

CONTENT

TITLE ONE

Federal Judicial Branch

ONLY CHAPTER

Organs of the Federal Judicial Branch (Article 1)

TITLE TWO

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation (articles 2-3)

CHAPTER II

Plenary meeting

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning of the plenary meeting (articles 4-9)

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the plenary meeting (articles 10-11)

CHAPTER III

The President of the Supreme Court of Justice (articles 12-14)

CHAPTER IV

Courtrooms

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning of the courtrooms (articles 15-20)

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the courtrooms (articles 21-22)

SECTION 3

Courtroom chairman (articles 23-25)

TITLE THREE

Circuit courts

CHAPTER I

General provisions (articles 26-27)

CHAPTER II

Unitary courts (articles 28-32)

CHAPTER III

Specialized courts

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning (articles 33-36)

SECTION 2

Powers and duties (articles 37-39)

SECTION 3

Chairman (articles 40-41)

TITLE FOUR

District courts

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning of the district courts (articles 42-47)

CHAPTER II

Powers and duties of the district courts (articles 48-55)

TITLE FIVE

Federal Citizens Jury

ONLY CHAPTER (articles 56-67)

TITLE SIXTH

Administrative organs of the Federal Judicial Branch

CHAPTER I

The Federal Judicial Council

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning of the Federal Judicial Council (articles 68-76)

SECTION 2

Commissions of the Federal Judicial Council (articles 77-80)

SECTION 3

Powers and duties of the Federal Judicial Council (articles 81-84)

SECTION 4

Chairman (Article 85)

SECTION 5

Executive secretariat (articles 86-87)

CHAPTER II

Auxiliary organs

SECTION 1

General provisions (Article 88)

SECTION 2

Public Advocacy of Federal Jurisdiction (articles 89-91 repealed)

SECTION 3

The Judicial Institute (articles 92-97)

SECTION 4

The Judicial Inspectorate (articles 98-102)

SECTION 5

Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Branch (articles 103-104)

TITLE SEVEN

The judicial career (articles 105-111)

CHAPTER I

Admission to the judicial career (articles 112-117)

CHAPTER II

Assignment and ratification (articles 118-121)

CHAPTER III

Administrative reviews (articles 122-128)

TITLE EIGHT

Accountabilities of the public servants working in the Federal Judicial Branch (articles 129-140)

TITLE NINE

Jurisdiction on ordinary controversies

ONLY CHAPTER (articles 141-143)

TITLE TEN

General provisions

CHAPTER I

Territorial division (articles 144-145)

CHAPTER II

Impediments (articles 146-149)

CHAPTER III

The Constitutional Oath (articles 150-155)

CHAPTER IV

Judicial proceedings (articles 156-158)

CHAPTER V

Vacations and non-working days (articles 159-163)

CHAPTER VI

Leaves (articles 164-176)

CHAPTER VII

Jurisprudence (articles 177-179)

CHAPTER VIII

Federal Judicial Branch's personnel (articles 180-183)

TITLE ELEVEN

The Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning (articles 184-186)

CHAPTER II

The Superior Court

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning (articles 187-188)

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the Superior Court (articles 189-189Bis)

CHAPTER III

The Chairman of the Electoral Court (articles 190-191)

CHAPTER IV

Regional courtrooms

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning (articles 192-194)

SECTION 2

Powers and duties (article 195)

SECTION 3

Chairpersons (articles 196-197)

CHAPTER V

The electoral magistrates

SECTION 1

Procedure for the election of electoral magistrates (Article 198)

SECTION 2

Electoral magistrates' duties (Article 199)

CHAPTER VI

The General Secretary and the Assistant Secretary

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning in the Superior Court (Article 200)

SECTION 2

Duties of the General Secretary and the Assistant Secretary (articles 201-202)

CHAPTER VII

General secretaries assigned to the regional courtrooms

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning in the regional courtrooms (Article 203)

SECTION 2

General Secretary's duties (Article 204)

CHAPTER VIII

The Committee of Directors

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning (articles 205-208)

SECTION 2

The Committee of Directors powers and duties (Article 209)

SECTION 3

The chairman of the Committee of Directors (Article 210)

SECTION 4

Auxiliary organs (Article 211)

CHAPTER IX

Special provisions

SECTION 1

Requirements for the position (articles 212-218)

SECTION 2

Accountabilities, impediments and excuses (articles 219-222)

SECTION 3

Vacation periods, non-working days, resignations, absences and leaves (articles 223-228)

SECTION 4

Judicial proceedings and jurisdictional archive (articles 229-231)

SECTION 5

Jurisprudence (articles 232-235)

SECTION 6

Adversarial thesis complaints (articles 236-237)

SECTION 7

The constitutional oath (articles 238-239)

SECTION 8

Electoral Court personnel (articles 240-241)

TITLE TWELVE

Support fund

CHAPTER I

Organization (Article 242)

CHAPTER II

Integration (Article 243-244)

CHAPTER III

Management and operation (articles 245-248)

CHAPTER IV

Fund resources allocation (articles 249-251)

TRANSITORY ARTICLES

This Organic Law was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on May 26, 1995.

This Organic Law was updated by the reforms published on January 15, 2009.

In the margin, there is a stamp showing the coat of arms, which says: Mexican United States.- The Mexican Presidency.

I, **ERNESTO ZEDILLO PONCE DE LEON**, President of the United Mexican States, address you, Mexican people, to inform that:

The Congress of the Union has submitted to me the following

DECREE

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES DECREES THE:

ORGANIC LAW OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL BRANCH**TITLE FIRST**

Federal Judicial Branch

ONLY CHAPTER

Organs of the Federal Judicial Branch

Article 1.- Federal Judicial Authority is vested in:

I. The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation

II. The Electoral Court

III. The collegiate circuit courts

IV. The unitary circuit courts

V. The district courts

VI. The Federal Judicial Council

VII. The Federal Citizens Jury

VIII. The state courts and the Federal District courts for the cases specified in the Article 107, section XII, of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and for other cases where their assistance is required.

TITLE TWO

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning

Article 2.- The Supreme Court of Justice shall consist of eleven ministers, it shall work at plenary meeting or at courtrooms. The President of the Supreme Court of Justice will not be part of the courtrooms.

Article 3.- Every year, the Supreme Court of Justice shall accomplish two periods of sessions. The first period of sessions shall begin on the first working day of January and shall end on the last working day of the first fortnight of July. The second period of sessions shall begin on the first working day of August and shall end on the last working day of the first fortnight of December.

CHAPTER II

Plenary meeting

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning of the plenary meeting

Article 4.- Plenary meeting shall consist of eleven ministers; however, seven members is enough to operate, except for the cases described in the Article 105 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, section I, penultimate paragraph and section II. In such cases, there must be at least eight ministers to function.

Article 5.- Plenary ordinary sessions shall be carried out within the periods established in the Article 3 of this organic law. Date and time must be fixed by the plenary meeting.

During recess, the Supreme Court of Justice can perform plenary meetings at the request of any of its members. Request shall be submitted to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, who shall call an extraordinary session.

Article 6.- Regarding affairs mentioned in the Article 10, plenary meetings of the Supreme Court of Justice must be opened, unless the plenary meeting decides otherwise.

Sessions discussing affairs mentioned in the Article 11 shall be private.

Article 7.- Rulings pronounced by the plenary meeting must be approved unanimously or by majority, except for the cases established in the Article 105 of the Mexican Constitution, section I, penultimate paragraph, and section II, where at least eight votes are required to approve the ruling. In the cases

described in the Article 105, section I, penultimate paragraph, decisions may be taken by the simple majority of the members present; however, in order to apply such decisions in a general manner, they must be approved by at least eight members.

Ministers can abstain from vote only in two cases: when they have a legal impediment; and when they were not present during discussion of the affair in question.

In the event of tie, the case shall be resolved in the next session by the ministers who do not have any legal impediment. If a majority is not reached this time, the project shall be discarded. Then, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice shall ask a minister to prepare a new resolution proposal based on the opinions expressed. If tie persists, the President of the Supreme Court shall have casting vote.

If a minister disagrees with the majority, he may state his particular vote at the end of the respective final judgment, provided that he submits his particular vote within the five days after approval.

Article 8.- Ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice shall hold office for a 15 year term, unless they are struck down by physical or mental invalidity.

Article 9.- Plenary meeting of the Supreme Court of Justice shall appoint a general secretary and an assistant secretary, who shall be proposed by the President of the Supreme Court.

The President of the Supreme Court of Justice shall appoint the auxiliary secretaries and clerks necessary to process the cases submitted to the Supreme Court, as well as the auxiliary staff approved in the expenditure budget.

Study and account secretaries shall be appointed by the respective minister, according to that established in the last paragraph of the Article 115 of this organic law.

The general secretary, the assistant secretary, the auxiliary secretaries, the study and account secretaries and the clerks must be law graduates, must have good reputation and not have been sentenced by a deliberate crime punishable with more than one year imprisonment. The general secretary must have, in addition, at least five years experience at the federal judicial branch work. The assistant secretary and the study and account secretaries must have at least three years experience at the federal judicial branch work.

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the plenary meeting

Article 10.- The plenary meeting of the Supreme Court of Justice shall resolve the following affairs:

I. Constitutional controversies and unconstitutionality mentioned in sections I and II of the Article 105 of the Mexican Constitution.

II. Appeals against sentences pronounced by district judges or unitary circuit courts in the following cases:

a) Whenever the matter is about the constitutionality of a general regulation, namely, when an *Amparo* trial is initiated against a federal or state law, or against a law applicable in the Federal District, or against an international treaty, since the plaintiff believes they infringe the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

b) When the Supreme Court brings the case, according to the powers conferred by the Article 107, section VIII, letter “b” second paragraph of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, due to the importance of the case.

c) Whenever the matter is about a case described in sections II and III of the Article 103 of the Mexican Constitution.

III. Appeals against sentences as a result of a direct *Amparo* trial pronounced by the collegiate circuit courts, whenever the unconstitutionality of the challenged law has been omitted by the court in the sentence.

IV. Appeals initiated in accordance with the section V of the Article 95 of the *Amparo* trial Act, provided that the plenary meeting of the Supreme Court of Justice has had to resolve the case in question, according to the Article 99, second paragraph, of the *Amparo* trial Act.

V. Appeals against the arrangements or covenants made by the President of the Supreme Court of Justice rendered during the processing of the jurisdictional matters within the competence of the plenary meeting of the Supreme Court.

VI. The excuses and impediments of ministers in matters within the competence of the Supreme Court of Justice running in plenary meeting.

VII. Implementation of the section XVI of the Article 107 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

VIII. Allegations of contradiction between thesis supported by the courtrooms of the Supreme Court or by the collegiate circuit courts, when it's a question of affairs under no exclusive jurisdiction of one courtroom, or thesis supported by the Electoral Court within the meaning of articles 236 and 237 of this organic law.

IX. Labor disputes arising between the Supreme Court and its employees, in accord with the terms established in the Article 123, part “B”, section XII, of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and based on the opinion submitted by the Substantiating Commission of the Federal Judicial Branch and on the Articles 152 and 161 of the Federal Labor Act for Public Servants, which is the statutory law corresponding to the part “B” of Article 123 of the Mexican Constitution, where relevant.

X. The trials on cancellation of exclusion of the states from the national system of fiscal coordination, and the trials on fulfillment of the agreements made between the Federal Government and the state governments or the Federal District Government, in accordance with the law on fiscal coordination and

with the statutory law of the Article 105 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, with respect to constitutional disputes.

XI. Any other matter within the competence of the Supreme Court, which does not correspond to the courtrooms.

XII. Other affairs expressly conferred by laws.

Article 11.- The plenary meeting of the Supreme Court of Justice shall, at all times, protect the autonomy of the organs of the Federal Judicial Branch and the independence of its members. The plenary meeting shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To elect its President in accord with the terms established in the articles 12 and 13 of this organic law, as well as to accept his resignation.

II. To grant leaves to its members according to the Article 99 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

III. To set, through general covenants, the days and times for the ordinary sessions of the plenum.

IV. To specify, under general agreements, the jurisdiction of each courtroom and to establish a system for distribution of cases among them.

V. To forward the cases to the appropriate courtroom. If any of the courtrooms considers that the case must be resolved by the Supreme Court in plenary meeting, such courtroom shall notify the plenum, which must determine whose jurisdiction is the case.

VI. To submit to the collegiate circuit courts those matters within their authority. If the collegiate circuit court considers that the case must be resolved by the Supreme Court in plenary meeting, it shall notify the plenum, which must determine whose jurisdiction is the case.

VII. To resolve on administrative complaints relating to members or staff of the Supreme Court, after obtaining the opinion of its President, including those complaints about violation of the constraints mentioned in the Article 101 of the Mexican Constitution, according to the terms provided in the Title Eight of this organic law.

VIII. To resolve, according to the provisions of this organic law, the administrative revisions described in the eighth paragraph of the Article 100 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

IX. To study and settle any dispute which may arise between the courtrooms of the Supreme Court and inside the Federal Judicial Branch about interpretation and implementation of the provisions established in this organic law and in the articles 94, 97, 100 and 101 of the Mexican Constitution.

X. To determine the assignments for the ministers of the different courtrooms and to make the necessary changes among its members on the occasion of the election of the President of the Supreme Court.

- XI. To create committees as necessary to deal with matters within its field.
- XII. To appoint its representative for the Substantiating Commission of the Federal Judicial Branch.
- XIII. To keep a register of its employees' assets declarations, in accordance with the section VI of the article 80 of the Public Service Accountability Act.
- XIV. To appoint the General Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and the head of the Department of Compilation and Systematization of Thesis, who must be proposed by the President of the Supreme Court; as well as to accept their resignation, dismiss them due to a serious cause, suspend them when advisable for good performance or as a disciplinary measure, and file an accusation or complaint when they are involved in a crime.
- XV. To request the intervention of the Federal Judicial Council wherever necessary for the proper coordination and functioning between the organs of the Federal Judicial Branch.
- XVI. To approve the annual expenditure budget for the Supreme Court of Justice submitted by its President, taking into account the foreseen income and public spending.
- XVII. To reprimand, warn, and impose fines up to 180 daily minimum wage corresponding to the Federal District on the lawyers, business agents, prosecutors and litigants when they show a lack of respect towards an organ or member of the Federal Judicial Branch during their trials.
- XVIII. To exercise the powers conferred by the second and third paragraphs of Article 97 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.
- XIX. To regulate the functioning of the bodies involved in the work of: a) compiling and systematization of thesis and final judgments and their publication, grouping them when form legal precedent; b) statistics and information technology of the Supreme Court of Justice; c) the documentation and analysis center, which must include the central library, the historical archive, the central archive and the archives belonging to the federal courts outside the Federal District; and d) compiling of laws and records. When necessary, the plenum can make and execute agreements with the Federal Judicial Council in order to implement the measures necessary for the efficient distribution of publications.
- XX. To study about interpretation and resolution of disputes arising from contracts or fulfillment of obligations between individuals or government agencies departments and the Supreme Court or the Federal Judicial Council.
- XXI. To issue regulations and general agreements on matters within its field.
- XXII. Other powers and duties conferred by law.

CHAPTER III

The President of the Supreme Court of Justice

Article 12.- Every four years, the members of the Supreme Court shall elect among them their President, who may not be reelected for the immediate next term. The election will take place at the first meeting of the year as appropriate.

Article 13.- In the case of absence of the President where a leave is not necessary, he shall be substituted by the ministers in the order of their designation. In the event of an absence less than six months, when a leave is necessary, ministers shall appoint an interim president to replace him. In the event of an absence longer than six months, the ministers shall appoint a new president, who shall hold the office until the end of the term. In such case, those who have served as interim president may be appointed as substitute.

Article 14.- The President of the Supreme Court of Justice has the following powers and duties:

- I. To represent the Supreme Court of Justice and to administer it.
- II. To process the issues and turn them to the members of the Supreme Court of Justice in order to develop the respective resolution proposal.

If the President of the Supreme Court deems questionable or transcendent some formality, he shall ask a minister to introduce a resolution proposal to the Supreme Court, which shall determine the procedure to be followed.

- III. To authorize the agenda, to guide the debates and preserve order in the plenary sessions of the Supreme Court of Justice.

IV. To sign, together with the speaker and the General Secretary, the rulings pronounced by the plenary session of the Supreme Court. When a resolution different than the proposed one is approved, the new text shall be distributed among the ministers and, if they do not submit objections within a period of five working days, the resolution must be signed by persons indicated in this paragraph.

- V. To answer the correspondence of the Supreme Court of Justice, except for the correspondence that belongs to the courtroom chairmen.

VI. To issue the measures necessary to assure a good service and discipline in the offices of the Supreme Court.

VII. To receive, process and, where appropriate, resolve the administrative complaints submitted due to mistakes done during solution of affairs under the jurisdiction of the plenum of the Supreme Court, of any of the courtrooms or of the administrative organs of the Supreme Court, in accordance with the provisions established in the Title Eighth of this organic law.

VIII. To legalize, by himself or through the General Secretary, the signature of the servants of the Supreme Court whenever the law requires it.

IX. To grant leaves to the servants of the Supreme Court of Justice in accord with the terms provided in this law.

X. To notify the President of the Republic about the definitive absences of ministers of the Supreme Court, as well as the temporary absences that require a new appointment, so that he submits his proposal according to the section XVIII of the Article 89 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

XI. To present the annual work report of the Federal Judicial Branch before the ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice and the members of the Federal Judicial Council at the end of the second ordinary period of sessions.

XII. To opportunistly propose the candidates for the appointments that are to be done by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice.

XIII. To appoint the public servants responsible for the administration of the Supreme Court of Justice and regulate their leaves, dismissals, resignations and vacations.

XIV. To issue the internal regulations and general covenants required by the Supreme Court for administrative affairs.

XV. To prepare the preliminary expenditure budget for the Supreme Court of Justice and submit it to the plenum of the Supreme Court for approval.

XVI. To opportunistly submit to the President of the Republic his proposals of expenditure budgets for the Federal Judicial Branch in order to comply with the procedure established in the last paragraph of Article 100 of the Mexican Constitution; as well as to manage the budget of the Supreme Court.

