

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**  
Interdepartmental Correspondence Sheet

TIME CERTAIN  
ITEM NO. 4  
1:30PM

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: *YLB* Yolanda L. Ledesma, Acting City Clerk

COPIES : Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager; Management Team; File


SUBJECT: Ordinance appointing replacement for City Council, District 5

DATE: January 31, 2003

This Ordinance will appoint a replacement to fill the unexpired term of Councilman David Garcia, whose term of office will run through May 31, 2003 shall be placed on the City Council agenda of February 6, 2003.

Councilman David Garcia submitted his resignation as the Councilman for District 5 on Thursday, January 16, 2003, and the City Council officially accepted his resignation by Ordinance on January 23, 2003. In accordance with the City Charter, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Council. As directed by City Council, the City Clerk's Office began the advertisement on Friday January 17, 2003 to solicit applications from interested citizens wishing to fill the vacancy with the deadline for submission on Tuesday, January 28, 2003.

Nine (9) qualified candidates submitted their letters of interest. Interviews of the candidates were conducted on Thursday, January 30, 2003. The following nominations have been submitted by the City Council: Ms. Dora Ramos, Mr. Ralph T. Gomez, and Ms. Nora X. Herrera. A public meeting was held on Monday, February 3, 2003 at the Bazan Library where citizens of District 5 had the opportunity to meet and direct comments/questions to the three candidates. The final selection for the District 5 replacement is scheduled for Thursday, February 6, 2003. Letters of interest with resumes for the three candidates are attached for your reference.

  
Yolanda L. Ledesma  
Acting City Clerk

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**DORA RAMOS**

259 E. Thompson Place  
San Antonio, Texas 78225  
(210) 924-7881

2003 JAN 21 PM 2:34

Yolanda Ledesma,  
Acting City Clerk  
City Hall  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Dear Ms. Ledesma:

My name is Dora Ramos and I am asking for your support to fill the vacancy of District 5 Councilman.

I have lived in District 5 for all my adult life. I have raised four children here. I am a widow. I have always been an activist in this community. I am involved in all aspects of my community and help numerous constituents on a daily basis. The calls are answered, messages returned and positive results are produced. Additionally, I work with the corporate community and have the necessary judgment to balance the needs of my community and business.

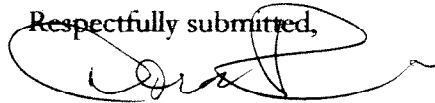
City Council District 5 has not been represented adequately for some time now. There has never been a true effort made by our councilmen to reach out to District 5's entire community. A select few act as if they represent the entire district. This city has been subject to another city council scandal. Instead of focusing on attracting Toyota, a south-side bookstore or improving District 5 infrastructure, attention has been on personal shortcomings. Our city government needs to reflect the attributes of our great city.

I am requesting that the City Council allow me the opportunity to represent the wonderful people of District 5. I have the necessary integrity, honesty and hard work ethics for this position. I have spoken with my superiors, the people in the neighborhoods, local business concerns and have received their whole hearted support. I am qualified to be the first woman to represent District 5. I want to be very clear that I will not run for re-election. I wish to fill the position until the May 3<sup>rd</sup> elections.

Let me be the person who would bring District 5 together so that District 5's contributions will be just as notable as other districts.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Dora Ramos

VR 240782  
Pet #1077 Council District #5

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2003 JAN 21 PM 2:35

**Dora Ramos**

259 E. Thompson Place  
San Antonio, Texas 78225-1409  
(210) 924-7881

**Education**

- Fox Tech High School
- San Antonio College
- Trinity University

**Work Related Experience**

- Director of Constituents Services for State Representative José Menéndez, District 124
- Public Library Literacy Advocate
- Catholic Charities
- CHIP Program Recruiter
- Heart Association Volunteer
- Diabetes and Glandular Programs Volunteer
- Advocate for MHMR

**Qualifications**

- 3+ years experience as constituent advocate for State Representative
- Life long resident of District 5
- Active in numerous community based organizations
- "Women of the Year Award" for 2002 - SADL

**Organizations**

- St. James Catholic Church member for over 50 years
- Member of the St. James Alter Society
- Member of the St. James Guadalupanas
- Former member of the St. James Stephen's Minister
- Former member of St. James Eucharistic Ministry
- Former Lecturer for St. James
- Sustaining member of KLRN

January 28, 2003

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2003 JAN 28 PM 4:26

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am honored to have the opportunity to present my qualifications to you for the vacant council seat in District 5. From the onset, I would like to make it clear that I will not seek election in May. The experience I bring to the council comes from the community relationships that have been built, cultivated and nurtured. Community leaders, senior citizens, parish leaders, neighborhood association presidents, educators, and business people have all asked me to step forward and represent them. For me, it's the opportunity to ensure that projects in progress are finalized within the next four months.

Improving our neighborhoods is the motivation for continuing many of the efforts that have already been started. I will work closely with the Department of Public Works to make sure that all the projects that have been funded are constructed in a timely manner. In my capacity as member of the VIA Citizens Advisory Committee, I had input in VIA's Comprehensive Service Plan that prevented bus routes from being eliminated in our district.

As a member of the SAWS Citizens Advisory Panel we have looked at San Antonio's alternative water sources. These include, but are not limited to the new Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program (ASR), the new proposed desalination plant in Corpus Christi, and the best means for water conservation. These programs are just one element of a long-term water development strategy for San Antonio. I will continue to work hard to get as many of our District 5 residents registered in the SAWS Meter Discount Program, which provides a discount on the water meter charge to ratepayers whose household income is less than 125% of the federal poverty guideline.

