

DENNIS S. CHAVEZ

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Coconino County
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February 9th, 2012

Dennis Chavez
3814 East Summer run Drive
Flagstaff ,Arizona 86004

Dear Flagstaff City Council ,

I'm writing in response to your advertisement for the now vacant City Council seat. I am first of all a proud 57 year resident of Flagstaff. Having been born and raised in Flagstaff gives me a unique outlook as to what has been done and what still needs to be done to improve the lives of our residents. My work with the court system in Flagstaff has taught me to look at life in the city through several different eyes. The hardships people go through as well as the successes they can achieve. My work experience in Flagstaff has been proof of what you can achieve if believe in yourself. After graduating from Flagstaff High School in 1973 and coming from a hardworking poor family I began working for the now closed Phillips Ind. As a wood stacker and left as a shipping clerk after 7 years. I moved to the now closed NEBS print plant and worked as a shipping clerk and moved to the printing department. I worked at NEBS for 8 years . I worked for 2 years as a supervisor of a janitorial crew at the now closed Kmart. After suffering a back injury there I went back to school to try to reinvent myself. I took keyboarding and computer classes at Coconino Community College and had a 3.97 grade average. I applied at the Justice Court in 1995 and was hired by Judge James Sedillo as a clerk and Spanish Interpreter. A year and half later I was offered a position at the City Municipal Court. I worked as a front counter clerk for Judge Moran and did Spanish interpreting for all three courts. During my 7 years at the City Court I decided to run for Justice of The Peace of Coconino County. I lost to The Honorable Judge Brien Kolb. During my run I had to take a leave from the City Court. I worked for Tungland Corp. working with disabled kids and adults. This experience was the most gratifying job I have ever done. It not only opened my eyes to a whole new world, a world most people have difficulty accepting and dealing with. I was proud to have been given opportunity to help

someone do their best. I got hired at my current employer, The Coconino County Juvenile Court working as a Youth Care Worker in the Detention Facility. I was promoted to Shift leader 4 years ago. I mentor as well as care for our youth in a safe and structured environment. This job is also gratifying and challenging because we are working with our future residents

The thing I am most proud of is my family. I have been married to my wife Cathy for 35 years and together we have raised two great daughters Alena and Selina and are now blessed with a Grandson Joseph. I am The President of The Coordinating Council on Mexican American Affairs and a member since 1996. I am on the Board of Directors of CASA. What I have to offer the Council and our residents is stability, an open mind and the willingness to work together for a common cause Our City, Our People, Our Future . Thank You for taking the time to read my journey.

I look forward to discussing the position with you.

Sincerely,

Dennis S. Chavez

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The City Council may consider applicant qualifications for the Council vacancy in executive sessions which are closed to the public, and then make the appointments in a public meeting. You have the right, however, to have your application considered in a public meeting by providing a written request to the City Clerk.

**CITY OF FLAGSTAFF
APPLICATION TO SERVE ON THE CITY COUNCIL**

RETURN TO: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 211 WEST ASPEN AVENUE, FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86001

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN BLACK INK
APPLICATIONS WILL BE KEPT ON FILE FOR ONE YEAR!

DATE: 2-9-12

YOUR NAME: Dennis Chavez HOME PHONE: 928-221-1008

HOME ADDRESS: 3814 East Summerrun Dr. ZIP: 86004

MAILING ADDRESS (If Different from Above): _____

EMPLOYER: Coconino County JOB TITLE: Youth Care Worker III

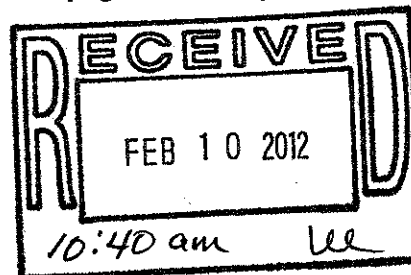
BUS. PHONE: 226-5599 CELL: 221-1008 E-MAIL: DSC Chavez 1 @ Yahoo . Com

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY 57 years PREFERRED TELEPHONE: HOME WORK CELL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please complete the following questions:

Explain why you are the best person to fill the position. (Please attach an extra page if needed.)

see attached pages



What do you think are the most important issues facing the City Council in the next two years? (Please attach an extra page if needed.)

see attached pages

I certify that I meet the statutory requirements of living within the corporate limits of the City of Flagstaff for at least one year, that I am over the age of 18 years, that I am a registered voter of the City of Flagstaff; *and that I have read and understand the right to have my application considered in a public meeting.*