XVII. To appoint the ministers in charge of the cases mentioned in articles 17 and 18 of this organic law.

XVIII. To appoint the minister or ministers who should perform the urgent administrative duties during the recess of the Supreme Court of Justice.

XIX. To establish the general provisions and scales about admission, incentives, training and promotions for the administrative personnel of the Supreme Court, as well as the conditions for their dismissal.

XX. To define the punishments mentioned in the section XVII of Article 11 of this organic law, provided that the complaints have been filed before him.

XXI. Other powers and duties conferred by the laws, internal regulations, and general covenants.

CHAPTER IV**Courtrooms****SECTION 1****Integration and functioning of the courtrooms**

Article 15.- The Supreme Court of Justice shall have two courtrooms, which shall consist of five ministers each one. However, the presence of four ministers is enough to be in session.

Article 16.- During the periods of sessions mentioned in the Article 3 of this organic law, courtroom sessions and hearings shall be held on the day and time fixed by the courtrooms through general covenants. Sessions must be public, except for the cases when required to protect morality or public interest.

Article 17.- Rulings shall be taken by unanimity or majority of votes of the ministers present in the courtroom, who may not abstain from voting, but when they have a legal impediment or when they have not been present at the discussion of the matter concerned.

If a majority is not reached, the courtroom chairman shall ask a minister to prepare a new resolution proposal based on the opinions expressed.

If tie persists, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice shall call a member of the other courtroom to attend the session and vote. If tie persists, the courtroom chairman shall have casting vote.

If a minister disagrees with the majority, he may state his particular vote in the respective final judgment, provided that he submits his particular vote within the five days after approval.

Article 18.- Each courtroom shall classify the excuses and impediments of its members. If the excuse or classification of the impediment causes that the case in question cannot be resolved within a maximum period of ten days, the President of the Supreme Court shall call a minister of the other courtroom to attend the respective session.

Article 19.- The courtrooms of the Supreme Court of Justice shall have the power conferred in the section XVII of the Article 11 of this organic law, provided that the complaints have been initiated before them.

Article 20.- Each courtroom shall appoint a secretary and an assistant secretary, who must be proposed by the chairman.

Each courtroom shall appoint the auxiliary secretaries, clerks and auxiliary personnel allowed by the budget, and shall regulate their leaves, dismissals, suspensions and resignations.

The secretary, the assistant secretary, the auxiliary secretaries and the clerks must be law graduates, must have good reputation and not have been sentenced by a deliberate crime punishable with more than one year imprisonment. The assistance secretary must have, in addition, at least three years of professional experience. The secretary must have at least four years of professional experience.

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the courtrooms

Article 21.- The courtrooms shall resolve the following affairs:

I. Appeals against sentences pronounced by district judges in those ordinary disputes where the Federal Government is a party, pursuant to section III of the Article 105 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

II. *Amparo* trials against sentences pronounced by the district judges or the unitary circuit courts, in the following cases:

a) Whenever the matter is about the constitutionality of the legal instrument, namely, when an *Amparo* trial is initiated against a federal regulation issued by the President of the Republic, or against a state regulation issued by the governor, or against a Federal District regulation issued by the Head of the Federal District Government, since the plaintiff believes they infringe the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States; or if the sentence directly interprets a provision of the Constitution.

b) When the Supreme Court brings the case, according to the powers conferred by the Article 107, section VIII, letter “b” second paragraph of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, due to the importance of the case.

III. Appeals against sentences pronounced by the collegiate circuit courts in direct *Amparo* trials:

a) When having challenged the constitutionality of a regulation issued by the President of the Republic, or regulations issued by the governor of a state or by the Head of the Federal District Government, or when the breaking concepts make a direct interpretation of a precept of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States in these matters, it has been decided or omitted to decide about the unconstitutionality or constitutional interpretation.

b) When the Supreme Court brings the case, according to the powers conferred by the Article 107, section V, letter “d”, second paragraph of the Mexican Constitution.

IV. Appeals lodged according to the sections V, VII, VIII, IX and X of the Article 95 of the *Amparo* Act, provided that the *Amparo* trial in question is within the jurisdiction of one of the courtrooms, in accord with the terms of the Article 99, second and third paragraphs, of the *Amparo* Act.

V. Appeals against procedural arrangements issued by its chairman.

VI. Controversies arising by reason of jurisdiction between the federal courts, between federal and state courts, between federal courts and the Federal District courts, between state courts, between a state court and a Federal District court, between any of these courts and the military courts; those controversies that apply to the Supreme Court in accordance with the National Labor Relations Act, as well as controversies arising between the commissions for conciliation and arbitration or the judicial authorities and the Federal Court for Conciliation and Arbitration.

VII. Disputes arising by reason of jurisdiction between the collegiate circuit courts; between a district judge and the supreme court of a state or of the Federal District, between supreme courts in different states, or between a state supreme court and the Federal District Supreme Court of Justice, related to the *Amparo* trials described in articles 51 sections I and II, 52 section I, 53 sections I to VI, 54 section I and 55 of this organic law.

VIII. Complaints about contradiction between thesis supported by two or more collegiate circuit courts, for the purposes referred in the statutory law corresponding to Articles 103 and 107 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

IX. Controversies which arise because of the covenants mentioned in the second paragraph of the Article 119 of the Mexican Constitution.

X. Recognitions of innocence.

XI. Other affairs expressly entrusted by law.

Article 22- The courtrooms can submit the *Amparo* trials lodged before them to the collegiate circuit courts, based on the general covenants issued by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, provided that there are legal precedents. If the collegiate circuit court considers that the case should be resolved by the plenum or a courtroom of the Supreme Court, it shall notify them to determine whose jurisdiction is the case.

SECTION 3

Courtroom chairman

Article 23.- Every two years, the members of the each courtroom shall elect, among them, a chairman, who may not be reelected for the immediate next term.

Article 24.- During an absence shorter than 30 days, courtroom chairman shall be substituted by the other members following the order of their appointment. In case of absences longer than 30 days, the courtroom shall choose a minister as the new chairman.

Article 25.- Courtroom chairmen have the following powers and duties:

I. To define the formalities to be carried out for the cases under the jurisdiction of his courtroom. In the event that the chairman deems questionable or transcendental some formality, he shall appoint a minister to submit a project to the courtroom, so it could decide the appropriate formalities.

II. To distribute the cases among the ministers that make up the courtroom, and authorize the issues that should be resolved in the session.

III. To lead the debate and maintain order during the meetings and hearings.

IV. To sign, together with the speaker and the secretary, the rulings pronounced by the courtroom. When a resolution different than the proposed one is approved, the new text shall be distributed among

the ministers and, if they do not submit objections within a period of five working days, the resolution must be signed by persons indicated in this paragraph.

V. To answer the official correspondence of the courtroom.

VI. To opportunely propose the appointments of public servants and employees for the courtroom.

VII. Other powers and duties conferred by this organic law, the internal regulations and the general covenants of the Supreme Court of justice.

TITLE THREE

Circuit courts

CHAPTER I

General provisions

Article 26.- When a circuit magistrate is absent from office for a period less than 15 days, the respective secretary shall carry out the urgent formalities and shall pronounce the rulings.

When the temporary absence exceeds 15 days, the Federal Judicial Council shall appoint an interim minister. A secretary of the court may be appointed as interim minister; however, until appointment is done, the secretary shall act according to the provisions established in the preceding paragraph.

Article 27.- In absences not exceeding one month, the secretary will be substituted by another secretary (if any), or by an interim secretary or a clerk appointed by the respective magistrate. The same criterion shall apply in the case that, in accordance with the preceding article, the secretary performs the duties of a circuit magistrate, unless authorized by the Federal Judicial Council to appoint an interim secretary.

In absences not exceeding one month, clerks shall be substituted by another clerk belonging to the same court. If there is no more than one clerk, then the respective magistrate shall appoint an interim clerk or a secretary to substitute him.

CHAPTER II

Unitary Courts

Article 28.- Unitary circuit courts shall consist of a magistrate and the number of secretaries, clerks and employees indicated in the budget.

Article 29.- Unitary circuit courts shall resolve the following affairs:

I. *Amparo* trials lodged against acts performed by other unitary circuit court, which are not final decisions and according to that established in the *Amparo* Act related to indirect *Amparo* trials lodged before a district judge. In these cases, the issue shall be turned to the unitary circuit court nearest to the one issuing the contested sentence.

II. Appeals against sentences pronounced by a district court of first instance.

III. Appeals denied.

IV. Classification of impediments, excuses and challenges against district judges, except in *Amparo* trials.

V. Controversies arising between the district judges under its jurisdiction, except in the *Amparo* trials.

VI. Other matters entrusted to them by law.

Unitary circuit courts shall have the power conferred in the section XVII of the Article 11 of this organic law, provided that complaints have been lodged before them.

Article 30.- When a magistrate is prevented to hear a case, then the case shall be turned to the nearest unitary court, taking into account easiness of communication. Until the case is submitted to the other unitary court, the respective secretary shall carry out the urgent formalities.

Article 31.- Unitary courts having a specialized field, shall resolve the matters described in the Article 29 pursuant to the provisions of articles 50 to 55 of this organic law.

Article 32.- When two or more unitary courts with identical jurisdiction are settled in the same place, they shall have a common office, which will receive the cases, will record them by rigorous numerical order, and will distribute immediately the cases among the unitary courts, observing the rules issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

CHAPTER III

Specialized courts

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning

Article 33.- Collegiate circuit courts shall consist of three magistrates, one secretary and the number of secretaries, clerks and employees indicated by the budget.

Article 34.- Magistrates shall make a list of the affairs to be discussed at least three days in advance, which will be resolved in the order established in the list. Proposals that have been rejected or returned for study, shall be discussed within a 15 days period. An issue may not be withdrawn more than once.

Article 35.- Collegiate circuit courts' rulings must be pronounced by unanimity or majority of the votes of their members, who may not abstain from voting but when having an excuse or legal impediment.

If a circuit magistrate disagrees with the majority, he may state his particular vote at the end of the respective judgment, provided that he submits his particular vote within the five days after approval.

Article 36.- When a judge is prevented to hear a case or he is absent for a short or long period, the court shall appoint a substitute.

When the impediment affects two or more judges, then the case shall be turned to the nearest court, taking into account ease of communications.

SECTION 2

Powers and duties

Article 37.- With the exceptions referred in articles 10 and 21 of this organic law, the collegiate circuit courts shall hear and resolve the following affairs:

I. Direct *Amparo* trials against final sentences, binding judgments or resolutions that infringe the plaintiff's rights, or when the plaintiff's rights are violated during the aftermath of the procedure, in the following cases:

a) in criminal matters, the collegiate circuit courts shall hear and resolve about: a) the sentences pronounced by state or federal judicial authorities; b) the sentences related to redress due to persons other than the accused; c) sentences on civil liability pronounced by the court that processed the case or by another court; d) civil liability trials based on the perpetration of a crime and on the sentences pronounced by military courts, whatever the penalties have been imposed.

b) in administrative matters, the collegiate circuit courts shall hear and resolve about sentences or rulings pronounced by state or federal administrative or judicial courts.

c) in civil and mercantile affairs, the collegiate circuit courts shall hear and resolve about those sentences or rulings against which appeal is not accepted, according to the laws governing them, or about sentences or rulings pronounced as a result of appeals on common or federal matters.

d) regarding labor matter, the collegiate circuit courts shall hear and resolve about binding judgments or rulings pronounced by local or federal labor courts or arbitration commissions.

II. Appeals against acts and rulings pronounced by the district judges, the unitary circuit courts or the superior of the responsible court, in the cases specified in sections I, II and III of the Article 83 of the *Amparo* Act.

III. Complaints against the cases mentioned in sections V to XI of the Article 95 of the *Amparo* Act, related to the Article 99 of the same act.

IV. Revisions of sentences pronounced by district judges, by the unitary circuit courts or by the superior of the responsible court, in the cases described in the Article 85 of the *Amparo* Act; also appeals against an extradition agreement issued by the Executive Branch, as well as the cases where the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice exercises the power conferred to it by the sixth paragraph of Article 94 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

V. Reviews lodged according to the provisions established in the section I-B of the Article 104 of the Mexican Constitution.

VI. Conflicts about responsibility arising between unitary circuit courts and district judges under their jurisdiction in *Amparo* trials. When the conflict of responsibility arises between unitary circuit courts or district judges belonging to different jurisdiction, the conflict shall be resolved by the specialized court with jurisdiction over the organ that submitted notification.

VII. Impediments and excuses arising between district judges in *Amparo* trials, or between circuit magistrates on any matter, or between the authorities mentioned in the Article 37 of the *Amparo* Act. In these cases, the issue shall be turned to the nearest collegiate circuit court.

When the impediment or excuse affects only one circuit magistrate for *Amparo* trials, his court shall resolve as appropriate.

VIII. Appeals provided for in Article 103 of the *Amparo* Act.

IX. Other affairs expressly entrusted them by law or general covenants issued by the Supreme Court of Justice, working in plenary meeting or in courtrooms.

Collegiate circuit courts shall have the power conferred to them by the Article 11, section XVII, of this organic law, provided that claims have been lodged before them.

Article 38.- Collegiate circuit courts may be specialized, they shall resolve the issues mentioned in the previous article that correspond to their specialty.

Article 39.- When two or more not specialized collegiate circuit courts for *Amparo* trials or with the same responsibilities are settled in the same place, they shall have a common office, which will receive the cases, will record them by rigorous numerical order, and will submit immediately the cases to the appropriate court, observing the rules issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

SECTION 3

Chairman

Article 40.- Each court shall appoint its chairman, who shall hold office for one year period and may not be reelected for the immediate next period.

Article 41.- Chairmen of the collegiate circuit courts shall have the following powers and duties:

- I. To represent the court and answer the official correspondence.
- II. To distribute the cases among the judges composing the court.

III. To issue formalities that lead to a solution of the case. If the chairman deems a formality as questionable or transcendent, he will order the respective secretary to inform the court in order to achieve the appropriate solution.

IV. To lead debates and maintain order during the meetings.

V. To sign the court's rulings, together with the speaker and the secretary.

VI. Other powers and duties established by law.

TITLE FOUR

District courts

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning

Article 42.- District courts shall consist of one judge and the number of secretaries, clerks and employees indicated by the budget

Article 43.- When a district judge is absent from office for a period less than 15 days, the respective secretary shall carry out the urgent formalities and shall pronounce the orders for formalities.

When absence exceeds 15 days, the Federal Judicial Council shall authorize the corresponding secretary to fill the office or shall appoint a substitute. Until appointment or authorization is done, the secretary shall act according to the provisions established in the preceding paragraph, without pronouncing final judgments.

Article 44.- Accidental absences of the secretary and the temporary absences not exceeding one month, shall be covered by another secretary (if any) or by a clerk appointed by the respective district judge. The same criterion shall apply in the case that, in accordance with the preceding article, the secretary performs the duties of the district judge, unless authorized by the Federal Judicial Council to appoint an interim secretary.

Article 45.- Accidental absences of clerks and temporary absences not exceeding one month, shall be covered by another clerk of the same court or, failing that, by the secretary.

Article 46.- The impediments of district judges shall be notified and resolved according to the law applicable to the matter of the trial in question.

Article 47.- In places where there is not a district judge, because of his residence or because he has not been appointed in accord with the previous articles, the common law judges shall perform the duties entrusted by laws to assist the federal courts.

CHAPTER II

Powers and duties of district courts

Article 48.- District judges with no special jurisdiction shall resolve all matters indicated in the articles of this chapter II.

Article 49.- When two or more district courts without special responsibilities or with the same responsibilities are settled in the same place, they shall have one or more common offices, which will receive the cases, will record them by rigorous numerical order, and will distribute immediately the cases among the organs, observing the rules issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 50.- Criminal federal judges shall resolve about:

I. Federal crimes.

Federal offences are:

a) Those crimes enlisted in the federal laws and the international treaties. In addition, regarding the Federal Criminal Code, the crimes listed below in the letters “b” to “l” shall be considered as federal crimes.

b) Offences listed in articles 2 to 5 of the Criminal Code.

c) Crimes perpetrated abroad by diplomatic agents, by official personnel of the Mexican legations and by Mexican consuls.

d) Offences committed in embassies and foreign diplomatic legations.

e) Crimes involving the Federal Government as passive subject.

f) Offences committed by a federal public servant or employee while performing his/her duties.

g) Crimes perpetrated against a federal public servant or employee while performing his/her duties.

h) Offences perpetrated due to the operation of a federal public service, even if such service is decentralized or licensed.

i) Crimes committed against the operation of a federal public service or against the goods or properties used for provision of such service, even if the federal service is decentralized or licensed.

j) All offences that attack, obstruct or prevent performance of any power or duty conferred to the Federal Government.

k) Crimes indicated in the Article 389 of the Criminal Code, when a job is promised or provided inside a federal governmental agency, decentralized organ or semipublic company.

l) Offenses committed by or against federal electoral officials or partisan officials, according to the section II of the Article 401 of the Criminal Code.

m) Crimes described in the articles 366 section III, 366 ter and 366 quater of the Federal Criminal Code, when the offence is perpetrated in order to transfer or deliver the child outside the national territory.

II. Extradition procedures, except for that established in international treaties.

III. Authorizations to tap private communications.

(Reformed by the decree published on November 30, 2010)

Article 50 Bis. Regarding federal affairs, authorization to put a tap on private telecommunications shall be granted in accordance with the Federal Law against Organized Crime, the National Security Law, the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure, the Federal Police Act or the Law to Prevent and Punish kidnapping, as appropriate.

(First paragraph was reformed by the decree published on November 30, 2010)

Article 50 ter.- When the Head of the Public Prosecution Service of a Mexican state request authorization to put a tap on private telecommunications, under the terms provided for in the local laws, such authorization shall be granted only in case of the following crimes: murder, road assault, car theft and kidnapping. The first three crimes correspond to the National Criminal Law, and the last one corresponds to the Law to Prevent and Punish, as well as their equivalent offences provided in local laws.

