



CITY OF KENNER

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MAYOR

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KENNER MAGISTRATE ASKS TEMPORARY RELIEF FROM DUTY

Sean D. Alfortish, a magistrate judge in the Kenner Mayor's Court the past 10 years, has asked Mayor Ed Muniz Friday to relieve him of his duties for the next 60 days while he deals with public criticism and a probe of his actions as president of a non-profit organization associated with the horse racing industry in Louisiana.

Mayor Muniz said he will grant the request, and added that Alfortish "has done his job in Kenner without criticism from anyone... and I'll accede to his wishes until justice prevails."

Alfortish sits as a magistrate judge on Fridays. He was originally appointed to the position by former Mayor Louis Congemi and reappointed by successive mayors.

In a letter to the mayor Friday, Alfortish said he has a "deep love for this city and a passion for the position to which you have entrusted me as a magistrate judge," but added there is a "public responsibility which comes with being a magistrate and presiding over citizens."

He said, "Consequently, I am voluntarily requesting that I be held out of my normal Friday rotation for the next 60 days until such time as this probe of the Horseman's Benevolent Protective Association can either be completed or resolved."

Alfortish was referring to criticism he has received in connection with his election as president of the HBPA last March where some association members accused him of stealing the election and of not revealing to them the association's full financial records.

He said, "No full time office members of the organization, nor myself, have been informed of the exact nature of this probe, nor its targets by authorities. I am very proud of my accomplishments in the HBPA over the past four years and will continue to act as president of the HBPA through the remainder of my term."

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