Applicant Signature

The City of Flagstaff is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

02/10/12

I Dennis Chavez feel I am best qualified to fill the position of the vacated City Council seat because I have resided in Flagstaff my entire life, which is 57 years. I have seen the town grow from a sleepy quiet community into a vibrant and thriving town. During that time I saw our city government grow with the needs of our residents. I have been involved and consider myself a bit of an activist regarding the direction our city is headed. I have been on the listening side of many discussions with our residents such as the current Rio De Flag project which has taken far too long to complete at the expense of our Southside residents. The SB1070 ruling created a sense of pride in this Council when it was taken head on. Civil rights have to be protected at all cost and that includes everyone. Working for various Courts has given me the inside view into what really is happening in Flagstaff not just what we read in our local paper. I have seen the very bad as well as the very good in people. I have seen people make dramatic changes and others whose lives continue to be a challenge everyday. I deal with the very rich as well as the very poor and everyone in between with the same conviction. I feel that our residents deserve an open minded person who is willing to work hard on their behalf. As President of the Coordinating Council on Mexican American Affairs I have had to defend our beliefs as well as accepted the views of all others because without compromise we will be doomed to spin our wheels for an eternity. Our Council has raised over \$100,000 for scholarships to NAU for local students and have made education a priority.

My work on the Board of Directors of CASA enables me to continue to help our kids make the right choice. As a Juvenile Detention employee and shift leader I see everyday the negative effects of drugs ,alcohol, gangs and poverty. I am reminded everyday that we have a lot of work to do on the home front. We can take them in and clean them up but then we return them back to the same situation from which they came from and expect a different result?

In short I feel my hard work ethic and commitment to the community we serve makes me the ideal candidate for the open City Council seat.

Thank You
Dennis Chavez

02/10/12

The most important issues facing the City Council in the next two years are:

1. A balanced budget.
2. The Rio de Flag Project
3. Water Resources for the future of Flagstaff.
4. Fiscal responsibility from top to bottom.
5. A safe snow play area, our snow could be our profit not a private companies take a chance.
6. A much needed new City Court.
7. Affordable Housing.

Thank You

Dennis Chavez

Dennis Chavez

Objective

To fill the vacated seat on The Flagstaff City Council

Summary of Qualifications

March 2004- Current **Coconino County Juvenile Court
Youth Care Worker III**

- I am a shift leader in charge of maintaining the security and safety of minors while detained. I create programs of interest. I am a mentor. I help train new employees to work with our kids and each other. I insure that the policies and procedures are followed as mandated by AOC and our facility. I document all activity to assure compliance such as where kids are at all times, reporting incidents, suicide prevention and reporting to CPS in cases of abuse. I work directly with our probation staff and keep in constant communication about how their kids are doing in detention. I go to court with the minors to assure that the Judge gets the full story on the minors behavior. I Work With Our Future.
- March 2002 -2004 **Tungland Corp. Care Provider**
- I provided safe and productive homecare for a then 18 year old with mental and physical handicaps. I taught him how to be a productive and confident member of the community. Skills taught were work ethic, people skills, taking responsibility for ones hygiene. I documented his progress and his setbacks to insure that he was getting the services that would help him grow. I taught him how to have pride in his culture and was involved in several Navajo Ceremonies. I believe I learned from him that the issues involved with the mental heath field are often overlooked and under funded with many stigmas attached. This has helped me in my current job as a YouthCare Worker dealing with similar issues in mental health and our youth,
- 1995-2002 **Flagstaff Municipal Court Head Counter Clerk**
- I worked for then Judge Moran at the front counter. I was in charge of taking money for fines, bonds and dealing with the public as an information source. I did Spanish interpretation for the City Court, Justice Court and the Superior Court . I also had the only Spanish

information line to our Court giving Spanish speaking customers information they needed. I helped Spanish speaking customers fill out Court forms for Orders of Protection and payment plans. I was responsible for the end of the day money totals and balances. I received the City Managers Employee of the Year Award for my work with Spanish speaking customers. During my employment with the City Court I ran for Justice of The Peace and came close to winning the election against Judge Brian Kolb.

- **1993-1995 Flagstaff Justice Court Court Clerk**

- I worked for Judge James Sedillo as a court clerk. My duties included, front counter, phone information to the court in English and Spanish. I also did Spanish interpretation for the Justice Court, Superior Court as well as the City Court. I took in money for fines bonds and help set-up payment plans. I helped Spanish customers with filling out forms for Orders of Protection as well as provide information on related issues.

- **Education** [1970-1973] [Flagstaff High School] Flagstaff Arizona

- [1991-1992] [Coconino Community College]

- **[Degree/Major]**

- [Computer classes , Keyboarding] 3.97 GPA

Professional [President of The Coordinating Council on Mexican American Affairs, Board of Directors of CASA, Selection Committee NAU Scholarship Foundation.

Memberships

Languages [English, Spanish.]

References [Upon Request]

Extracurricular **The Fajita Festival, Community Activism, Coaching youth sports**

Activities **Spending time with my grandson JJ, Camping, Fishing, Golf, Leatherwork, Woodworking, Painting, Hiking,**

Awards City Of Flagstaff Employee of the Year for the City Court, Coconino County Supervisor Training, Juvenile Detention Employee of the Quarter