(Added by the Decree published on November 30, 2010)

Any request to put a tap on telecommunications, regarding the crimes punished by the Law to Prevent and Punish Kidnapping, which regulates the section XXI of article 73 of the Mexican Constitution, should be submitted according to this provision.

Authorization shall be granted only to the Head of the Public Prosecution Service of the state in question, when there is sufficient evidence proving the probable responsibility in the crime. The Head of the Public Prosecution Service shall guarantee that tapping shall be carried out according to the conditions established in the judicial authorization. Application for tapping shall include the legal provisions and reasoning supporting the application, the type of communications to be tapped, the subjects and places that will be tapped, as well as the period for tapping. Such period may be extended, however, the tapping period and its extensions together cannot exceed six months. After this period, new tapping may be authorized only when the Head of the State Public Prosecution Service proves that there are new elements which justify such tapping.

In the authorizing document, the judge shall define the characteristics of tapping, as well as its type and limits and, where appropriate, the judge will order public or private institutions to collaborate in a specific way.

In the authorizing document, the judge must order to submit a new application if, in the same case, it is necessary to extend tapping to other subjects or places. The judge must order also to take the minutes at the end of every tapping. Such minutes shall include a detailed inventory of audio or video tapes containing the sounds or images captured during the tapping. The judge shall order to submit to him a results report in order to confirm compliance with the authorization.

The judge can, at any time, verify that tapping is carried out in accord with the conditions established in the authorization and, in case of violation, he can order the total or partial revocation.

If prosecution is not carried out, and after the statutory deadline for contesting, without happening, the judge who authorized the tapping shall order to give him the tapes obtained from tapping, both originals and copies, and shall order their destruction in the presence of the Head of the State Public Prosecution Service.

Article 51.- Related to criminal matters, district judges for *Amparo* trials shall resolve about:

I. *Amparo* trials lodged against judicial sentences on criminal matter; against any authority acts affecting freedom, except for disciplinary measures or writs imposed out of criminal proceedings; and against acts that imply danger for life, deportation, exile, or any of the acts prohibited by article 22 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

II. *Amparo* trials lodged according to section VII of the Article 107 of the Mexican Constitution, in cases where appropriate against the sentences related to redress due to persons other than the accused, or in sentences on civil liability pronounced by the court that processed the case or by another court, or in civil liability trials based on the perpetration of a crime.

III. *Amparo* trials against general criminal laws and other provisions, in accord with the *Amparo* Act.

Article 52- Related to administrative matters, district judges shall resolve about:

I. Controversies arising due to implementation of federal laws, when the court must resolve about legality or continuation of an authority act or a procedure followed by the administrative authorities.

II. *Amparo* trials lodged in accordance with the Article 107, section VII, of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, against acts made by the judicial authorities: a) due to disputes arising on the enforcement of federal or local laws, b) when the court must resolve about legality or continuation of an act made by the administrative authority or c) due to a procedure followed by the administrative authorities.

III. *Amparo* trials lodged against general administrative laws and other provisions, in accordance with the terms established in the *Amparo* Act.

IV. *Amparo* trials initiated against acts carried out by an authority other than the court, except for the cases mentioned in the section II of the Article 50 and in the section III of the previous article.

V. *Amparo* trials lodged against acts ordered by administrative courts, regardless they were executed at the trial, outside the trial or after it, or acts affecting third parties.

Article 53.- Judges of federal civil district courts shall hear and resolve the following affairs:

I. Controversies about civil matter arising due to the implementation of federal laws or international treaties signed by the Mexican Government. When such disputes only affect private persons, plaintiff may lodge the case before a state common law court or a Federal District common law court, as appropriate.

II. Proceedings affecting national property.

III. Trials between a state and one or more residents of another state, provided that any party is under the jurisdiction of the judge.

IV. Civil affairs involving members of the diplomatic and consular corps.

V. Proceedings of voluntary jurisdiction on federal matters.

VI. Ordinary disputes in which the Federal Government is a party.

VII. Federal proceedings not listed in articles 50, 52 and 55 of this organic law.

Article 54.- Judges of civil district courts for *Amparo* trials shall hear and resolve the following affairs:

I. *Amparo* trials against resolutions on civil matter, in those cases mentioned in the section VII of the Article 107 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

II. *Amparo* trials lodged against general civil laws and other provisions, according to that established in the *Amparo* Act.

III. *Amparo* trials under the jurisdiction of district courts which are not listed in articles 51, 52 and 55 of this organic law.

Article 55.- Judges of labor district courts shall hear and resolve the following affairs:

I. *Amparo* trials lodged in accordance with the section VII of the Article 107 of the Mexican Constitution against acts made by the judicial authority due to implementation of federal or local laws, when the issue is legality or continuity of an act or proceeding carried out by a labor authority.

II. *Amparo* trials against general labor laws and other provisions, according to the *Amparo* Act.

III. *Amparo* trials on labor matter lodged against acts made by an authority other than the court.

IV. *Amparo* trials against acts executed by the labor authorities at the trial, outside the trial or after the trial, or affecting third parties.

TITLE FIVE

The Federal Citizens Jury

ONLY CHAPTER

Article 56.- The Federal Citizens Jury is responsible for resolution, by means of a verdict, of the issues submitted by the district judges in accordance with the law.

Article 57.- The Federal Citizens Jury shall resolve the crimes committed through the press against public order or national security, either external or internal, and other offences established by the laws.

Article 58.- The jury shall be composed of seven citizens, chosen by lot according to the terms established by the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article 59.- In order to be chosen as a juror it is required:

- I. To be a Mexican citizen in full enjoyment of his/her rights.
- II. To be able to read and write.
- III. To live in the judicial district in which he/she should serve, since at least one year before the day of publication of the definitive list of jurors.

Article 60.- The following persons cannot serve as juror:

- I. Public servants working in the federal, state, local and Federal District governments.
- II. Ministers of any religion.
- III. Suspects and persons under proceedings.
- IV. Convicted persons.
- V. Blind, deaf or dumb persons.
- VI. Persons subject to interdiction.

Article 61.- Everyone who satisfies the requirements established in the Article 59 of this organic law, has the obligation to serve as juror, according to the provisions of this title and the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article 62.- Every two years, the Head of the Federal District Government and the mayors shall make a list of citizens under their jurisdiction, who meet the requirements referred in the Article 59 of this organic law, and who do not have any of the constraints expressed in the Article 60 of this law. Such list shall be published on July 1st of the corresponding year and shall be sent to the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 63.- Individuals included in this list, who lack any of the requirements indicated in the Article 59 of this organic law or who have any of the prohibitions mentioned in the Article 60 of this law, are obliged to notify that to the authority that has made the list. Notification must include the respective written proof, which may consist, in the absence of another one, of a statement ratified before three witnesses. Witnesses must live in the district or municipality in question and must be renowned for their honor and roots.

Persons who have served as juror or councilor during a year, shall have the right to be excluded from the list. Persons who meet the requirements to be juror and do not appear in it, will have the right to be included in it.

The administrative authority must solve any nuance and must carry out the appropriate modifications before July 15.

Article 64.- Lists shall be published on July 31 in the official newspaper of the Federal District or state, as appropriate, as well as in the advertisement boards located in the Federal District, its suburbs and the town halls in the states. A copy of the lists shall be sent to the Federal Judicial Council and the Attorney General.

Article 65.- Once the final list has been published, no modifications are accepted.

A lack of requirements established in the Article 59 of this organic law, even supervening, shall cause impediment only according to the formalities and terms established by the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article 66.- Chosen juror may be excused in the following cases:

- I. If he/she works in an agency or company that provides public services.
- II. If he/she is a student in a state school or university.
- III. If he/she works as principal or teacher in a school or charitable establishment, whether public or private.
- IV. If he/she suffers from any disease that prevent him/her to work.
- V. If he/she is over sixty years old.
- VI. If he/she has served as juror or as councilor during the preceding year, without absences. Excuses shall be asserted before the debate chairman, who will assess them.

Article 67.- The juror attending hearings will receive the remuneration determined by the budget, and absent juror, without just cause, shall receive the penalty indicated in the law.

TITLE SIX
Administrative organs of the Federal Judicial Branch
CHAPTER I
The Federal Judicial Council
SECTION 1
Integration and functioning

Article 68.- Management, supervision, discipline and the judicial career of the Federal Judicial Branch will be in charge of the Federal Judicial Council, except for the Supreme Court of Justice and the Electoral Court, according to the provisions established by the Mexican Constitution and this organic law.

The Federal Judicial Council must protect, at all times, the autonomy of the organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Branch and the independence and impartiality of their members.

Article 69.- The Federal Judicial Council shall be composed of seven councilors, in accordance with the Article 100 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, it shall work in plenary meetings or through commissions.

Article 70.- The Federal Judicial Council shall perform two periods of sessions a year. The first period of sessions shall begin the first working day of January and shall end the last working day of the first fortnight of July. The second period of sessions shall begin the first working day of August and shall end the last working day of the first fortnight of December.

Article 71.- The Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council shall be the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, who will have the powers and duties conferred on him by the Article 85 of this organic law.

Article 72.- Decisions taken by the plenum and the commissions of the Federal Judicial Council shall be recorded in the minutes, which must be signed by the respective chairman and executive secretary. Decisions shall be notified as soon as possible to the interested parties. Notification and, where appropriate, implementation of such rulings, must be carried out through the Federal Judicial Council bodies or through the auxiliary district court.

If the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council deems that regulations, covenants or resolutions pronounced by it or by the commissions might be of general interest, it must order their publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Article 73.- At the close of the ordinary periods of sessions, the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council shall appoint the councilors that will process and resolve the urgent issues during recesses, as well as the secretaries and employees necessary to assist such functions.

At the beginning of the corresponding ordinary period of sessions, councilors shall inform the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council about the measures taken during the recess, so the plenum could agree as appropriate.

Article 74.- The plenum shall be composed of seven councilors, but five councilors is enough to work.

Article 75- Ordinary plenary sessions of the Federal Judicial Council must be private and will be held during the periods fixed in the Article 70 of this organic law, on the days and time determined by the plenum through general covenants.

The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council may meet at extraordinary sessions at the request of any of its members. Such request shall be submitted to the chairman of the Council to issue the call.

Article 76.- Decisions shall be taken by the majority of the councilors present in plenary meeting of the Federal Judicial Council. Regarding the cases described in sections I, II, VII, VIII, XI, XII, XV, XVI, XVIII, XXV, XXVI and XXXVI of the Article 81 of this organic law, decisions shall be taken by a majority of five votes. Councilors may not abstain from voting, except when they have a legal impediment or when they were not present in the discussion of the matter concerned. In the case of a tie, the chairman shall have casting vote.

The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council shall assess the impediments of its members. If the impediment affects the chairman, he will be replaced by the longest-serving minister of the Supreme Court.

If a councilor disagrees with the majority, he may state his particular vote in the minutes, provided that he submits his particular vote within the five days after session.

SECTION 2

Commissions of the Federal Judicial Council

Article 77.- The Federal Judicial Council shall have permanent or temporary commissions as determined by the plenum, which composition shall be variable. There must be at least the following commissions: administrative, judicial career, discipline, creation of new bodies and assignment.

Each commission shall be formed by three members: one member from the judiciary, one member appointed by the President of the Republic and the other member shall be appointed by the Senate.

The Commission mentioned to in the seventh paragraph of the Article 99 of the Mexican Constitution, shall be integrated and will operate in accordance with the provisions established in the articles 205 to the 211 of this organic law.

Article 78.- Decisions of the commissions shall be taken by majority of votes of their members, who may not abstain from voting, except when they have a legal impediment. The commissions shall assess the excuses and impediments of their members.

Article 79.- Each commission shall appoint its own chairman, and shall determine the time such chairman will hold office, as well as his duties.

Article 80.- If a case is not resolved inside the commissions, it must be turned to the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council.

SECTION 3

Powers and duties of the Federal Judicial Council

Article 81.- The Federal Judicial Council has the following powers and duties:

I. To create the necessary commissions for the proper functioning of the Federal Judicial Council and appoint the councilors for every commission.

II. To issue internal regulations on administrative affairs, judicial career, ladder and discipline, as well as all covenants necessary for the proper exercise of powers according to the provisions established in the Article 100 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

III. To establish the bases for election of councilors, to call to elections and to carry out the secret vote. Candidates may be those district judges and circuit magistrates that have been ratified according to the constitutional article 97 and have not been punished for serious administrative misconduct. Leave granted to the candidates must guarantee their position and assignment.

IV. To determine the number and borders of the circuits, in which the country is divided.

V. To determine the number and, where appropriate, specialization of collegiate and unitary courts for every circuit.

VI. To determine the number, borders and, where appropriate, specialization of district courts for every circuit.

VII. To appoint the circuit magistrates district judges, and decide on their ratification, assignment and dismissal.

VIII. To approve resignations submitted by circuit magistrates and district judges.

IX. To order the forced retirement of circuit magistrates and district judges.

X. To suspend from office the circuit magistrates and district judges at the request of the judicial authority hearing the criminal procedure against them. In these cases, the Federal Judicial Council must notify the judicial authority about its decision.

Suspension of circuit magistrates and district judges is an indispensable prerequisite for their arrest and prosecution. Otherwise, the section XIX of the Article 225 of the Criminal Code shall be applied. The Federal Judicial Council will determine whether the judge or magistrate must receive a remuneration and the amount during the time in which he is suspended.

XI. To suspend from office the circuit magistrates and district judges that are involved in committing a crime, and to lodge a claim or lawsuit against them where appropriate.

XII. To resolve the administrative complaints and complaints about public servants' liabilities according to this organic law, including those complaints relating to violations of the constraints mentioned in the Article 101 of the Mexican Constitution by members of the Federal Judicial Branch, except for those complaints relating to the members of the Supreme Court of Justice.

XIII. To approve the proposal of annual expenditure budget for the Federal Judicial Branch and submit it to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice in order to send it, together with the proposal of expenditure budget for the Supreme Court, to the President of the Republic.

XIV. To issue the general basis of organization and operation of its auxiliary bodies.

XV. To appoint the heads of the auxiliary bodies of the Federal Judicial Branch, who must be proposed by its chairman; to decide on their resignations and leaves; to dismiss them due to just cause or suspend them according to the laws and the respective agreements; and to lodge accusations or complaints where appropriate.

XVI. To appoint the executive secretaries, proposed by its chairman, and to decide about their leaves, dismissals and resignations.

XVII. To issue general covenants to assure compliance with the Article 134 of the Mexican Constitution and with the expenditure budget while carrying out acquisitions, leases and transfers of all kinds of goods, provision of any kind of services and building contracting by the Federal Judicial Branch, with the exception of the Supreme Court of Justice.

XVIII. To establish the norms and criteria to modernize the organizational structures, the internal administrative systems and procedures, as well as the public services.

XIX. To regulate admission, incentives, training, promotions and dismissals of the administrative staff belonging to the circuit and district courts.

XX. To change the residence of circuit and district courts.

XXI. To grant leaves according to the terms provided for in this organic law.

XXII. To authorize to secretaries of circuit and district courts to perform the duties of magistrates and judges, respectively, during their temporary absences; and empower them to appoint interim secretaries.

XXIII. To authorize the circuit magistrates and district judges to appoint interim servants in case of absences of any of their servants or employees.

XXIV. To regulate distribution of the cases among the circuit and district courts where there are several of them in one place.

XXV. To resolve labor disputes arising between the Federal Judicial Power and its servants, in accord with the section XII of the part “B” of Article 123 of the Mexican Constitution, based on the opinion submitted by the Substantiating Commission of the Federal Judicial Branch, except for the conflicts involving servants of the Supreme Court of Justice.

XXVI. To appoint the representative of the Federal Judicial Power for the Substantiating Commission, who must be proposed by the chairman, for the purposes indicated in the previous section.

XXVII. To organize periodically national or regional conferences for magistrates, judges, representative professional associations and higher education institutions in order to assess the functioning of the organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Branch and propose appropriate measures for improvement.

XXVIII. To reprimand, warn, and impose fines up to 180 daily minimum wage corresponding to the Federal District on those persons that show a lack of respect towards an organ or member of the Federal Judicial Branch during the proceedings they lodge before the Federal Judicial Council.

XXIX. To prepare annually the list of legal experts, classifying them by branches, specializations and judicial circuits.

XXX. To use the expenditure budget approved for the Federal Judicial Power, with the exception of the Supreme Court’s budget.

XXXI. To coordinate and supervise the operation of the auxiliary bodies belonging to the Federal Judicial Council.

XXXII. To appoint the public servants for the auxiliary bodies of the Federal Judicial Council, and to decide on their promotions, leaves, dismissals and resignations.

XXXIII. To set vacation periods for circuit magistrates and district judges.

XXXIV. To manage the properties and goods that belong to the Federal Judicial Power, taking care of their maintenance, preservation and adaptation, except for the Supreme Court of Justice’s properties.

(Amended through a decree published on January 15, 2009)

XXXV. To set the computer and statistical information policies to know and plan the development of the Federal Judicial Power, as well as to regulate, compile, document, select and make available to the public the sessions carried out by the collegiate circuit courts, observing the norms on transparency and access to public information.

(Amended through a decree published on January 15, 2009)

XXXVI. To investigate misconducts performed by the public servants and employees working in the Federal Judicial Council and in circuit and district courts; and determine the responsibilities and applicable punishments. In the case of collegiate courts, the Federal Judicial Council shall use the recordings made during the sessions. All this shall be done according to the provisions and procedures

established by law, by the regulations and by the disciplinary actions issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

XXXVII. To carry out extraordinary visits or integrate researching committees in the case of serious misconduct or when requested by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, without prejudice to the powers vested on the Judicial Inspectorate or on the Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Branch.

XXXVIII. To issue measures that regulate the good service and discipline in the offices of the circuit courts, district courts and auxiliary bodies.

XXXIX. To regulate authorizations to leave the place of residence of judicial officials referred in article 153 of this organic law.

XL. To regulate receipt, control and use of confiscated property.

XLI. To choose from among its members the members that shall compose the Committee of Directors of the Electoral Court, according to the provisions established in the second subparagraph of the Article 205 of this organic law.

