

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA  
ITEM NO. 25

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Robert Ojeda, Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** Extension of Line of Duty Leave for Firefighter Jesus B. Perez Jr.

**DATE:** April 21, 2005

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance would approve an extension of line-of-duty (LOD) leave for Firefighter Jesus B. Perez, Jr. He was charged accrued personal leave beginning October 22, 2003 for an on duty injury suffered October 21, 2002. This ordinance will restore two thousand, three hundred and twenty-eight (2,328) hours, or ninety-seven (97) shifts, of his personal leave. This will allow the Department to consider this period line of duty leave.

Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Jesus B Perez, Jr., a Firefighter assigned to Station 41 C-shift in the Fire Suppression Division, was injured in the line-of-duty on October 21, 2002. He injured his lumbar spine while lifting a Hurst tool out of its compartment on Service Truck 41. Firefighter Perez was diagnosed with a herniation of L4-5, impingement of the L4 and/or L5 nerve, and a bulge and tear at L3-4. Firefighter Perez initially presented with cervical and lumbar pain, as well as numbness in his left arm and both feet.

Firefighter Perez was initially treated with spinal manipulation, epidural spinal injections and various medications, including muscle relaxants, anti-spasm medications, and pain medications. He underwent physical therapy and began a work hardening program.

The initial, conservative treatments had a diminishing effect on the pain, and on February 13, 2004, Firefighter Perez underwent surgery. The surgery involved a laminectomy of the L4-5, decompression of the L5 nerve root, and discectomy of L4-5.

In May 2004 Firefighter Perez began a physical therapy program, and he returned to a light duty assignment on August 12, 2004.

## **POLICY ANALYSIS**

Approval of this ordinance is only within the authority of the City Council. The Local Government Code, Chapter 143, gives the City Council the authority to grant the extension of line-of-duty leave.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

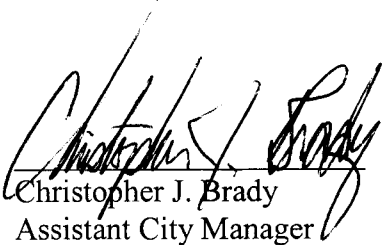
This ordinance will have no fiscal impact on the budget, however, assuming that he would use the restored leave at a future date for another purpose, he would receive payment of \$ 49,376.88 for two thousand, three hundred and twenty-eight (2,328) hours, or ninety-seven (97) shifts. This total includes one thousand, eight hundred and seventy-two (1872) hours of sick leave and four hundred and fifty-six (456) hours of annual leave.

## **COORDINATION**

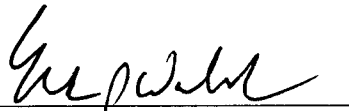
This item has been coordinated with the Occupational Health Clinic of the Health Department.



Robert Ojeda, Fire Chief  
Fire Department



Christopher J. Brady  
Assistant City Manager



J. Rolando Bono  
Interim City Manager