



**SURPRISE**  
ARIZONA

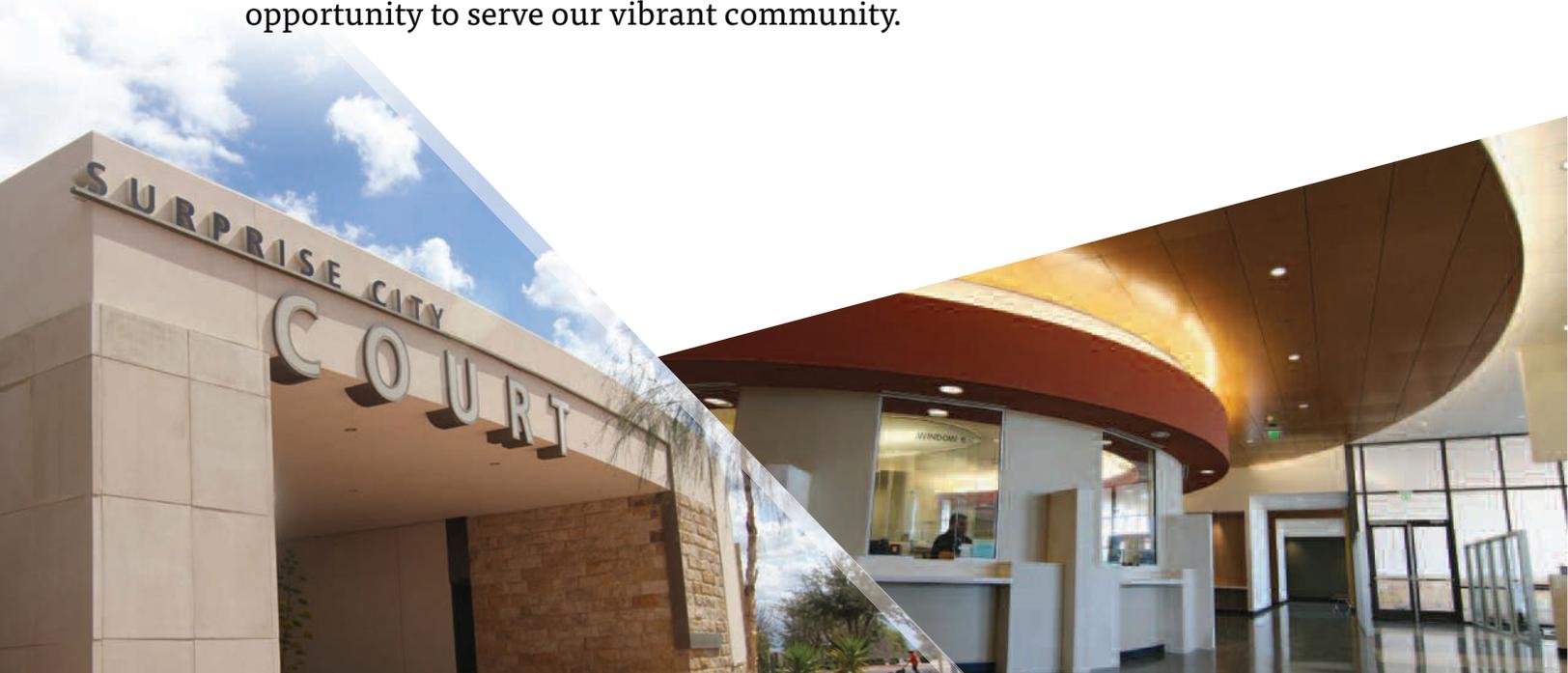


THE CITY OF SURPRISE, ARIZONA  
IS SEEKING AN EXPERIENCED  
LEGAL PROFESSIONAL TO SERVE AS

# **ASSOCIATE JUDGE**

## **UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY**

The new and growing City of Surprise, Arizona, located in the northwest quadrant of the greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area, is the tenth largest city in Arizona. Consistently ranked as one of the safest cities in America, Surprise has also been identified as one of the “North American Cities of the Future” by *Foreign Direct Investment* magazine. The 2012 *National Citizens Survey* indicates that 93% of residents would recommend Surprise as a place to live. Surprise has experienced phenomenal growth, booming from a population of 39,000 in the year 2000, to its current population of approximately 120,000. This is an outstanding opportunity to serve our vibrant community.



[www.surpriseaz.gov](http://www.surpriseaz.gov)



## THE COMMUNITY

Surprise is 30 minutes northwest of downtown Phoenix and accessed by freeways and a state highway. The city encompasses a 309 square mile planning area with more than 100 square miles already incorporated, including urban and commercial developments, ranches, and an industrial park located within a foreign trade zone.