XLII. Other duties entrusted by law.

Article 82.- With the exception of the powers conferred by sections I to XXI of the preceding article, the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council may make general agreements to define the powers conferred to the commissions created by the plenum.

The commissions shall have decision-making or advisory powers as determined by the regulations issued by the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 83.- The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council shall have the top ranking public servants allowed by this organic law and the technical secretaries and auxiliary staff defined in the budget, who may be appointed and removed in accordance with this organic law.

Article 84.- Each one of the commissions shall appoint the technical secretaries and auxiliary personnel indicated in the budget.

Technical secretaries must have a university degree in a subject related to the duties of the Federal Judicial Council, they also must have minimum three years experience and demonstrate good conduct.

Section 4

Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council

Article 85- The Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council has the following powers and duties:

I. To represent the Federal Judicial Council.

II. To process issues within the responsibility of the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council, and distribute the files among the members in order to prepare the respective proposals for solution.

If the chairman deems questionable or transcendental any formality, he shall ask a councilor to present the issue to the plenary session, so that it determines as appropriate.

III. To chair the plenary meeting of the Federal Judicial Council, to lead the debates and to preserve order in the session.

IV. To answer the official correspondence of the Council, except for the correspondence addressed to the commission chairmen.

V. To propose to the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council the candidates for executive secretaries, the heads of the auxiliary bodies and the representative before the Substantiating Commission.

VI. To supervise the functioning of the auxiliary bodies.

VII. To notify the Senate and the President of the Republic about the vacancies occurring in the Federal Judicial Council, to which they should submit their respective candidates.

VIII. To grant leaves under the terms provided in this organic law.

IX. To sign the rulings and agreements pronounced by the plenary session of the Federal Judicial Council and legalize, by himself or through the executive secretary, the signature of the servants of the Federal Judicial Branch whenever the law requires it.

X. Other powers and duties conferred by laws and the corresponding internal regulations and general agreements.

Section 5

The executive secretariat

Article 86- The Federal Judicial Council shall have an executive secretariat, which shall be composed at least by the following secretaries:

I. The executive secretary of the plenum and judicial career.

II. The administrative executive secretary.

III. The disciplinary executive secretary.

The executive secretariat shall have the staff fixed by the budget.

The executive secretary of the plenum and judicial career and the disciplinary executive secretary must have a law degree and minimum five years experience, they must have a good reputation and have not been convicted due to intentional crime punishable with more than one year imprisonment. The

administrative executive secretary must have a degree in a subject related to his/her duties and minimum five years experience.

Article 87- Executive secretaries shall have the powers and duties determined by the plenary meeting of the Federal Judicial Council through general covenants.

Technical secretaries must have a university degree in any matter related to the duties of the Federal Judicial Council, minimum three years experience, good reputation and must have not been convicted for intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.

CHAPTER II

Auxiliary organs

SECTION 1a.

General provisions

Article 88.- For its proper functioning, the Federal Judicial Council shall have the following auxiliary organs: the Judicial Institute, the Judicial Inspectorate, the Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Power, the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy and the Federal Institute of Mercantile Contests, according to the Mercantile Contests Law.

The heads of the auxiliary organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Council must have a university degree related to their duties, as well as minimum five years experience, good reputation and have not been convicted for intentional crime punishable with more than one year imprisonment, with the exception of the General Director of the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy and the members of the Directive Board of the Federal Institute of Mercantile Contests, whose requirements are mentioned in the corresponding laws.

SECTION 2

Public Advocacy of Federal Jurisdiction

Article 89.- Repealed.

Article 90.- Repealed.

Article 91.- Repealed.

SECTION 3

The Judicial Institute

Article 92.- The Judicial Institute is the auxiliary organ of the Federal Judicial Council in charge of research, training and updating of the members of the Federal Judicial Branch and those who aspire to belong to the Council. Functioning and powers of the Judicial Institute shall be governed by the rules issued by the Federal Judicial Council in the respective regulation.

The Judicial Institute can establish regional offices, support programs and courses of local judicial authorities and work together with the Mexican universities to carry out the tasks indicated in the preceding paragraph.

Article 93.- The Judicial Institute shall have an Academic Committee presided by its director, this Academic Committee shall consist of at least eight members, appointed by the Federal Judicial Council, who will hold office for two to four years. Members of the Academic Committee must be persons having a proven professional or academic experience.

Article 94.- The Academic Committee's roll is to determine, jointly with the General Director, the researching and training programs for the students of the Institute, as well as: a) to establish the mechanisms for evaluation and performance; b) to prepare the Institute rules; and c) to participate in the competitive examinations mentioned in the Title Seven of this organic law.

Article 95.- Programs adopted by the Judicial Institute are intended to ensure that members of the Federal Judicial Power, or those who aspire to join it, strengthen the knowledge and skills necessary for the proper performance of the judicial function. For this purpose, the Judicial Institute shall establish programs and courses aimed to:

I. Practice formalities, paper-work and actions that are part of the procedures and affairs performed by the Federal Judicial Power.

II. To improve skills and techniques in the field of preparation and implementation of proceedings.

III. To enhance, update and deepen knowledge about the legal positive system, doctrine and jurisprudence.

IV. To provide and develop appropriate techniques for the analysis, reasoning and interpretation in order to correctly assess evidence submitted during the procedures, as well as to correctly prepare proceedings and rulings.

V. To disseminate organizational techniques in courts.

VI. To development service vocation and the values and ethical principles inherent to the judicial work.

VII. To promote academic exchanges with higher education institutions.

Article 96.- The Judicial Institute shall provide preparation courses for the different test included in the judicial career.

Article 97.- The Judicial Institute shall have a researching area, which shall study the development and improvement of the functions performed by the Federal Judicial Branch.

Section 4

The Judicial Inspectorate

Article 98.- The Judicial Inspectorate is an auxiliary organ belonging to the Federal Judicial Council, it is responsible for inspecting the functioning of the circuit and district courts and to supervise their members' behaviour.

Article 99.- Functions conferred by this organic law to the Judicial Inspectorate shall be performed by the inspectors, who will act as representatives of the Federal Judicial Council.

Inspectors must meet the following requirements: to be thirty-five years at least, to have good reputation, not have been convicted due to a crime punishable with more than one year imprisonment, to be law graduate and to have ten years of professional practice. Appointment of inspectors shall be made by the Federal Judicial Council through the competitive examination, which must be carried out according to the provisions established in this organic law for the appointment of circuit magistrates and district judges.

The Federal Judicial Council shall establish, through general agreements, the systems to assess periodically the performance and the good repute of inspectors.

Article 100.- Each circuit and district court must be inspected at least twice a year, according to the periodical draw carried out by the disciplinary executive secretary and observing the general provisions issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

No inspector can inspect the same court for more than two years.

Inspectors shall inform the head of the court about the ordinary visit-inspection at least 15 days in advance in order to put a notice in the court facilities, so that interested people could come to express their grievances or accusations.

Article 101.- During the regular visits to the circuit and district courts, inspectors shall follow the procedure described below, taking into account the peculiarities of each organ, plus what specifically determined by the Federal Judicial Council:

I. Inspectors shall ask the staff list in order to verify attendance.

II. Inspectors shall check that securities are properly kept, either in the court's safe or in the bank.

III. Inspectors shall verify that instruments and objects used in the crime are properly stored, especially drugs.

IV. Inspectors shall review the control books in order to determine whether they are in order and contain the required data.

V. Inspectors shall report the number of criminal and civil cases and *Amparo* trials that have been lodged in the visited court, and will verify that defendants who enjoy freedom on bail have complied

with the obligation to appear at fixed dates. Inspectors also must check whether a criminal proceeding has expired.

VI. Inspectors shall review the files of criminal and civil cases in order to verify that: a) they meet the legal requirements; b) rulings and covenants have been pronounced and enforced in a timely manner; c) notifications and proceedings were made within the legal terms; d) the letters rogatory have been completed; and e) constitutional rights and other guarantees granted by the Mexican Constitution to defendants have been observed.

If the inspector notices that, in a proceeding, the deadline to pronounce sentence has expired, he/she will recommend to pronounce sentence as soon as possible. Inspector shall include a report in each file he/she has reviewed.

VII. Inspectors shall review the *Amparo* trial files, confirming that incidental and substantive hearings were set and resolved within the legal terms. Where appropriate, the inspector must indicate the corrections necessary to assure that the provisional and definitive suspensions do not last longer than the term established by law. In addition, inspectors shall verify whether interlocutory and definitive sentences were pronounced in a timely manner.

The inspectors must take the minutes of the inspection, which shall contain the development of the inspection, complaints or accusations filed against the judges and other servants, the opinions provided by the judge or servants and the signature of the judge or magistrate and the inspector's signature.

The inspector shall give a copy of the report to the judge of the reviewed court and another one to the disciplinary executive secretary. In the case of misconduct, the disciplinary executive secretary must notify the Federal Judicial Council to apply the respective punishments.

Article 102.- The Federal Judicial Council and the disciplinary executive secretary have the power to order the Head of the Judicial Inspectorate to carry out extraordinary inspections or organize researching committees, provided that there are elements that suggest irregularities committed by a circuit magistrate or a district judge.

Section 5

The Watchdog Office of the Federal Judiciary

Article 103.- The Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Branch shall be responsible for the supervision and inspection of the compliance with administrative rules governing the bodies, public servants and employees of the Federal Judicial Power, with the exception of those rulings corresponding to the Supreme Court of Justice.

Article 104.- The Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Power shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To uphold the rules established by the Federal Judicial Council.

II. To verify that the administrative bodies comply with the obligations established by provisions in the field of planning, budgeting, income, expenditures, funding, assets and funds.

III. To monitor and keep a register of the financial situation of public servants working in the Federal Judicial Branch and mentioned in the section VI of the Article 80 of the Public Service Accountability Act.

IV. To uphold the rules and provisions relating to the of registration and accounting systems, personnel hiring and payment, and services and material resources hiring.

V. Other powers and duties conferred by laws and by the applicable regulations and agreements.

TITLE SEVEN

The judicial career

Article 105.- Admission and promotion of public servants to the Federal Judicial Power shall be carried out through the judicial career system described in this title, which shall be governed by the principles of excellence, professionalism, objectivity, impartiality, independence and seniority.

Article 106.- To become a circuit magistrate, the person must: a) be Mexican citizen by birth; b) not have another nationality; c) be in full enjoyment of his/her civil and political rights; d) be over thirty-five years old; e) have a good reputation; f) have not been convicted due to intentional crime punishable with imprisonment exceeding one year; g) have law degree and five years professional practice at least; and h) meet the other requirements provided in this organic law. Circuit magistrates shall hold office for a six-year term. At the end of such period, if they are ratified, they may be dismissed only due to the reasons established in this organic law, or due to forced retirement at the age of 75 years.

Article 107.- In order to become secretary in a circuit court, the person must have at least three years of professional experience and meet the other requirements established for magistrates, except for the minimum age.

To become a clerk, the person must: a) be a Mexican citizen; b) be in full enjoyment of his/her rights; c) have law degree; d) have a good reputation; e) have not been convicted due to intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.

Secretaries and clerks for the circuit courts shall be appointed in accordance with the applicable provisions established in the judicial career rules.

Article 108.- To become a district judge, the person must: a) be Mexican citizen by birth; b) not have another nationality; c) be in full enjoyment of his/her rights; d) be over thirty years old; e) have law degree and five years of professional practice at least; f) have a good reputation; and g) have not been convicted due to intentional crime punishable with imprisonment exceeding one year. District judges shall hold office for a six-year term. At the end of such period, if they are ratified or appointed as circuit magistrates, they may be dismissed only due to the causes established in this organic law, or due to forced retirement at the age of 75 years.

Article 109.- In order to become secretary in a district court, the person must have at least three years of professional experience and meet the other requirements established for judges, except for the minimum age.

To become a clerk, the person must: a) be a Mexican citizen; b) be in full enjoyment of his/her rights; c) have law degree; d) have a good reputation; e) have not been convicted due to intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.

Secretaries and clerks for the district courts shall be appointed in accordance with the applicable provisions established in the judicial career rules.

Article 110.- The judicial career consists of the following categories:

I. Circuit magistrate

II. District judges

III. General Secretary of the Supreme Court of Justice **or of the Superior Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch**

IV. Assistant Secretary of the Supreme Court of Justice **or of the Superior Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch**

V. Study and account secretary under the supervision of a minister **or study and account secretary and instructor of the Superior Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch**

VI. Courtroom secretary

VII. Court assistant secretary

VIII. Circuit court secretary **or study and account secretary of the regional courtrooms belonging to the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Power**

IX. District court secretary

X. Clerk of the Federal Judicial Branch

Article 111.- The Federal Judicial Council shall establish, according to the budget and the general provisions, an incentive system for the persons falling within the categories mentioned in the foregoing article. Such incentive system may include economic incentives, which shall be granted taking into account performance of duties, courses attended inside the Judicial Institute, seniority, academic degree, roots and other factors required by the Federal Judicial Council. In addition, in the case of circuit magistrates and district judges, the Federal Judicial Council can authorize a sabbatical year, provided that the applicant submits a work project to improve his/her academic and professional level, and which is useful for the Federal Judicial Power, as well as scholarships for study and research abroad as much as the budget allows.

CHAPTER I

Admission to the judicial career

Article 112.- Admission and promotion for the categories of circuit magistrate and district judge shall be carried out through the internal competitive examination and open competition.

In order to access to the categories indicated in sections III to X of the Article 110 of this organic law, the person must pass the respective exam.

Public servants working for the Electoral Court shall be appointed according to that established in this organic law, unless they seek access to any other category of the judicial career, in which case they must follow the respective procedure established by law or by the Federal Judicial Council.

The Federal Judicial Council shall have the power to obtain and verify, at any moment, the information provided by the applicants.

Article 113.- Appointments for the categories of circuit magistrate and district judge shall be carried out through the internal competitive examination and open competition in the proportion set by the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council.

Only district judges **and magistrates belonging to regional courtrooms of the Electoral Court** can participate in the internal competitive examination for the circuit magistrate category. For the district judge category, all the persons falling into the categories III to IX of the Article 110 of this law can participate in the internal competitive examination.

Article 114.- Internal competitive examinations and open competitions for the categories of circuit magistrate and district judge shall be carried out according to the following procedure:

I. The Federal Judicial Council shall order to publish a notice once in the Official Gazette of the Federation and twice in one of the leading newspapers with an interval of five working days between each publication. Notice must specify whether it is an internal competitive examination or an open competition.

The notice must indicate the categories and vacancies subject to competition, the place, day and hour for the examination, as well as the deadline and place for registration and other necessary elements.

II. Applicants must answer a written questionnaire on matters related to the role of the category they aspire.

(Reformed by the decree published on May 26, 2011)

Only the applicants getting the higher marks shall pass to the next stage, making sure that the number of those selected was higher than the quantity of vacancies.

(Added by the decree published on May 26, 2011)

The Federal Judicial Council shall clearly establish, in the call, the parameters that will define the marks, as well as the minimum passing mark for this stage of the competitive examination.

(Added by the decree published on May 26, 2011)

In case of tie, the difference shall be solved by the means of an affirmative action of equity.

III. Applicants selected according to the previous paragraph must solve practical cases by writing the respective sentences. Then they must do a public and oral exam, carried out by the jury mentioned in the Article 117 of this organic law. The jury shall formulate formal questions about the duties of circuit magistrate or district judge, as appropriate. The marks granted by each juror shall be averaged out, this average will be the final mark.

Jury must take into account the courses attended by the applicant at the Judicial Institute, his/her seniority inside the Federal Judicial Power, his/her performance, academic degree and the updating and specialization courses attended, according to the regulation issued by the Federal Judicial Council. In the event that no applicant reaches the minimum score required, the competition shall be declared void.

IV. After completion of oral exams, a final report shall be taken. The jury chairman shall inform who are the winners and the selection procedure followed, he/she also shall immediately inform the Federal Judicial Council in order to make the respective appointments and publish them in the Judicial Weekly of the Federation.

Article 115.- The Judicial Institute shall organize and carry out the examinations corresponding to the categories listed in sections III to X of article 110 of this organic law, according to the bases determined by the Federal Judicial Council and to this law and the respective regulation.

Aptitude tests shall be carried out at the request of the Head of the body that will make the appointment, giving priority to those who are in immediate lower categories, but also at the request of the persons interested in the categories in question. If they pass the exam, they shall be included in the list prepared by the Federal Judicial Council in order to consider them in case of a vacancy.

The Federal Judicial Council shall define, by means of general provisions, the maximum time that a person may remain in the list.

Before appointment, the Supreme Court of Justice, its President, its courtrooms, the minister, the magistrate or the judge in question, shall request the Federal Judicial Council to show it/him/her the list of suitable candidates.

For the category of study and account secretary, at least two-thirds of such positions of each minister must be filled by persons who have served for two years or more in one or both categories VIII and IX specified in the Article 110 of this organic law.

Article 116.- Questionnaires and practical cases shall be prepared by a committee composed of a member from the Federal Judicial Council, who will chair, a circuit magistrate or a district judge, depending on the category in question, and a member from the Academic Committee of the Judicial Institute. These appointments shall be carried out according to the applicable rules.

Article 117.- The jury responsible for oral exams shall be integrated by:

- I. A member from the Federal Judicial Council, who shall preside.
- II. A circuit ratified magistrate or a district ratified judge, depending on the category in question.
- III. A person appointed by the Judicial Institute from among the members of the Academic Committee.

A substitute shall be appointed for each member according to the provisions established in the applicable regulations.

Impediments indicated in the Article 146 of this organic law shall apply to the jurors. The jury shall assess such impediments.

CHAPTER II

Assignment and ratification

Article 118.- The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council has the responsibility to assign circuit magistrates and district judges to a specific territorial jurisdiction and organ.

The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council has also the power to move a circuit magistrate or district judge to another territorial jurisdiction or to another organ, depending on the needs, provided that there is a just cause to move them.

Whenever possible, the Federal Judicial Council shall establish the bases so that judges and magistrates can choose the place and area for assignment, according to the provisions established in this Article.

