Constable in JP 9, 492 signatures are required, which means that a successful write-in candidate would have needed to receive 492 write-in votes. The two democratic candidates received 246 and 50 write-in votes, respectively. There were no write-in candidates in any other party. No candidate was successful in the Primary Election.

Paperwork necessary to run as a write-in candidate for the General Election had to be filed no later than September 26, 2024. No potential write-in candidates filed.

The position of Constable, Justice Precinct 9 will be vacant effective January 1, 2025.

The Board must first decide if it chooses to fill the position. To eliminate the position of Constable, Justice of the Peace (JP) Precinct 9, the Board must also eliminate the position of JP for Precinct 9 and that elimination would go into effect at the end of the current term of office. Both the Constable and JP for Justice Precinct 9 are up for election this year. Elimination of these positions would have had to have been done previously, in order to reprecinct or reassign the area that is currently Justice Precinct 9 to adjacent precincts and adjust the precinct boundaries to be effective in this election cycle. Therefore, the position of Constable JP 9 cannot be eliminated at this time.

Presiding Constable Eric Krznarich expressed concern that the workload within JP Precinct 9 will fall to the other Constables.

Justice Precinct	Population
1	129,564
2	133,641
3	9,294 (Ajo)
4	133,807
6	131,401
7	127,067
8	134,735
9	128,454
10	142,692

Since the position cannot be eliminated, the appointment by the Board to fill the vacancy will allow for a Constable to take office at the beginning of the next term in January 2025. The position is funded in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget.

Recommendation

I recommend that the Board of Supervisors begin the process to fill the position of Constable in Justice Precinct 9 that will be vacated January 1, 2025. Candidates will be required to provide the Clerk of the Board a letter of interest no later than 5:00 PM Wednesday, November 27, 2024. Clerk Manriquez will verify with the Recorder's Office, that the candidate is a registered voter residing in Justice of the Peace Precinct 9 and is over the age of 18. In coordination with the Human Resources Department, Clerk Manriquez will also verify education and experience and that the candidate has no criminal background. The Board of Supervisors will select a Constable at the regularly scheduled meeting of December 17, 2024 to be appointed effective January 1, 2025.

The appointment to fill the vacancy will do much to end the burden placed on the other Constables and allow for those in Justice Precinct 9 to receive timely and appropriate service.

Sincerely,



Jan Lesher  
County Administrator

JKL/anc – October 22, 2024

Attachment

- c: The Honorable Eric Krznarich, Presiding Constable  
Sam Brown Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney  
Melissa Manriquez, Pima County Clerk of the Board