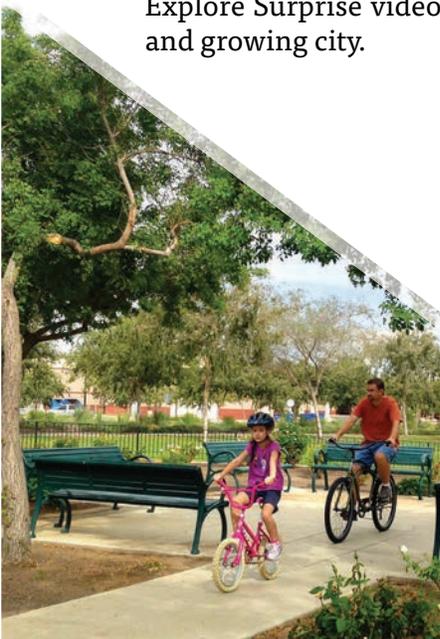
Surprise scores “well above” national database averages in community cleanliness and in residents’ intent to remain in Surprise, and surveys show a strong trust in

local government. New, safe neighborhoods, outstanding year-round outdoor recreation, a mixture of families and retirees, affordable and executive housing, a solid school system, and a growing industrial base have created a quality of life residents rate as above national benchmarks.

At its center is the 180-acre, multi-use Surprise Recreation Campus. Named the “Best Place to see a Spring Training Game,” the Recreation Campus is the spring training home of the Kansas City Royals and Texas Rangers, while supporting a year-round youth sports program and spectacular special events. Across from the stadium is the 25-court Tennis and Racquet Complex, a USTA Public Tennis Facility of the Year, hosting national events as well as residential tennis programs. The rec campus also features the Surprise Regional library, aquatic park, lighted basketball courts, and a fishing lake. Adjacent to the recreation campus is the Surprise Civic Center featuring a four-story City Hall, built in 2009, and the Surprise Public Safety Building, home to City Court, Police, Fire-Medical Administration and the Surprise TV broadcast studio.

With an average of over 330 sunny days a year, Surprise residents and visitors enjoy a healthy outdoor lifestyle. The City’s western border nestles against the White Tank Mountains, perfect for hiking, biking, camping or viewing historic Native American petroglyphs. Of course, Arizona is a golfer’s dream, with more than 100 golf courses in the greater Phoenix area, including eight in Surprise. Just a short drive from Surprise are venues for professional football, baseball, and basketball. In addition to Surprise Stadium, the Phoenix area hosts spring training facilities for 13 other Major League Baseball teams. Arizona State University in nearby Tempe is a nationally known center of education, athletics and culture. Arizona State University West and Estrella Mountain Community College are each just 20 minutes from Surprise.

Please visit the city’s mobile-friendly website [www.surpriseaz.gov](http://www.surpriseaz.gov), where you can watch a welcoming Explore Surprise video, review FY17 budget documents, and learn more about Arizona’s most exciting and growing city.





## CITY GOVERNMENT

The City of Surprise operates under a Council/Manager form of government. The seven-member City Council is elected to staggered four-year terms. Each council member represents an election district, with the exception of the Mayor, who is elected at-large. It is the responsibility of the City Council to set policy.

Surprise has a workforce of 860.5 full-time equivalents (FTEs) for FY 2017, and a budget of \$271.9 million.

## THE CITY COURT

The City Court has a staff of 21.1 FTEs for FY 2017 with an annual operating budget of approximately \$2.34 million.

## ASSOCIATE JUDGE

The Associate Judge is appointed by the City Council, reports directly to Presiding Judge and is responsible for misdemeanor and civil traffic, zoning, orders of protection, and injunctions against harassment cases filed with the Surprise City Court. The Associate Judge is responsible for applying relevant Supreme Court Rules, State statutes, City ordinances, and case law when presiding over trials to the court, trials to a jury, pre-trial conferences, arraignments, motions, and other hearings. The Associate Judge is also responsible for imposing sentences commensurate to the offense and within the parameters allowed by law. Competencies include exercising considerable independent judgment in managing the docket, ruling on motions, and adjudicating cases. The initial and subsequent re-appointments of the Associate Judge shall be for terms of four years. The initial term shall end on June 30th following the end of the applicable term.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- 1) be an active member of the State Bar of Arizona in good standing for at least five (5) years prior to appointment,
- 2) be free from any discipline by any State Bar or State Supreme Court for a period of ten years prior to appointment,
- 3) successfully complete employment screening pursuant to City of Surprise Code, Chapter 3.





## APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

To be considered for this challenging and rewarding career opportunity, please visit [www.surpriseaz.gov/associatejudge](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/associatejudge) for information on the application and selection process.

The final filing date for this position is Friday, September 9, 2016 by noon.

The Human Resources Department can be reached at:

E-mail: [hr@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:hr@surpriseaz.gov)  
Tel.: (623) 222-3532

## COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The compensation of the Associate Judge shall be fixed by the Surprise City Council. The City offers a competitive benefit package that includes:

- Arizona State Retirement System
- City contributes to health, dental and vision coverage for employee and dependents
- Annual leave; 11 paid holidays
- Tuition reimbursement up to \$4,000
- Voluntary Supplemental Retirement Savings Plans (SRSP) are available
- Group Life insurance (100% paid for employee)
- Flexible spending account (IRS Section 125)
- Deferred Compensation