Article 119.- In the case of several vacancies for circuit magistrates or district judges, for the first assignment, the Federal Judicial Council shall take into account the following elements, in accordance with the applicable covenant:

- I. The score obtained in the competitive examination.
- II. The courses attended by the applicant inside the Judicial Institute.
- III. Applicant's seniority inside the Federal Judicial Power or his/her professional experience.
- IV. If applicable, applicant's performance inside the Federal Judicial Branch.
- V. The applicant's academic level and the updating and specialization courses, proven in an irrefutable manner.

Article 120.- In order to move a circuit magistrate or a district judge to another territorial jurisdiction, the following elements must be considered.

- I. Courses attended inside the Judicial Institute.

II. Candidate's seniority inside the Federal Judicial Branch.

III. The academic level and the updating and specialization courses, proven in an irrefutable manner.

IV. The results of the inspections.

V. Discipline and professional development.

The value of each element shall be fixed in the respective regulations, score shall appear in the ruling ordering the change of jurisdiction.

Article 121.- In order to ratify circuit magistrates and district judges, as mentioned in the first subparagraph of the Article 97 of the Mexican Constitution, the Federal Judicial Council shall take into account the following elements:

I. His/her performance.

II. The results of the inspections.

III. The academic level and the updating and specialization courses, proved in an irrefutable manner.

IV. Not have been punished for serious misconduct due to an administrative complaint.

V. Other elements considered as relevant by the Federal Judicial Branch, provided that they appear in the general covenants and have been published six months before the date of ratification.

CHAPTER III

Administrative reviews

Article 122.- Rulings pronounced by the Federal Judicial Council are final and unassailable, except for those rulings relating to the appointment, assignment, assignment change and dismissal of circuit magistrates and district judges, which may be contested before the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice through an action for administrative review.

The administrative review shall have a single objective, to determine whether the Federal Judicial Council appointed, assigned, moved or dismissed a circuit magistrate or district judge observing strictly the formal requirements established in this organic law, or in the internal regulations and general covenants issued by the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 123.- Administrative review may be lodged in the following cases:

I. Any applicant participating in the competitive examination can lodge an administrative review against the decisions of appointment or assignment.

II. Related to dismissals, the affected judge or magistrate can lodge an administrative review.

III. If a judicial officer had requested a assignment change, and it has been denied to him/her, he/she can lodge an administrative review.

Article 124.- The affected person must submit a written request of administrative review to the Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council within the five working days after enforcement of the challenged ruling. Review request and its report shall be turned to the following minister within a five working days period. The report shall be accompanied by evidentiary elements that could help to solve the issue. One of the councilors who has voted for decision shall present the report, this councilor will represent the Federal Judicial Council during the proceeding.

Article 125.- In cases where the administrative appeal is lodged against decisions of appointment or assignment, the third party shall be notified, namely such persons who have been favored by the decision, in order to give them the opportunity to complain within five working days.

Article 126.- In cases where the administrative revision is lodged against decisions of appointment or assignment, only public documentary evidence shall be accepted, which must be offered by the plaintiff or the injured third party.

Article 127.- In cases where the administrative appeal is lodged against a dismissal decision, the minister-speaker may grant up to ten days to collect evidence. In this case, only documentary and testimonial evidence shall be acceptable.

If any of the parties offers a documentary evidence, which is not in his/her possession, he/she can request the minister-speaker to ask the appropriate authority to provide it as soon as possible.

Article 128.- Rulings pronounced by the plenary session of the Supreme Court of Justice, related to administrative appeals, shall be limited to declare void the contested act, so that the Federal Judicial Council pronounces a new resolution within the following 30 calendar days.

The invalidity of the act does not imply the invalidity of the proceedings carried out by the circuit magistrate or the district judge.

Lodging an administrative review does not interrupt the effects of the contested decision.

TITLE EIGHT

Accountabilities of the public servants working in the Federal Judicial Branch

Article 129.- Ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice and the members of the Federal Judicial Council may be dismissed only according to the provisions established in the Title Four of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States.

Dismissal shall also be applicable when the public servants infringe the prohibitions provided in the Article 101 of the Mexican Constitution. Other penalties must be imposed in addition, namely loss of benefits and those penalties indicated in the respective code.

Article 130.- Ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice, the circuit magistrates and the district judges shall be liable for their interpretation of constitutional provisions stated in the rulings they pronounce, whenever it is found that there was corruption or bad faith.

Article 131.- The following acts shall cause liability for public servants working in the Federal Judicial Branch:

I. To perform acts that damage the independence of the judicial function, such as to accept or exercise orders, pressure, commissions or tasks, or any action that generate or imply subordination to any person belonging to the same or another power.

II. To unduly interfere in issues under the jurisdiction of other organs of the Federal Judicial Power.

III. To be clearly incompetent or careless while performing his/her duties.

IV. To prevent the parties to exercise their legal rights during the proceeding.

V. To hear or participate in any case for which they have impediments.

VI. To make appointments, promotions or ratifications infringing the general provisions.

VII. To fail to inform the Federal Judicial Council about any act aimed to undermine the independence of the judicial function.

VIII. To fail to preserve the dignity, fairness and professionalism of the judicial function while performing their duties.

IX. To issue a public opinion about a case under their jurisdiction.

X. To leave the court residence where he/she was assigned, or fail to perform his/her duties.

XI. Those acts described in the Article 8 of the Public Service Accountability Act, provided that they are not contrary to the nature of the jurisdictional function.

XII. To fail to comply with the constitutional and legal provisions on propaganda and work or management reports.

XIII. Others liabilities determined by law.

Article 132.- Procedure to determine the accountability of the public servants belonging to the Federal Judicial Power shall start automatically, by grievance or complaint filed by any person, by the public servant who knows about the facts or by the agent of the Federal Public Prosecution Service. Anonymous complaints will be processed only when they are accompanied by documentary irrefutable evidence.

Complaints must be supported by documentary evidence or sufficient evidentiary elements to prove the infringement and assume the liability of the public servant in question.

Article 133.- The following organs are competent to hear and rule on cases about the accountabilities of the public servants working in the Federal Judicial Power and to impose the penalties established in the Article 135 of this organic law:

- I. The plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, in the case of ministers' misconduct and serious misconduct committed by its public servants.
- II. The President of the Supreme Court of Justice, in the case of public servants of this body and in cases not covered by the previous paragraph.
- III. The plenum of the Federal Judicial Council, in case of serious misconduct performed by circuit magistrates and district judges, when the applicable penalty is dismissal or temporary disqualification to perform a public job or assignment.
- IV. The collegiate organ determined by the Federal Judicial Council in the cases not covered by the previous paragraph.

When the same illegal act implicates a circuit magistrate or district judge and another or other public servants working in the Federal Judicial Branch, the section III of this article shall rule.

The Federal Judicial Council can empower the Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Power to hear and rule on cases about the accountabilities included in the section IV of this article.

Article 134.- In order to determine the public servants' accountabilities, the following procedure must be observed:

- I. A copy of the accusation and its annexes shall be sent to the public servant so that he/she makes a report on the events and submits the relevant evidence within a five days term. The report shall include all the facts described in the accusation, consenting or denying them, indicating which facts he/she ignores or describing the facts as he/she believes that they took place. If the defendant does not arise an explicit controversy on any of the events described in the complaint, it shall be considered as a confession, without accepting evidence to the contrary. The defendant's confession does not imply acceptance of the complainant's right.
- II. Once the report has been received and the evidence has been presented, if any, the case must be settled within the following 30 working days. The resolution shall be notified to the defendant within seventy-two hours after pronouncement in the cases described in sections II and IV of the previous article.
- III. In the cases described in sections I and III of the preceding article, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice or, where appropriate, the body determined by the Federal Judicial Council, shall forward the case to the plenum of the Supreme Court of justice or to the Federal Judicial Council to summons the defendant to a hearing, notifying him/her the accountabilities attributed to him/her, as

well as the place, day and time for such hearing, and informing him/her about his/her right to offer evidence and arguments, personally or through a counsel.

The period of time between the date when the summons is issued and the hearing shall be at least five working days, but not longer than fifteen working days.

IV. If the report or the hearing does not offer sufficient elements to resolve the case, or new administrative accountabilities are found, which were performed by the accused or by others, an investigation can be ordered and a new hearing or hearings can be fixed.

V. At any time, before or after receipt of the report or conclusion of the hearing, the Supreme Court of Justice, the Federal Judicial Council, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice or the body determined by the Federal Judicial Council, as appropriate, may order the temporary suspension of the accused persons from their positions, jobs or assignments, provided that such suspension helps to carry out investigations. The temporary suspension does not imply any accountability, this shall be expressly stated in the suspension order.

If the public servant is not accountable for the charges, he/she must be reinstate and must receive the wages corresponding to the suspension period.

If the public servant's misconduct is minor, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice or the body determined by the Federal Judicial Council shall impose the appropriate penalty and shall order the appropriate measures to correct immediately such misconduct. If the public servant's misconduct is serious, he/it shall submit the case to the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice or to the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council, as appropriate.

Article 135.- Penalties applicable to the offences mentioned in this title and in the Article 47 of the Public Service Accountability Act shall include:

I. Private or public warning.

II. Private or public reprimand.

III. Economic penalties.

IV. Suspension.

V. Dismissal.

VI. Temporarily disqualification to perform any job, position or assignment within the public service.

Article 136.- Misconducts shall be assessed and, if applicable, punished in accordance with the criteria set out in the last three paragraphs of the Article 53 and in the articles 54 and 55 of the Public Service Accountability Act.

In any case, it shall be considered as serious misconduct the failure to comply with the obligations established in sections XI to XIII and XV to XVII of the Article 47 of the Public Service

Accountability Act, in sections I to VI of the Article 131 of this organic law, and the obligations indicated in the Article 101 of the Mexican Constitution.

In the case of ministers, dismissal shall be applied only in the cases described to in the Article 101 and Title IV of the Mexican Constitution, as well as in sections XI, XIII and XV to XVII of the Article 47 of the Public Service Accountability Act.

Article 137- In the case of judges and magistrates, dismissal shall be applicable only in the following cases:

I. If they commit a serious misconduct while performing their duties.

II. In the case of reoffending.

Article 138.- Regardless of whether the complaint creates responsibility or not, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice or the Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council, as appropriate, shall order the arrangements necessary to immediately correct the misconduct. If the complaint generates liability, he/she must notify the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice or the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 139.- If the plenum of the Supreme Court, the Federal Judicial Council or the chairman believes that the complaint has no foundation, it/he shall imposed on the complainant or his/her representative, or lawyer, or both, a fine equal to 10 to 120 days of minimum wage, based on the current minimum wage in Mexico City.

Article 140.- Rulings pronounced by the Federal Judicial Council to impose the administrative penalty of dismissal on a circuit magistrate or district judge, may be challenged by the affected public servant before the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice through the administrative review.

TITLE NINE

Jurisdiction on ordinary controversies

ONLY CHAPTER

Article 141.- The responsibility mentioned in the section I of the Article 21 of this organic law, shall be governed by the following rules:

If the courtroom performs such responsibility automatically, it shall inform in writing the corresponding unitary circuit court, which, within a period of 15 working days, shall send to the courtroom of the Supreme Court the original judicial decrees, sending an official notification to the parties.

When the Attorney General requests a courtroom to solve a case, the courtroom shall order the unitary circuit court to send to it the original judicial decrees within a five days period. Once the original judicial decrees have been received, within the following 30 days, the courtroom must decide whether

it shall bring the case, in which case, the courtroom shall notify the unitary circuit court. Otherwise, the courtroom shall notify its decision to the plaintiff and shall return the case to the original court.

If a unitary circuit court requests the Supreme Court to bring a case, it must explain the reasons supporting request and shall send the original judicial decrees to the appropriate courtroom of the Supreme Court, which must decide whether bring the case or not within the following 30 days, according to the previous paragraph.

In order to request the Supreme Court to bring a case, plaintiff must first appeal before the corresponding unitary circuit court.

Within the ten days following the date when the Supreme Court accepts to bring the case, the file shall be given to the minister in turn, who shall prepare a proposal of sentence within a period of 30 days and submit it to the corresponding courtroom.

Article 142.- If the courtroom considers that during the processing or the sentence in the first or second instances the essential rules were infringed, affecting the defense of any party, it may order to start proceeding again.

In this case, the responsible courtroom shall revoke the sentence and shall submit the file to the appropriate magistrate or judge.

Article 143.- Complaint is accepted against the ruling pronounced by the minister who was entrusted the file under the previous paragraph, provided that such ruling is revocable according to the Federal Code of Civil Procedure. For the complaint procedure, the articles 48 to 50 of the statutory law corresponding to sections I and II of the Article 105 of the Mexican Constitution shall be applied, where relevant.

If the complaint has no foundation, the Supreme Court shall impose on the complainant or his/her representative, or lawyer, or both, a fine equal to 10 to 120 days of minimum wage.

TITLE TEN

General provisions

CHAPTER I

Territorial division

Article 144.- For the purposes of this organic law, the national territory shall be divided into the number of circuits determined by the Federal Judicial Council through general covenants.

In each one of the circuits, the Federal Judicial Council shall establish a number of collegiate and unitary circuit courts and district courts, and shall define their specialization and territorial limits through general covenants.

Article 145.- Each one of the circuits shall have the number of judicial districts and territorial limits determined by the Federal Judicial Council through general agreements. At least one courthouse must be established in each district.

CHAPTER II

Impediments

Article 146.- Ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice, circuit magistrates, district judges, members of the Federal Judicial Council and jurors are unable to hear a case due to any of the following causes:

I. To be related to one of the parties, his/her representative, employer or counsel by a straight line without limitation of degree, by a collateral blood relationship up to the fourth degree or by a collateral relationship by marriage up to the second degree.

II. To share a very close friendship or to have enmity with one of the persons mentioned in the previous paragraph.

III. To have a personal interest in the case, or if the persons mentioned in section I of this article have personal interest in the case.

IV. If he/she or his/her spouse or relatives specified in the section I has filed charges or accusation against one of the parties in the case.

V. If he/she or his/her spouse or any relative specified in the section I is on trial against any interested party, or if such trial finished less than a year ago.

VI. If he/she or his/her spouse or any relatives specified in the section I has been prosecuted due to a grievance or complaint filed before to the authorities by one of the interested parties, their representatives, employers or counsel.

VII. If he/she or his/her spouse or any relative specified in the section I is a part in a case similar to that which is submitted to him/her for hearing.

VIII. To have personal interest in a case where any of the parties acts as judge or arbitrator.

IX. To attend an invitation made or paid by one of the interested parties, or to have much familiarity with him/her or to live in the same house with him/her.

X. To accept presents or services from any of the parties concerned.

XI. To make a promise that implies partiality in favor or against of any of the interested parties, their representatives, employers or counsels, or to threaten any of them.

XII. To be creditor, debtor, partner, lessor, lessee, subsidiary or superior of one of the parties concerned.

XIII. To be or have been guardian of one of the parties or administrator of his/her property.

XIV. To be heir, legatee, donator or guarantor of any of the parties, provided that the public servant has accepted the inheritance or legacy or has expressed any declaration in this respect.

XV. If the public servant's spouse or child is creditor, debtor or guarantor of any of the parties.

XVI. To have been judge or magistrate in the same case in another instance. However, the magistrates of the unitary courts are not unable to hear and rule appeals against sentences on criminal matter if they had resolved appeals in the same case against the acts mentioned in the sections II to IX of the Article 367 of the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

XVII. To have been public prosecutor, juror, legal expert, witness, legal representative, employer or advocate in the case in question, or have previously managed or recommended the case in favor or against of any of the parties. In the case of *Amparo* trials, the *Amparo* Act shall be observed.

XVIII. Any other situation similar to the above ones.

Article 147.- For the purposes of the foregoing article, related to criminal proceedings, the interested parties are the accused and the person entitled to compensation for any damage or liability.

Article 148.- Inspectors and legal experts will be unable to act when they fall in any of the impediments provided in sections I, II, IX, XIII, XIV and XV of the Article 146 of this organic law or in the applicable laws, provided that they might jeopardize impartiality of their services. The respective court shall assess the impediment.

Article 149.- The ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice, the circuit magistrates, the district judges, their respective clerks, the councilors of the Federal Judicial Council, the clerks and inspectors of the Federal Judicial Council and the magistrates of the High Court of the Electoral Court cannot accept or perform any other job or assignment, either in a private company or in the federal or state government, or in the Federal District Government, except for those performed for free in scientific, educational, literary or charitable associations.

CHAPTER III

The Constitutional Oath

Article 150.- Members of the Federal Judicial Council appointed by the Senate or by the President of the Republic shall recite the Constitutional Oath before them. The councilors that represent the judges and magistrates shall recite the Constitutional Oath before the Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 151- Circuit magistrates shall recite the Constitutional Oath before the plenary session of the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 152.- District judges shall recite the Constitutional Oath before the plenary session of the Federal Judicial Council or before the chairman of the collegiate circuit court nearest to the circuit where they serve.

Article 153.- The secretaries and employees of the Supreme Court of Justice and of the Federal Judicial Council shall recite the Constitutional Oath before their respective Chairman.

Article 154.- The secretaries and employees of the circuit and district courts shall recite the oath before the magistrate or judge where they will serve.

Article 155.- The Constitutional Oath says: “Do you swear loyally and patriotically perform the position of (the respective position), which has been conferred upon you, and to observe and uphold the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and the laws that emanate from it, pursuing the welfare and prosperity of the country?”

The person concerned will answer: Yes I do.

The authority shall add: “If you do not fulfill these obligations, may the Nation demand it of you.”

CHAPTER IV

Judicial proceedings

Article 156.- No public servant or employee may leave the residence of the circuit or district court where he/she works, or fail to perform his/her duties without having a previous authorization in accordance with the law.

The staff of the circuit or district courts may leave their residence to carry out urgent proceedings, provided that absence does not exceed three days, notifying the Federal Judicial Council, expressing in the notice the purpose and nature of the proceedings, as well as the leave and return dates.

