



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting October 21, 2025

DATE: October 21, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Jacqueline Del Llano Chapa, Presiding Judge, Municipal Court
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Collection Services for Municipal Court

CAPTION:

Motion authorizing execution of amendment #1 to the service agreement with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson, LLP for delinquent fine collection services for Municipal Court to extend the term of the agreement for five years.

SUMMARY:

This motion authorizes an amendment to extend the agreement for debt collection services for the Municipal Court for a period of five years. Debt collection services include Class C misdemeanors such as traffic violations, disorderly conduct, public intoxication, city ordinance violations, etc.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Article 103.0031 Texas Code of Criminal Procedure authorizes a governing body to enter into contract with a private attorney or private vendor for the provision of collection services and authorizes the addition of a 30% collection fee to delinquent violations. The 30% is added to violations 60 days after warrants are issued or 60 days after violations are delinquent. The fee is paid by defendants and is payable to the vendor. This is a common tool used by courts throughout the state to bring violators into compliance.

Linebarger has been providing collection services to the Corpus Christi Municipal Court since 2004. Linebarger has an office located in Corpus Christi with one of their call centers located in San Antonio and focuses on six main areas to drive results: Technology, Adaptability, Experienced Team members, Local Involvement, Proven Results, and

Tailored Programs. Linebarger contacts violators by mailing letters, outbound call campaigns, skip-tracing, and provides regular performance reports and communications, among other available options.

Since 2004, Linebarger has recovered **\$66.3 million** fines and fees for our court, along with resolving **631,874 cases**. With Linebarger, every account is treated equally, regardless of its age.

ALTERNATIVES:

Potential alternatives include not extending the contract and seeking an alternative collection agency or not utilizing a private vendor for municipal court debt collection.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for Municipal Court Services because the 30% collection fee is paid by delinquent defendants. Over the last five years, approximately **\$3.6 million** has been collected annually.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this motion authorizing a five-year amendment of the service agreement with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson, LLP as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Amendment for Collection Services for Municipal Court