

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Background

Chapter 143.006 - Local Government Code

- Establishes a three-member Fire Fighters' and Police Officers Civil Service Commission with Commission Members appointed by the municipality's chief executive and confirmed by the municipality's governing body.
- In Austin, Fire/Police Department heads have traditionally been notified of appointments in advance. No formal role in process for either Fire/Police Departments or Fire/Police Associations.

March 1997 Agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin Association of Professional Fire Fighters

- A proposed expansion of the joint Commission from three members to five Members did not occur due to lack of a similar provision in the initial Meet and Confer Agreement between the City and the Austin Police Association.
- An alternative provision in the above-mentioned 1997 Agreement resulted in the creation of two Commissions (five-member Fire Civil Service Commission) (three-member Police Civil Service Commission).
- All three members of the Police Civil Service Commission were appointed in the traditional manner.
- Three of the five Fire Civil Service Commission members were appointed in the traditional manner. The other two members were appointed by the City Manager from lists of names submitted by (1) the Fire Chief and (2) the Austin Association of Professional Fire Fighters.

December 1999 Agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin Association of Professional Fire Fighters

- Five member Commission reduced to a three-member Fire Civil Service Commission
- Two members appointed by the City Manager from a list of names submitted by the Fire Chief / One member appointed by the City Manager from a list of names submitted by the AAPFF

When Fire Agreement expired on September 30, 2002, the Fire and Police Civil Service Commissions were rejoined to form the three-member Firefighters' and Police Officers' Civil Service Commission

Follow-up

- Recommendations were discussed with the Fire Chief and Acting Police Chief prior to going on the Council agenda.
- In addition, the Human Resources Director discussed the appointments with Stephen Truesdell, President of the APFFA and Mike Sheffield, President of the APA – neither indicated any issues with the appointments.