Article 157.- The proceedings to be carried out outside the Supreme Court of Justice’s offices or the Federal Judicial Council’s offices shall be carried out by the minister, councilor, secretary, clerk or district judge appointed by the responsible organ.

Article 158.- The proceedings to be carried out outside the offices of the district and circuit courts may be carried out by the magistrates or judges or by the secretaries or clerks appointed by them.

Outside the residence of the circuit courts, proceedings must be carried out by the circuit magistrate or district judge or the common law judge assigned to the place where proceedings must be performed.

Outside the residence of the district courts, proceedings may be carried out by the same district judge, by the common law judge or by the secretary or clerk serving in the district court.

Related to criminal affairs, the district judges may authorize the common law judges, according to the Article 47 of this organic law, to carry out proceedings and to pronounce rulings regarding formal arrest, arrest warrant or releasing for lack of evidence, as well as to carry out other proceedings in accord with the provisions established in the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

CHAPTER V

Vacations and non-working days

Article 159.- Public servants and employees of the Supreme Court of Justice and of the Federal Judicial Council shall enjoy two vacation periods a year between the periods of sessions fixed in the articles 3 and 70 of this organic law.

Public servants appointed to cover the recess period shall enjoy their vacations within the first two months after the period of session has begun.

Article 160.- Circuit magistrates and district judges shall enjoy annually two vacation periods, consisting of 15 days each one, in the time set by the Federal Judicial Council.

Article 161.- The Federal Judicial Council shall appoint the persons who will substitute the magistrates and judges during their vacation periods. Otherwise, the secretaries serving in the circuit and district courts shall be in charge, according to the provisions established in this law.

The secretaries in charge of the district courts, in accordance with the preceding paragraph, shall pass sentence on the *Amparo* trials set on the days when the district judge is out on vacation, unless such hearings are to be postponed or suspended according to the law.

Acts made by the secretary in charge of the circuit or district court must be authorized by another secretary, if any, or by the respective clerk or by witnesses.

Article 162.- Circuit magistrates and district judges shall grant to secretaries, clerks and other employees serving in circuit and district courts two vacation periods a year, consisting of 15 days each one. Vacation periods must not be simultaneously granted to all employees of the same office.

Article 163.- For the bodies of the Federal Judicial Power, non-working days are every Saturday and Sunday, as well as January 1, February 5, March 21, May 1, September 16 and November 20. During these days, no proceedings shall be carried out, except for the cases expressly set in the law.

CHAPTER VI

Leaves

Article 164.- Every public servant or employee of the Federal Judicial Branch, who has to be temporarily absent from office must request a leave, which shall be granted according to the provisions established in this chapter. The leave application must include the reasons that motivate the absence.

Article 165.- Leaves for up to six months may be granted with pay or without it. Leaves exceeding six months shall be granted without pay.

Article 166.- If a public servant has been granted with a leave exceeding six months, he/she cannot be granted with another one in the course of a year. If a public servant has enjoyed a leave for less than six months, he/she cannot request another one in the course of four months.

Article 167.- Leaves exceeding six months shall be granted as extraordinary measure and because of the public service. No leave may exceed one year.

Article 168.- Leaves must be granted through a writing document, stating the assessment of the explanations provided by the applicant.

Article 169.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the general secretary, the assistant secretary, the auxiliary secretaries, the study and account secretaries, the clerks and other auxiliary staff of the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, shall be granted by the President of the Supreme Court. Leaves that exceed 30 days, shall be granted by the plenum.

Article 170.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the secretary, the assistant secretary, the auxiliary secretaries, the study and account secretaries, the clerks and other auxiliary staff of the courtrooms of the Supreme Court of Justice, shall be granted by the courtroom chairman in question. Leaves that exceed 30 days, shall be granted by the courtroom working in plenary meeting.

Article 171.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the executive secretaries, the technical secretaries and other auxiliary personnel of the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council, shall be granted by the Chairman of the Council. Leaves that exceed 30 days, shall be granted by the plenum.

Article 172.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the technical secretaries and other auxiliary staff of the commissions belonging to the Federal Judicial Council, shall be granted by the chairman of the respective commission. Leaves that exceed 30 days, shall be granted by the respective commission working in plenary meeting.

Article 173.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by circuit magistrates, district judges and heads of the auxiliary organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Branch, except for the Supreme Court of Justice, shall be granted by the Chairman of the Federal Judicial Council. Leaves that exceed 30 days, shall be granted by the plenum of the Council.

Article 174.- Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the secretaries and clerks serving in the collegiate circuit courts, shall be granted by the respective court chairman. Leaves that exceed 15 days but less than six months, shall be granted by the magistrates composing such court jointly. Leaves exceeding six months shall be granted by the Federal Judicial Council.

Leaves not exceeding 30 days, requested by the rest of the employees serving in collegiate circuit courts shall be granted by the court chairman in question. Leaves that exceed 30 days shall be granted by the magistrates composing the court jointly.

Article 175.- Leaves not exceeding six months, requested by the secretaries and clerks of the unitary circuit courts and district courts shall be granted by the magistrate or judge concerned. Leaves exceeding six months shall be granted by the Federal Judicial Council.

Leaves requested by the rest of the employees serving in unitary circuit courts and district courts shall be granted by the head of the respective court.

Article 176.- Leaves requested by public servants and employees not covered by previous articles shall be granted by the body authorized to do so, according to applicable regulations and general covenants. If there is not any provision on this matter, leave shall be granted by the person who has appointed the employee in question.

CHAPTER VII

Jurisprudence

Article 177.- Jurisprudence to be set by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, by its courtrooms and by the collegiate circuit courts in the final judgments other than the *Amparo* trial, shall be governed by the provisions established in the *Amparo* Act, unless the applicable law states otherwise.

Article 178.- The Department of Compilation and Systematization of Thesis is the organ responsible for compilation, systematization and publication of the thesis and jurisprudences issued by the organs of the Federal Judicial Power. The Head of the Department of Compilation and Systematization of Thesis must meet the same requirements that the General Secretary, he/she will have the auxiliary personnel authorized in the budget.

Article 179.- According to the provisions stated in section XIX of the Article 11 of this organic law, the Supreme Court of Justice shall make sure that publications in the Federal Judicial Weekly are made opportunely and shall carry out all arrangements necessary for the proper distribution and spread of thesis and jurisprudences issued by the bodies of the Federal Judicial Power.

CHAPTER VIII

Federal Judicial Branch's personnel

Article 180.- In the Supreme Court of Justice, the following personnel is considered as trusted public servants: the General Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the study and account secretaries, the courtroom secretaries and assistant secretaries, the auxiliary secretaries of courtrooms, the clerks, the chairman assistant, the coordinator of the Department of Compilation and Systematization of Thesis, the general directors, the area directors, the deputy directors, the department chiefs, the auxiliary and advisory personnel serving under the supervision of general directors and higher, and all those in charge of functions related to surveillance, control, resource management, acquisitions and inventories.

Article 181.- The following personnel shall also be considered as trusted public servants: the executive secretaries, the commission secretaries, the technical secretaries, the head of the bodies, the general coordinators, the area directors, the inspectors, the public counsels, the legal advisers and the technical staff serving in the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy, in the Judicial Inspectorate and in the Watchdog Office of the Federal Judicial Power; as well as the deputy directors, the department chiefs, the common officials, the auxiliary and advisory personnel serving under the supervision of general directors and higher, cashiers, payers and all those in charge of functions related to surveillance, control, resource management, acquisitions and inventories.

Article 182.- The public servants of the Federal Judicial Power not mentioned in the two previous articles, shall be considered as base personnel.

Article 183.- At the retirement, ministers shall be entitled to a life pension, which shall be equivalent to the 100 per cent of the current monthly wage during the first two years and to the 80 per cent for the rest of the time.

If a minister goes to retirement without completing 15 years in the office, they shall be entitled to the remuneration mentioned in the preceding paragraph, proportionally to the time their held the office.

In case of death of ministers during the time they hold office or after, his/her spouse and children under age or incapable children will be entitled to a pension equal to 50 percent of the monthly salary calculated according to the preceding two paragraphs. The spouse will no longer be entitled to this benefit upon marriage or cohabitation, the children will lost the right to this benefit when reaching age of majority.

TITLE ELEVEN

The Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch

CHAPTER I

Integration and functioning

Article 184.- According to the Article 99 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, the Electoral Court is the specialized body of the Federal Judicial Power and the highest jurisdictional authority on electoral matters, except for that established in section II of the Article 105 of the Mexican Constitution.

Article 185.- The Electoral Court shall work **permanently** and shall have a Superior Court and five regional courtrooms. Its sessions shall be public.

Article 186.- In accord with the applicable laws and the provisions established in articles 41, **Base VI**; 60, second and third paragraphs; and 99, fourth paragraph, of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, the Electoral Court is responsible for:

I. Solving the challenges on the federal elections for representatives and senators in a final and irrefutable manner.

II. Solving the challenges on the election for President of the United Mexican States at the first instance and in a final and irrefutable manner. Once all lodged challenges have been solved, the Superior Court shall carry out the final counting-up at the latest on September 6 in the year of the election, declaring the election valid and announcing the winner.

Declaration of validity of the election and announcement of the new President shall be notified to the executive board of the House of Representatives on September of the year when election was carried out, so that the House of Representatives **issues and publishes immediately the** solemn edict indicated in the section I of the Article 74 of the Mexican Constitution.

The courtrooms of the Electoral Court may declare an election void only due to any of the causes expressly established in the General Act of the Appeal System on Electoral Matters.

III. Solving, in a final and irrefutable manner, the disputes that arise due to:

a) Acts and rulings pronounced by the federal electoral authority, other than those listed in sections I and II above, which infringe constitutional or legal rules.

b) Final and firm acts and rulings, pronounced by the responsible authority to organize, assess or solve challenges on the electoral processes of the states, which may influence in a decisive way the respective electoral process or the outcome of the elections. This instrument shall be accepted only in the following cases: a) when a precept set in the Mexican Constitution is infringed; b) it is materially and legally possible to satisfy the requested redress within the terms fixed for the elections; and c) it is possible to satisfy the requested redress before date legally fixed for opening of the bodies or taking up offices.

c) Acts and rulings that violate the citizens' political and electoral rights, such as right to vote, right to be elected, right to participate peacefully in political affairs and right to join a party, provided that the constitutional requirements and those indicated in the applicable laws are met.

d) Labor conflicts between the Electoral Court and its public servants.

e) Labor conflicts between the Federal Electoral Institute and its public servants.

f) Conflicts related to impediments of the magistrates.

g) Appeals against acts made by the General Council, the President Councilor or the General Executive Board of the Federal Electoral Institute.

IV. Setting jurisprudence according to the provisions established in the articles 232 to 235 of this organic law.

V. Determination and imposition of penalties on electoral matter in a final and irrefutable manner.

VI. To prepare annually its budget and submit it to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice in order to include it in the general budget for the Federal Judicial Power.

VII. To issue its internal regulations and the general agreements necessary for its proper functioning.

VIII. To provide, directly or through the Electoral Training Centre, education, research, training and dissemination.

IX. To lead relationships with other national and international electoral courts, authorities and institutions.

X. Other responsibilities conferred by laws.

CHAPTER II

The Superior Court

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning

Article 187.- The Superior Court shall be composed of seven electoral magistrates and shall be headquartered in Mexico City. The presence of **four** magistrates is enough to carry out valid sessions, its rulings shall be approved by unanimity, or by qualified majority in the cases expressly mentioned in law, or by simple majority of its members.

Magistrates shall hold office for a nine-year period, which is not extendable. Appointment of magistrates shall be staggered.

In the event of a definitive vacancy, a new magistrate shall be appointed, who will be in charge for the remaining time of the original appointment. Until the appointment is done, vacancy shall be filed by the regional senior magistrate or, where appropriate, the older magistrate, if there are urgent cases.

The temporary absence of an electoral magistrate, not exceeding 30 days, shall be filled by the regional senior magistrate or, where appropriate, by the older magistrate. For this purpose, the Superior Court chairman shall make the respective requirement and shall propose the candidate to the plenum for approval.

In order to declare the election for President of the Republic valid or void and to announce the winner, there must be at least six members of the Superior Court in session.

Electoral magistrates may abstain from voting only when they have a legal impediment or if they were not present during the discussion on the matter. In the case of a tie, the chairman will have casting vote.

If an electoral magistrate disagrees with the majority or his/her proposal is rejected, he/she may state his/her particular vote at the end of the sentence, provided that he/she submits his/her particular vote before such sentence is signed.

Article 188.- The Superior Court shall appoint a General Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, as well as the secretaries, clerks and administrative and technical personnel required for its proper functioning, in accordance with the guidelines issued by Committee of Directors.

SECTION 2

Powers and duties of the Superior Court

Article 189.- The Superior Court shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To hear and solve, in a final and irrefutable manner, controversies that are provoked by:

a) Complaints lodged at a single instance against counting-up of district votes in the election for President of the Republic, according to the provisions established in the applicable law. Once all lodged complaints have been solved, **provided that the Superior Court did not annul the election**, the Superior Court shall carry out the final counting-up, declaring the election valid and announcing the winner. Decisions made by the Superior Court shall be immediately notified to the House of Representatives for the respective constitutional purposes.

b) The review instrument specified in the third paragraph of the Article 60 of the Mexican Constitution, lodged at a second instance against the rulings pronounced by the regional courts on the appeal instrument granted by law, related to federal elections for representatives and senators.

c) Appeal lodged at a single-instance against acts and rulings pronounced by **the main organs of the Federal Electoral Institute**.

d) **Trials about electoral reviews, lodged at a single instance and according to the provisions established in the applicable law, due to final and firm acts or rulings pronounced by the authorities responsible for organization, assessment and solution of appeals in the state electoral processes, which could infringe the precepts stated in the Mexican Constitution and could influence decisively the respective electoral process or the outcome of the elections for governor and Head of the Federal District Government.**

e) **Trials lodged at a single-instance and according to the applicable law, that are carried out to protect the citizen's political and electoral rights, namely:** a) the right to be elected in the elections for President of the Republic, representatives and senators by the principle of proportional representation, **Governor** and Head of the Federal District Government; b) right to peacefully participate in political affairs; c) trials against the **selection of candidates made by the political parties for the above-mentioned elections, or against integration of their national bodies. In the last two cases, the Superior Court shall accept the appeal only after that complainants have exhausted the partisan instruments.**

f) **Labor conflicts between the Electoral Court and its public servants.**

g) **Labor conflicts between the Federal Electoral Institute** and its public servants assigned to the main organs.

II. To hear and rule the challenges lodged against determination and, where appropriate, implementation of penalties **imposed by the main organs of the Federal Electoral Institute** on citizens, political parties, political or citizen organizations, observers and any other private individual or legal person, either **public or private**, according to the applicable law.

III. **To reprimand, warn, and impose fines up to 200 daily minimum wage corresponding to the Federal District on those persons that show a lack of respect towards an organ or member of the Electoral Court during their trials, as well as on those persons who file a frivolous challenge.**

IV. To set the mandatory jurisprudence under the terms of the articles 232 to 235 of this law.

V. To choose its chairman in accordance to the provisions established in the first paragraph of the Article 190 of this organic law, as well as to receive and accept, if appropriate, his/her resignation.

VI. To choose by secret vote one of its members, with the exception of the chairman, to integrate the Committee of Directors.

VII. To grant leaves to its members, provided that such leaves do not exceed one month, according to the letter “d” of the Article 227 of this organic law.

VIII. To create committees as necessary to deal with matters within its responsibility.

IX. To appoint a representative for the Substantiating Commission of the Electoral Court.

X. To approve the internal rules submitted by the Committee of Directors and issue general agreements on matters within its responsibility.

XI. To set the days and time for sessions, taking into account the electoral deadlines.

XII. To hear and resolve the excuses or impediments of the electoral magistrates integrating the Superior Court.

XIII. To resolve jurisdiction conflicts arising between the regional courtrooms.

XIV. To uphold the rules related to registration and monitoring of its public servants’ financial situation, reporting to the Supreme Court of Justice.

XV. To approve the guidelines applicable in the proceedings lodged because of offences committed by electoral magistrates serving in the regional courtrooms and by the administrative staff assigned to the Electoral Court.

XVI. To bring important and transcendent cases, either automatically or at the request of one of the parties or of a regional courtroom, in accordance with the Article 189 bis of this organic law.

XVII. To forward to the regional courtrooms the cases in which such courtroom has set legal precedents, based on general covenants, according to the principle of rationality that favors the prompt and expeditious delivery of electoral justice. Such covenants shall come into effect after publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation. The Superior Court’s decision about delegation is irrefutable.

XVIII. To order the no imposition of electoral laws that are contrary to the Constitution in specific cases and within its jurisdiction.

XIX. Other powers and duties conferred by the laws and the internal rules of the Electoral Court.

Article 189 bis.-The Superior Court can bring cases, as mentioned in the section XVI of the preceding article, where there is reason, in the following cases:

- a) In the case of an important and transcendent appeal.
- b) Where one of the parties submits a written legitimate request, explaining the significance of the case.
- c) Upon request of the responsible regional courtroom.

In the case referred in the letter “a”, when the Superior Court brings a case automatically, it shall notify by writing the responsible regional courtroom, which, within the maximum period of seventy-two hours, must send the original file the Superior Court, notifying the parties.

In the case described in the letter “b”, one of the parties must request the Supreme Court, through the regional courtroom, to bring the case: a) while filing the appeal; b) while appearing as interested third parties; or c) while submitting the detailed report, stating the reasons that support the request. The responsible courtroom shall immediately notify the Superior Court, which shall resolve within seventy-two hours whether to bring the case or not.

In the case explained in the letter “c”, once the appeal has been filed before the respective regional courtroom, such courtroom has a seventy-two hours term to request the Superior Court to bring the case, through the applicable covenant, explaining the reasons for the request. The Superior upper shall decide within seventy-two hours after the receipt of the request whether to bring the case or not.

Superior Court’s decision about bringing the case or not is irrefutable.