As you know, District 5 has many older neighborhoods, which are marred by abandoned housing and vacant lots. Not only are these properties eyesores, but also their maintenance is at public expense. Many of these properties do not meet Minimum Housing Standards, so I will continue to work closely with the Department of Code Compliance to get tougher on repeat violators so as to ensure safe environments in our neighborhoods.

Finally, I'd like the council to know that I have positive energy, commitment and the ability to quickly assimilate complicated information. District 5 greatly needs someone who can step in and immediately serve the existing needs of its constituents. I believe I am that person.

Thank you for your time and I respectfully ask for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ralph T. Gomez  
3532 S. Laredo Street  
San Antonio, TX 78207

PRECINCT 2030  
DISTRICT 5  
VR# 00702212

# Ralph T. Gomez

2003 JAN 28 PM 4: 26

## Education

Fall 1997 University of Texas San Antonio, TX

### Bachelor of Arts

- Interdisciplinary Studies Degree
- Texas Teacher Certificate: Elementary self-contained (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>)

## Professional experience

3/2000 - Present Councilman, David A. Garcia San Antonio, TX

### Chief of Staff

- Manage the development and implementation of Councilman's goals, objectives, policies, and priorities for the community of district five.
- Respond to and resolve difficult and sensitive constituent inquiries and concerns.
- Participates on a variety of community boards, committees, and neighborhood association meetings.

'99/2000 School Year Edgewood I.S.D. San Antonio, TX

### Teacher

- Provided schoolchildren with competent, age appropriate, lessons and activities.

8/1998 - 8/1999 Northside & North East I.S.D. San Antonio, TX

### Substitute Teacher

- Implemented competent, age appropriate, lessons and activities of the regular classroom teacher.

3/1996 - 8/1998 Sea World of Texas San Antonio, TX

### Park Supervisor

- Responsible for day-to-day operations in the Guest Relations area of theme park. Coached and staffed Front Gate employees and resolved customer complaints and conflicts.

1/1988 - 10/1993 City Employees Credit Union San Antonio, TX

### Administrative Assistant

- Responsible for training of new staff in primary teller functions, member service assistance, cross-selling techniques, and cash drawer management.

## References

References are available upon request.

January 28, 2003

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2003 JAN 28 PM 4:33

Honorable Council Members:

It is with great optimism that I inform you of my intention of filing for the position to represent District 5 on San Antonio City Council.

My name is Nora X. Herrera. I am personally familiar with the issues and challenges facing District 5. To begin with, I've lived District 5 for more than 26 years. I attended Luther Burbank High School before obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science and Law from the University of Wisconsin. Furthermore, when I served as Field Coordinator for the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project much of my work was focused on programs targeting San Antonio's Westside. This outreach allowed me to familiarize myself even further with the major issues facing the community. And finally, serving as a council aide for the last year and a half has provided me the opportunity to experience the workings of city government first hand. I am certain that I can represent District 5 with competence and commitment

I've learned that there are 4 key areas that are important to the constituents of District 5.

1. Support home rehabilitation programs for seniors and homeowners
2. Provide seniors with additional information and access for health, utilities and transportation programs
3. Make school environments safe for children
4. Reestablish confidence in city council and city government

It is imperative that you know that I will **not** seek to run for re-election in May. While I am eager to serve my community, my attending graduate school would prevent me from making a more lengthy commitment.

Please accept this letter as a formal request for your support of my nomination for City Council District 5. And know that I intend to serve the community to the best of my ability.

Respectfully,



Nora X. Herrera

enclosure

VR# 1363895 P-1092

District 5

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# NORA HERRERA

## OBJECTIVE

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To acquire a challenging and rewarding position in the fields of community empowerment and public policy that will enable me to obtain opportunities for career and educational development. To use the skills attained for a life devoted to public service.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Oct 2001–Present Councilman Enrique M. Barrera

*Administrative Aide*

San Antonio, TX

- Organize community projects.
- Assist the district's committee members.
- Attend council meetings and represent the district office at neighborhood association meetings.
- Resolve constituent concerns and inform the district on policy

Jan 2000–Oct 2001 Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

*Field Organizer/Latino Academy Coordinator*

San Antonio, TX

- Supervised voter registration and Get-Out-The-Vote projects.
- Coordinated special events in Texas Region.
- Developed the Latino Academy's curriculum and responsible for logistics and budget.

June–Aug 1997 AFL-CIO Union Summer Internship Program

*Public Action Coordinator*

Washington, DC

- Assisted in community organizing of workers.
- Promoted the organization to businesses and the community.
- Attended public meetings and workshops on behalf of organization.

June 1996–Feb 1998 State of Wisconsin, Dept. of Health & Family Services

*Financial Specialist-Intern*

Madison, WI

- Assisted probate administrator for the Bureau of Fiscal Services.
- Monitored and maintained billing and collections of state services purchased by the state mental health institutions for the State of Wisconsin.

E-MAIL UWCHICANA1999@HOTMAIL.COM

2202 S.W. 19TH STREET • SAN ANTONIO, TX 78207 • PHONE (210) 432-8419

N NORA HERRERA: RESUME CONTINUED

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#### EDUCATION

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- 1994–1999      University of Wisconsin      Madison, WI
- B.A., Behavioral Science and Law
  - Dean's Honor List
  - Chicano Studies Program

#### AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Cesar Chavez Student Leadership Award, May 1998
- Children of Farm Workers Scholarship of Wisconsin, June 1997
- Presenter, United States Hispanic Leadership Conference, October 1998

#### SPECIAL SKILLS

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Bilingual – Fluent in Spanish (speak, read and write)  
Software Applications – Word, Excel and Access