

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	11741	Agenda Number	14.
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Meeting Date:	03/08/12	Department:	Austin Police Department
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Subject

Approve an ordinance establishing classifications and positions in the classified service of the Police Department; creating and eliminating certain positions; repealing Ordinance No. 20110912-010 relating to Police Department classifications and positions, and declaring an emergency.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	September 12, 2011 - Prior classification change.
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For More Information:	Art Acevedo, Chief of Police, 974-5030
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

The Austin Police Department would like to reclassify of one of the department's current nineteen (19) Commander positions to an Assistant Chief position. This change will allow the city to be divided into four regions and position an Assistant Chief over each of the four regions. This new structure will greatly enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Austin Police Department. Citizens and neighborhood associations will have an executive level single point of contact with whom to interact and collaborate on neighborhood issues. The proposed structure will provide citizens more frequent access to and interaction with members of the department's executive staff.

This new structure will also improve the department's continuity of command since Assistant Chiefs do not move between assignments as frequently as Commanders do, an outcome long desired by the community. The new structure will improve the span-of-control ratio of the Assistant Chiefs. This will allow for improved internal accountability, leadership, and mentoring. Assistant Chiefs will also have additional opportunities to attend community meetings and events since they will be responsible for one region instead of two. The new structure will

also improve internal communication.

This ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 20110912-010. The civil service classifications of the Austin Police Department and the number of positions in each classification are established as follows: Assistant Chief (6), Commander (18), Police Lieutenant (69), Police Sergeant (178), Police Corporal/Police Detective (367), Police Officer (1,080). This ordinance will go into effect immediately.