CHAPTER III

The President of the Electoral Court

Article 190.- The Superior Court magistrates shall choose a chairman among the Superior Court members. This Superior Court chairman will be also the Electoral Court President, who shall hold office for a period of four years, he/she may be reelected only once.

In case of chairman resignation, the Superior Court shall elect a new chairman, who shall hold office until the conclusion of the original period. The new chairman may be reelected once.

Chairman absences not exceeding one month shall be filled by the senior electoral magistrate or, where appropriate, by the older electoral magistrate. If the absence exceeds one month but is less than six months, an interim chairman shall be appointed. If the absence exceeds six months, a substitute shall be appointed, who will hold office until the end of the original period.

Article 191.- The Electoral Court chairman shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To represent the Electoral Court and to holding all kinds of legal and administrative acts required for the proper functioning of the Electoral Court.

- II. To chair the Superior Court and the Committee of Directors.
- III. To lead the sessions of the Superior Court and to keep the order. If attendees do not show restraint, he/she may order their ejection in order to continue the session in private.
- IV. To opportunely suggest to the Superior Court the candidates to fill positions under the Superior Court supervision.
- V. To appoint the heads and auxiliary personnel for the departments belonging to the Superior Court Chairmanship and for the other departments created for the proper functioning of the Electoral Court.
- VI. To uphold the Superior Court rulings.
- VII. To answer the correspondence of the Electoral Court and the Superior Court.
- VIII. To maintain relations with authorities and national and foreign public and private institutions that have links with the Electoral Court.
- IX. To submit to the Committee of Directors the preliminary budget for the Electoral Court and, after approval, to submit it to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice to include it in the general budget for the Federal Judicial Power.
- X To assure that the courtrooms have the human, material and financial resources necessary for their proper functioning.
- XI. To call the electoral magistrates and other legal, technical and administrative staff of the Electoral Court to public or internal meetings.
- XII. Repealed.
- XIII. To make sure that the measures necessary to coordinate the jurisdictional and administrative functions of the courtrooms are taken and implemented.
- XIV. To make sure that the measures taken for the good service and discipline in the offices of the Superior Court are observed. To take any urgent measure for this purpose, notifying immediately the Committee of Directors.
- XV. To authorize leaves to the Superior Court public servants, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Committee of Directors.
- XVI. To notify the President of the Supreme Court of Justice the definitive absences of the electoral magistrates, in order to follow the applicable procedure.
- XVII. To appoint the electoral magistrate or magistrates who must process the urgent cases during vacation periods of the Superior Court.

XVIII. To distribute the files among the electoral magistrates of the Superior Court to prepare the solution proposal, in accordance with the internal rules of the Electoral Court.

XIX. To ask the organs of the Federal Electoral Institute, the federal, state or local authorities, the political parties, the political organizations or groups, and the individuals, any report or document that may serve for the substantiation or resolution of the cases, provided that resolution can be achieved within the deadlines set by the law.

XX. To order, in extraordinary cases, to carry out specific formalities or to submit evidence, provided that resolution can be achieved within the deadlines set by the law.

XXI. To present an annual report before the plenary session of the Supreme Court of Justice, the members of the Electoral Court and the members of the Federal Judicial Council, and order its publication in a special edition. Such report must be submitted before the President of the Supreme Court submits his report. In the years where federal electoral process are carried out, such report must be submitted after conclusion of the electoral process.

XXII. To provide to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation the information required to render the report indicated in the section XI of the Article 14 of this Organic law.

XXIII. To order the suspension, dismissal or cessation of: a) the heads and other staff assigned to the departments under the supervision of the Electoral Court Chairmanship; b) the personnel directly assigned to the Electoral Court Chairmanship; and c) the administrative secretary. In addition, the chairman shall propose the candidates to fill these positions to the Committee of Directors.

XXIV. To agree, together with the heads of the departments under supervision of the Electoral Court Chairmanship, which duties are to be carried out by such departments.

XXV. To uphold provisions stated in the Electoral Court internal rules.

XXVI. To submit to the Supreme Court of Justice the reports about the sentences ordering the no imposition of electoral laws that were considered as contrary to the Constitution.

XXVII. Other powers and duties conferred by laws or the internal rules, or those which are necessary for the proper functioning of the Electoral Court.

CHAPTER IV

Regional courtrooms

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning

Article 192-The Electoral Court shall have five regional courtrooms, composed of three electoral magistrates. The regional courtrooms shall be headquartered in the city that serves as

administrative center for each plurinominal district, according to that established in the Article 53 of the Mexican Constitution and the applicable law.

The magistrates assigned to regional courtrooms shall hold office for a nine-year term. This term is not extendable, unless they are promoted to higher positions. Appointment of the regional magistrates shall be staggered.

In case of definitive vacancy, a new magistrate shall be appointed for the remaining time of the original appointment.

In the case of extraordinary elections, the regional court with territorial jurisdiction on the place where elections are to be held shall solve the appeals that may arise during such elections.

Article 193.- In order to carry out session, the three electoral magistrates must be present, regional courtroom rulings must be approved by unanimity or majority of the votes. Magistrates cannot abstain from voting, unless they have a legal excuse or impediment.

If an electoral magistrate disagrees with the majority or his/her proposal is rejected, he/she may state his/her particular vote at the end of the sentence, provided that he/she submits his/her particular vote before such sentence is signed.

Article 194.- Temporary absence of a magistrate assigned to a **regional courtroom**, not exceeding 30 days, shall be filled by the general secretary or, where appropriate, by the senior secretary of the respective courtroom, **as decided by the courtroom chairman. If the absence exceeds 30 days, office shall be filled also by the general secretary or, where appropriate, by the senior secretary of the respective courtroom, having the Superior Court previous approval.**

If the absence of a magistrate assigned to a regional courtroom is definitive, the chairman of the courtroom in question shall notify immediately the Superior Court, which shall in turn notify the Supreme Court of Justice, which shall propose candidates to the Senate for the magistrate position. Until the new magistrate is appointed, the absence shall be filled by the general secretary or by the senior secretary assigned to the courtroom in question.

SECTION 2

Powers and duties

Article 195.- Within their territorial jurisdiction, the regional courtrooms shall be responsible for:

I. To hear and resolve, in one instance and in a definitive and irrefutable manner, appeals filed against acts and resolutions pronounced by a federal electoral authority, with the exception of the acts and resolutions pronounced by the main bodies of the Federal Electoral Institute, in accordance with the provisions established in the applicable law.

II. To hear and solve appeals related to federal election of representatives and senators by the principle of relative majority, pursuant to the applicable law.

III. To hear and solve electoral reviewing trials, in one instance and according to the provisions established in the applicable law, that are lodged against final and firm acts or rulings pronounced by the authorities responsible for organization, assessment and solution of challenges related to state elections, which could infringe the precepts stated in the Mexican Constitution and could affect in a decisive manner the respective electoral process or the outcome of the elections for local representatives, representatives for the Federal District Assembly, councilors and heads of the political-administrative organs located in the Federal District suburbs.

This kind of appeals shall be accepted only in the following cases: a) after that the plaintiff has exhausted all the available legal resources, b) provided that the act contested could affect in a decisive manner the electoral process or the election results, c) provided that it is legally and materially possible to satisfy the requested redress within the terms fixed for elections, and d) it is possible to satisfy the requested redress before the date legally fixed for opening of the bodies or taking up offices.

IV. To hear and solve appeals for the protection of citizens' political and electoral rights, in one instance and in a final and irrefutable manner, whenever the appeals are lodged due to:

a) Infringement of the right to vote in the constitutional elections.

b) Violation of the right to be elected: in the federal elections for representatives and senators by the principle of relative majority; in the elections for local representatives; in the elections for members of the Federal District Assembly; in the elections for local councilors, and, in the elections for the heads of the political-administrative organs located in the Federal District suburbs, provided that the plaintiff meets the requirements established in the Constitution and in the applicable laws.

c) Infringement of the right to be elected in the elections for local public servants different to those who integrate the city council.

d) Violation of the political and electoral rights by resolutions issued by the political parties in the election of candidates for the elections for: representatives and senators by the principle of relative majority; local representatives; members of the Federal District Assembly; councilors; heads of the political-administrative organs located in the Federal District suburbs, and, leaders of the regional political-administrative organs. The responsible regional courtroom shall accept the appeal only after that plaintiff has exhausted the challenging instruments provided by the political party.

V. Assessment and acceptance of the legal excuses and impediments notified by the electoral magistrates.

VI. Entrusting the secretaries and clerks with the task of carrying out proceedings outside the courtroom.

VII. Setting the date and time for the public sessions.

VIII. Appointment of their chairman.

IX. Appointment, in accordance with the general guidelines issued by Committee of Directors, of the general secretary, the secretaries and clerks, as well as the other legal and administrative staff.

X. Ordering the no imposition of electoral laws that are contrary to the Constitution in specific cases and within their jurisdiction.

XI. Solution of affairs related to local political parties and local political associations or groups.

XII. Hearing and solution of labor controversies between the Federal Electoral Institute and its public servants assigned to the decentralized organs, in a final and irrefutable manner.

XIII. Authorization of leaves not exceeding one month to its electoral magistrates, according to the letter “d” of the Article 227 bis of this organic law.

XIV. Other duties delegated by the Superior Court and others entrusted by the laws.

These powers and duties shall be governed by the general covenants issued by the Superior Court. Such agreements must not evade these powers and duties permanently. Specific agreements on delegation of certain tasks, issued by the Superior Court, shall not set jurisprudence.

SECTION 3

Chairpersons

Article 196.- Magistrates shall appoint their chairman from among the members of the regional courtroom. The chairman shall hold office for a three-year period, he/she may be reelected only once.

Absences of the chairman not exceeding one month, shall be filled by the senior magistrate or the older magistrate assigned to the regional courtroom in question. If the absence exceeds one month but is less than six months, the regional courtroom shall appoint an interim chairman. If the absence exceeds six months, the regional courtroom shall appoint a substitute, who will hold office until the end of the original period. The substitute chairman may be elected then as chairman only once. This provision should be observed without prejudice to Article 194 of this organic law.

Article 197.- Chairmen of the regional courtrooms shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To represent the regional courtroom and to answer its correspondence.

II. To chair the courtroom, lead discussions and maintain order. If attendees do not show restraint, the chairman may order their ejection in order to continue the session in private.

III. To distribute the cases among the courtroom magistrates.

IV. To uphold the courtroom resolutions.

V. To notify the courtroom about the appointment of the general secretary, secretaries, clerks and other legal and administrative personnel, in accordance with the general guidelines established by the Committee of Directors.

VI. To request the Committee of Directors the human, financial and material resources required for the proper functioning of the courtroom.

VII. To inform permanently the chairman of the Committee of Directors about the courtroom functioning, the number of appeals filed, the number of appeals in process, the substantiation and their resolution.

VIII. To call the electoral magistrates, the general secretary, the secretaries and other legal and administrative staff of the courtroom to public or internal meetings.

IX. To notify the President of the **Electoral Court** about the definitive absences of the electoral magistrates, the general secretary, the secretaries and other legal and administrative staff of the courtroom.

X. To ask the organs of the Federal Electoral Institute, the federal, state or local authorities, the political parties, and the individuals, any report or document that may serve for the substantiation or resolution of the cases, provided that resolution can be achieved within the deadlines set by the law.

XI. To order, in extraordinary cases, to carry out specific formalities or to submit or improve evidence, provided that resolution can be achieved within the deadlines set by the law.

XII. To request the President of the Electoral Court, **for legal purposes**, the suspension, dismissal or removal of an electoral magistrate, the general secretary, a secretary, a clerk or the legal and administrative staff assigned to the courtroom.

XIII. To help identify and classify the criteria defended by the courtroom.

XIV. To uphold the internal rules of the Electoral court, as well **as the general covenants issued by the Superior Court.**

XV. To submit to the Superior Court the reports about the sentences ordering the no imposition of electoral laws that were considered as contrary to the Constitution.

XVI. Other powers and duties necessary for the proper functioning of the courtroom, or conferred by the law or by the internal rules.

CHAPTER V

The electoral magistrates

SECTION 1

Procedure for the election of magistrates

Article 198.- Definitive absences of the electoral magistrates shall be filled, upon public call, according to the following procedure:

- a) The plenum of the Supreme Court shall approve by simple majority of those present at a public session, the proposals to be sent to the Senate. For each magistrate position, the Supreme Court must propose three candidates.**
- b) The President of the Supreme Court of Justice shall submit to the Senate the proposals for magistrate positions to be assigned to the regional courtrooms and to the Superior Court.**
- c) Each list of three candidates shall indicate the respective courtroom.**
- d) Within the 15 days after receipt of proposals, the Senate shall elect the electoral magistrates by the vote of two-thirds of its members present.**
- e) If no candidate from a list obtains the qualified majority, the Senate shall notify the Supreme Court, which must submit a new list within three days. The Senate must vote this second list within the five days after receipt of the new proposal, which may not include previously proposed candidates.**

SECTION 2

Electoral magistrates' duties

Article 199.- The electoral magistrates have the following duties:

- I. To attend, participate and vote in the public and internal meetings to which they are convened by the President of the Electoral Court or by the courtroom chairman.**
- II. To integrate the courtroom in order to resolve the matters within its jurisdiction.**
- III. To prepare proposals of resolution for the cases entrusted to them.**
- IV. To explain in public session, personally or through a secretary, their sentencing projects, noting the legal provisions that support such projects.**
- V. To discuss and vote the sentencing projects at the public sessions.**
- VI. To redact the final sentence, when they are asked to do so.**

VII To accept appeals and documents filed by third parties or assistants, according to the applicable law.

VIII. To submit to the courtroom the rejection projects when appeals are notoriously inadmissible or obviously frivolous, according to the applicable law.

IX. To submit to the courtroom the sentencing projects related to files that do not meet the requirements established by the applicable laws.

X. To submit to the courtroom the rulings ordering to drop the cases falling in the two previous paragraphs as closed cases, according to the applicable laws.

XI. To inform the courtroom about the accumulation of challenges and connection between them, in accord with the applicable laws.

XII. To define the ordinary requirements for the integration of the files according to the applicable law, and to ask the organs of the Federal Electoral Institute, the federal, state or local authorities, the political parties and the individuals, any report or document that may serve for the substantiation of the cases, provided that resolution can be achieved within the deadlines set by the law.

XIII. To send letters rogatory to the federal or state courts, entrusting them to carry out proceedings within their jurisdiction, or to perform proceedings outside the offices of the courtroom.

XIV. To attend institutional training courses and courses provided by the Electoral Training Centre.

XV. Other duties conferred by law, by the Electoral Court internal rules, or those which are necessary for the proper functioning of the Electoral Court.

Each one of the magistrates assigned to the Superior Court must be permanently supported by the training secretaries and the study and account secretaries required for performance of their duties.

CHAPTER VI

The General Secretary and the Assistant Secretary

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning in the Superior Court

Article 200.- For the exercise of its functions, the Superior Court shall have a General Secretary and an Assistant Secretary, who shall be appointed according to the Article 188 of this organic law.

SECTION 2

Duties of the General Secretary and the Assistant Secretary

Article 201.- The General Secretary shall have the following functions:

- I. To assist the President of the Electoral Court in the tasks entrusted.
- II. To report, to carry out the poll and to draw up the respective minutes at the sessions.
- III. To review the wording of the final sentences pronounced by the Superior Court.
- IV. To control the turn among the electoral magistrates.
- V. To supervise the service office of the Superior Court.
- VI. To make sure that notifications are made in a timely manner.
- VII. To supervise the archives belonging to the Superior Court and to the regional courts and, if necessary, to concentrate and preserve them.
- VIII. To define, together with the President of the Electoral Court, the general guidelines for the identification and integration of the files.
- IX. To authorize, through his/her signature, the proceedings made by the Superior Court.
- X. To issue the certificates required.**
- XI. To keep a record of the sentences ordering the no imposition of electoral laws and assist the President of the Electoral Court to inform the Supreme Court of Justice.**
- XII. Others duties conferred by laws.**

Article 202.- The Assistant Secretary shall assist the General Secretary to perform his/her duties, according to the provisions established in the Electoral Court internal rules.

CHAPTER VII

General Secretaries assigned to the regional courtrooms

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning in the regional courtrooms

Article 203.- For the exercise of their functions, every regional courtroom shall appoint a General Secretary.

SECTION 2

General Secretary's duties

Article 204.- The general secretaries assigned to the regional courtrooms shall have the following functions:

- I. To assist the courtroom chairman in the tasks entrusted.
- II. To report, to carry out the poll and to draw up the respective minutes at the sessions.
- III. To review the wording of the final sentences pronounced by the courtroom.
- IV. To control the turn among the electoral magistrates.
- V. To supervise the service office of the courtroom.
- VI. To make sure that notifications are made in a timely manner.
- VII. To supervise the courtroom archive and, if necessary, to send archives to the President of the Electoral Court.
- VIII. To authorize, through his/her signature, the proceedings made by the courtroom.
- IX. To issue the certificates required.
- X. To keep the courtroom chairman informed about operation of the departments under his/her supervision and the process followed by the cases.
- XI. To keep a record of the sentences ordering the no imposition of electoral laws and assist the courtroom chairman to inform the Superior Court.**
- XII. Others duties conferred by laws.**

CHAPTER VIII

The Committee of Directors

SECTION 1

Integration and functioning

Article 205.- The Committee of Directors shall be in charge of management, supervision, discipline and judicial career of the Electoral Court.

The Committee of Directors shall be composed of: a) the President of the Electoral Court, who will chair; b) an electoral magistrate from the Superior Court appointed by secret vote; and c) three

members from the Federal Judicial Council. In addition, there will be the following commissioners: 1) the senior circuit magistrate; 2) the senior councilor appointed by the Senate, and 3) a councilor appointed by the President of the Republic. The Committee of Directors is a permanent organ, it shall meet in the Electoral Court headquarters.

The Chief of the Electoral Court Administrative Department will act as secretary in the Committee of Directors, he/she shall have voice but not vote.

Article 206.- The presence of three members is enough to carry out valid sessions by the Committee of Directors, which shall take decisions by unanimity or majority of the commissioners present. Commissioners may not abstain from voting, unless they have a legal excuse or impediment. In the case of a tie, the chairman shall have casting vote.

