ORDINANCE __3611

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND RELATING TO THE KIRKLAND MUNICIPAL COURT, PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF COURT COMMISSIONERS AND AMENDING CHAPTER 3.49 OF THE KIRKLAND MUNICIPAL CODE.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby added to Chapter 3.49 of the Kirkland Municipal Code new sections relating to the appointment and authority of municipal court commissioners to read as follows:

3.49.300 Appointment of commissioners.

The provisions of this chapter shall define the position of court commissioner for the Kirkland Municipal Court pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 3.50 RCW. The Kirkland Municipal Judge may appoint up to five part time municipal court commissioners. Each commissioner shall hold office at the pleasure of the municipal judge.

3.49.310 Commissioner qualifications.

A commissioner authorized to hear or dispose of a case must be a lawyer, who is admitted to practice in the State of Washington, or a non-lawyer who has passed the qualifying examination for lay judges for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction under RCW 3.34.060. A commissioner need not be a resident of Kirkland or of King County.

3.49.320 Authority of court commissioner.

The municipal judge shall, by order filed with the municipal court administrator and the city clerk, designate the authority of a commissioner to hear, decide or dispose of cases within the jurisdiction of the municipal court. Such authorization may be limited to specific types of cases and calendars. A court commissioner may not preside over jury trials or bench trials in criminal cases.

3.49.330 Magistrate.

A commissioner whose authority is limited to hearing and disposing of infractions, non-contested or arraignment calendar matters, or the issuance of warrants may, but need not be, referred to as "magistrate".

3.49.340 Compensation of court commissioner.

A municipal court commissioner shall receive compensation for services rendered at an hourly rate which shall not exceed 70% of the compensation for a judge pro tem as calculated on an hourly basis.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be in force and effect five days from and after its passage by the Kirkland City Council and publication, as required by law.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in regular, open meeting this __9th day of __December____, 1997.

Signed in authentication thereof this _9th_day of December____, 1997.

MAYOR MAYOR

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

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