If there isn't a quorum, the chairman shall convene again in order to carry out session within the following 24 hours. This time, the Committee of Directors shall session in a valid manner, regardless the number of members present.

If a commissioner disagrees with the majority, he/she may state his/her particular vote in the minutes, provided that he/she submits his/her particular vote within the five days after decision is taken.

Ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the Committee of Directors shall be closed.

Article 207.- The Committee of Directors shall determine each year its vacation periods, taking into account the federal and local electoral calendars.

The Committee of Directors shall appoint two members to deal with the urgent administrative affairs during the recess. They also may resolve, provisionally, other urgent affairs until the Committee meets to resolve it definitely.

Article 208.- If the Committee of Directors considers that its decisions or resolutions might be of general interest, it must order their publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

SECTION 2

The Committee of Directors powers and duties

Article 209.- The Committee of Directors shall have the following powers and duties:

I. To prepare the draft of the internal rules of the Electoral Court and submit it to the Superior Court for approval.

II. Repealed

III. To issue administrative internal rules and establish the general provisions about admission, career, scale, discipline, dismissal, incentives and training applicable to Electoral Court personnel.

- IV. To establish standards and criteria to modernize the organizational structures, the internal administrative systems and procedures, and the public service.
- V. To issue norms governing the good service and discipline in the Electoral Court.
- VI. To empower the regional courtroom chairpersons to appoint an interim official in case of absence of any of the public servants or employees under their supervision.
- VII. To authorize leaves for the **administrative personnel assigned to the Electoral Court**, according to the provisions established in this organic law.
- VIII. To receive resignations submitted by the secretaries and other staff assigned to the regional courtroom.
- IX. To dismiss or suspend the magistrates of the regional courtrooms when they commit serious misconduct and inform immediately the Supreme Court of Justice. The dismissed or suspended magistrate may appeal before the Superior Court of the Electoral Court.
- X. To suspend the electoral magistrates assigned to regional courtrooms at the request of the judicial authority responsible for the criminal proceeding against him/her. In these cases, the decision shall be informed to the requesting authority. Suspension of magistrates is an indispensable prerequisite for their arrest and prosecution. Otherwise, the Article 81, section X, second paragraph, of this organic law shall be applied.
- XI. To suspend from office the electoral magistrates assigned to regional courtrooms that are involved in committing a crime, and to lodge a claim or lawsuit against them where appropriate.
- XII. **To approve, whenever a just cause exists**, the suspension, removal or dismissal of the general secretaries, secretaries and the legal and administrative staff assigned to the regional courtrooms.
- XIII. To hear and resolve the administrative complaints and complaints about public servants' liabilities according to this organic law, including those complaints relating to violations of the constraints mentioned in the Article 101 of the Mexican Constitution by members of the Electoral Court.
- XIV. To impose penalties on the Electoral Court public servants due to irregularities or misconduct committed while performing their duties, based on the opinion submitted by the Substantiating Commission of the Electoral Court and on the articles 152 to 161 of the Federal Labor Act for Public Servants, which is the statutory law corresponding to the part "B" of Article 123 of the Mexican Constitution, where relevant.
- XV. To appoint an Electoral Court representative before the Substantiating Commission for the purposes indicated in the previous paragraph. Such representative must be proposed by the chairman of the Committee of Directors.

XVI. To appoint the chiefs of the auxiliary departments, who must be proposed by the chairman of the Committee of Directors.

XVII. To appoint the public servants for the auxiliary departments, and to regulate their promotion, leaves, dismissals and resignations.

XVIII. To issue the general basis for the organization, operation, coordination and supervision of the auxiliary departments of the Committee of Directors.

XIX. To authorize resignations and leaves submitted by the chiefs of the auxiliary departments, to dismiss them due to just cause, or to suspend them according to the law and the applicable covenants, as well as to lodge a claim or lawsuit where appropriate.

XX. To investigate the accountabilities of the public servants and employees of the Committee of Directors and determine the applicable penalties, according to the law and the disciplinary regulations and agreements issued by the Committee of Directors.

XXI. To carry out extraordinary inspections or create researching committees, when the Committee of Directors considers that a serious misconduct has been committed or when requested by the Superior Court.

XXII. To reprimand, warn, and impose fines up to 180 daily minimum wage corresponding to the Federal District on those persons that show a lack of respect towards an organ or member of the Electoral Court in their appeals lodged before the Committee of Directors.

XXIII. To prepare annually the list of legal experts, classifying them by branches, specializations, plurinominal electoral districts, states and, if possible, by federal uninominal electoral districts.

XXIV. To provide the President of the Electoral Court with all the information necessary to draw up the preliminary annual budget for the Electoral Court. Once the preliminary annual budget has been approved by the Committee of Directors, it shall be submitted to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice to include it in the general budget for the Federal Judicial Power, which shall be sent to the President of the Republic.

XXV. To use the expenditure budget of the Electoral Court.

XXVI. To issue general covenants to assure compliance with the Article 134 of the Mexican Constitution and with the expenditure budget while carrying out acquisitions, leases and transfers of all kinds of goods, provision of any kind of services and building contracting by the Electoral Court.

XXVII. To manage the properties and goods belonging to the Electoral Court, taking care of their maintenance, preservation and adaptation.

XXVIII. To set the computer and statistical information policies of the Electoral Court.

XXIX. To establish a coordination, through the Federal Judicial Council, between the Judicial Institute and the Electoral Training Centre.

XXX. To make sure that the public servants assigned to the regional courtrooms, the Committee of Directors and the auxiliary organs submit in a timely manner their declaration of financial situation to the Federal Judicial Council.

XXXI. To perform any other function entrusted by law or by the internal regulations of the Electoral Court.

SECTION 3

Chairman of the Committee of Directors

Article 210.- The chairman of the Committee of Directors shall have the following functions:

- I. To represent the Committee of Directors.
- II. To chair the Committee of Directors, to lead debates and to keep order during the meetings.
- III. To process and distribute the cases among the members of the Committee of Directors to prepare the solution proposals.
- IV. To answer the correspondence of the Committee of Directors, to sign rulings and covenants, and to legalize, by himself or through the Secretary, the signature of the public servants assigned to the Electoral Court when required by law.
- V. To supervise the auxiliary organs of the Committee of Directors.
- VI. Notify the Federal Judicial Council about vacancies of its representatives, so that the Council appoints the new ones.
- VII. To appoint the Administrative Secretary, the heads of the auxiliary organs and the representative before the Substantiating Commission.
- VIII. Other functions conferred by law, by the internal rules and by the general agreements.

SECTION 4

Auxiliary organs

Article 211.- The Committee of Directors shall have an administrative department and the auxiliary organs necessary for the proper performance of its duties. Structure and functions of the auxiliary organs shall be established in the internal regulations of the Electoral Court.

CHAPTER IX

Special provisions

SECTION 1

Requirements for the position

Article 212.- In order to be appointed as electoral magistrate for the Superior Court, in addition to the requirements indicated in the Article 95 of the Mexican Constitution, the candidate must meet the following requirements:

- I. To have voter card.
- II. To prove **knowledge on electoral law**.
- III. Not serve, or have served, as the president of the national executive committee or equivalent of any political party.
- IV. Not have been registered as candidate for an elective office in the last six years.
- V. Not serve, or have served, as national, state, district or local director in any political party in the last six years.

Article 213.- Electoral magistrates, in addition to the requirements established in the Article 106 of this organic law, must meet the following requirements:

- I. To be a Mexican citizen in full possession of his/her civil and political rights, and to have voter card.
- II. To be at least 35 years old at the time of the election.
- III. To have good reputation and not have been convicted of an intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.
- IV. To have a law degree and five years of professional practice.
- V. **To prove knowledge on electoral law.**
- VI. Not serve, or have served, as the president of the national executive committee or equivalent of any political party.
- VII. Not have been registered as candidate for an elective office in the last six years.
- VIII. Not serve, or have served, as national, state, district or local director in any political party in the last six years.

Article 214.- To be appointed as general secretary of the Superior Court, the candidate must satisfy the same requirements than the regional electoral magistrates, which have been established in this chapter, with the exception of age, which is 30 years.

Article 215.- The assistant secretary of the Superior Court and the general secretaries assigned to the regional courtrooms, must meet the following requirements:

- I. To be a Mexican citizen in full possession of his/her civil and political rights, and to have voter card.
- II. To be at least 28 years old.
- III. To have good reputation and not have been convicted of an intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.
- IV. To have a law degree and three years of professional practice.
- V. Not serve, or have served, as the president of the national executive committee or equivalent of any political party.
- VI. Not have been registered as candidate for an elective office in the last six years.
- VII. Not serve, or have served, as national, state, district or local director in any political party in the last six years.

Article 216.- In order to be appointed as secretary in any of the Electoral Court courtrooms, the person must satisfy the following requirements:

a) to be training secretary:

- I. To be a Mexican citizen in full possession of his/her civil and political rights, and to have voter card.
- II. To be at least 28 years old.
- III. To have good reputation and not have been convicted of an intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.
- IV. To have a law degree and three years of professional practice.
- V. To pass the exam on basic knowledge prepared by the Committee of Directors.

b) In order to be appointed as study and account secretary, the person must meet the same requirements indicated in the previous letter “a”, except for: the age, which is 25 years; and two years of professional practice and law degree.

Article 217.- In order to be appointed as clerk in any of the courtrooms belonging to the Electoral Court, the candidate must satisfy the following requirements:

- I. To be a Mexican citizen in full possession of his/her civil and political rights, and to have voter card.
- II. To have good reputation and not have been convicted of an intentional offence punishable with more than one year imprisonment.
- III. To have at least the law internship letter, issued by a legal institution.
- IV. To pass the exam on basic knowledge prepared by the Committee of Directors.

Article 218.- The President of the Electoral Court or the Committee of Directors, within the field of their responsibilities, may provide other staff categories in order to satisfy the needs of the Superior Court or the regional courtrooms, according to authorized budget.

In the event of extraordinary workload, the Committee of Directors can authorize hiring of temporary legal and administrative staff to cope with this situation, without having to follow the ordinary procedures for hiring and admission.

SECTION 2

Of responsibility, impediments and excuses

Article 219.- Accountabilities of all members of the Electoral Court shall be governed by the Title Eight and the special provisions established in this title of this organic law. For these purposes, unless **otherwise provided**, the powers and duties established for the Supreme Court of Justice and the Federal Judicial Council, shall be applicable to **the Superior Electoral Court** and to the Committee of Directors, **respectively**. The powers and duties established for the President of the Supreme Court shall be applicable to the President of the Electoral Court.

Rulings pronounced by the Superior Court, the President of the Electoral Court or the Committee of Directors shall be final and irrefutable, except for the cases provided for in the final part of the section IX of the Article 209 and in the second paragraph of the Article 241 of this organic law, within the scope of their respective responsibilities. In these cases, the dismissed magistrate or public servant can appeal before the Superior Court of the Electoral Court within ten working days after notification. The Superior Court must resolve the appeal within a 30 working day term.

Magistrates assigned to the Superior Court of the Electoral Court may be dismissed only in the cases established in the articles 110 and 111 of the Title Four of the Mexican Constitution.

Article 220.- Electoral magistrates are unable to hear a case due to any of the causes established in the Article 146 of this law.

The Article 149 of this organic law is applicable to the secretaries and clerks.

Article 221.- Excuses because of legal impediments notified by the electoral magistrates shall be assessed and accepted immediately by respective courtroom, according the internal regulations.

If the legal impediment is accepted, he general secretary, or the senior secretary, or the older secretary must be present for a quorum, so that the respective regional courtroom can meet in a valid manner.

Article 222.- Electoral magistrates and public servants assigned to the Superior Court, as well as coordinators and other public servants assigned to the chairmanship of the Electoral Court, must submit their declaration of financial situation to the Supreme Court of Justice. The rest of the public servants under this liability shall submit their declaration of financial situation to the Federal Judicial Council.

SECTION 3

Vacation periods, non-working days, resignations, absences and leaves

Article 223.- Public servants and employees of **the Chambers** shall enjoy two vacation periods a year, according to the service needs.

In the years there should be federal electoral processes or during extraordinary federal elections, taking into account that all the days and hours are working days, vacation period may be postponed or paid, as employee chooses. In no case, vacation periods may be accumulated for more than two years.

Article 224.- Public servants and employees of the Electoral Court shall rest the non-working days indicated in the Article 163 of this organic law, provided that no election processes are being carried out and there are not unresolved cases related to those described in the letter “b”, section III, of the Article 186 of this organic law.

Article 225.- Public servants and employees of the Electoral Court are obliged to work on the schedule established by the Committee of Directors, taking into account that during federal or local electoral processes, every day and hours are working.

Article 226.- During the electoral processes, overtime is not due. However, the budget must include extraordinary compensations to be granted to the public servants and staff assigned to the Electoral Court in accordance with the time and workloads.

Article 227.- In accordance with articles 98 and 99 of the Mexican Constitution, resignations, absences and leaves submitted by the electoral magistrates assigned to the Superior court shall be processed, filled and granted according to the following rules:

a) Resignations shall be accepted only due to serious cause; the Superior Court shall submit resignations to the Supreme Court of Justice, if accepted by this last, resignations shall be sent to the Senate for approval.

b) In the event of definitive vacancy, the Superior Court shall inform the Supreme Court of Justice to appoint a new magistrate, who shall hold the office until the end of the original appointment, according to the Article 198 of this organic law.

c) Leaves shall be granted by the Superior Court. Leaves which exceed a month shall be filled by the General Secretary or by the study and account secretary appointed by the Supreme Court of Justice, at the Superior Court chairman’s proposal.

d) No leave can exceed six months. In no case, leaves may be authorized simultaneously to more than two magistrates or for more than a month during the federal election process.

Article 227 bis.- Resignations, absences, and leaves submitted by the magistrates assigned to the regional courtrooms shall be processed, filled and granted according to the following rules:

a) Resignations shall be accepted only due to serious cause; the respective regional courtroom shall submit resignations to the Superior Court Chairman, who shall submit them to the Supreme Court of Justice, if accepted by this last, resignations shall be sent to the Senate for approval.

b) Temporary absences shall be filled by the General Secretary or by the study and account secretary appointed by the regional courtroom chairman, notifying the Superior Court.

c) In the event of definitive vacancy, the regional courtroom shall inform the Superior Court, which will notify the Supreme Court of Justice to appoint a new magistrate, who shall hold the office until the end of the original appointment, according to the Article 198 of this organic law.

d) Leaves not exceeding one month shall be granted by the regional courtroom. Leaves exceeding one month shall be authorized by the Superior Court. No leave can exceed six months. Leaves cannot be granted during the election processes. In no case, leaves may be authorized simultaneously to more than one magistrate.

Article 228.- Leaves submitted by the public servants and employees of the Electoral Court shall be granted according to the articles 164 to 176 of this organic law, taking into account that, during the electoral processes, all the days and hours are working days.

SECTION 4

Judicial proceedings and jurisdictional archive

Article 229.- The articles 156 to 158 of this organic law shall be applicable in order to conduct proceedings outside the offices of the Electoral Court courtrooms.

Article 230.- The Electoral Court must keep the files corresponding to closed cases for two years, starting from the date when the file was sent to the archive.

Article 231.- After two years, the Electoral Court shall transfer the files to the National General Archive, keeping copies of the files required in site, using for this any digital or photocopying method.

SECTION 5

Jurisprudence

Article 232.- The Electoral Court will set legal precedents according to the following cases and rules:

I. When the Superior Court defends the same criterion for implementation, interpretation or creation of a norm in three sentences that have not been interrupted by a contrary sentence.

II. When the regional courtrooms defend the same criterion for implementation, interpretation or creation of a norm in five sentences, ratified by the Superior Court, that have not been interrupted by a contrary sentence.

III. When the Superior Court has to resolve contradictory criteria defended by two or more regional courtrooms or between the regional courtrooms and the Superior Court.

In the case described in section II, the respective regional courtroom shall notify the Superior Court the five sentences containing the criterion that is to be held as binding, as well as the heading and the text of the respective thesis, so that the Superior Court determines whether to set a legal precedent.

In the case described in section III, the contradictory criteria may be raised at any time by any courtroom, by an electoral magistrate, or by the parties. Prevailing criterion shall be compulsory; however, the sentences previously pronounced cannot be altered.

In all cases, in order to make the criterion binding, the Superior Court must pronounce the respective formal declaration, which shall be notified immediately to the regional courtrooms, the Federal Electoral Institute and, where appropriate, to the local electoral authorities and shall be published in the Electoral Court official gazette.

Article 233.- Legal precedents set by the Electoral Court shall be binding in all cases for all the electoral courtrooms and for the Federal Electoral Institute. In the case of legal precedent on political and electoral rights or related to appeals against proceedings or rulings made by the local electoral authorities, then such legal precedent shall be binding for the local electoral authorities, according to the provisions established by the Mexican Constitution and the applicable laws.

Article 234.- The legal precedent set by the Electoral Court shall be interrupted and will not be mandatory if at least five members of the Superior Court vote for a contrary criterion. The respective ruling must include the reasons supporting the new criterion. This new criterion may set legal precedent if the provisions established in sections I and II of the Article 232 of this law are met.

Article 235.- Legal precedents set by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice shall be compulsory for the Electoral Court when referring to the direct interpretation of a precept stated in the Mexican Constitution, as well as in the cases where such legal precedent is fully applicable.

SECTION 6

Adversarial thesis complaints

Article 236.- According to that established in the **seventh** paragraph of the Article 99 of the Mexican Constitution and in the section VIII of the Article 10 of this organic law, when a courtroom belonging to the Electoral Court defends a thesis on the constitutionality of an act or ruling, or on the interpretation of a provision of the Mexican Constitution, and such thesis is inconsistent with a thesis

defended by any courtroom or the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, then any of the ministers, any courtroom or the parties can notify the contradiction to the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice, which, within a ten-day term, must decide which thesis must prevail.

Article 237.- Rulings pronounced by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice on adversarial thesis complaints, will not affect the sentences pronounced under the contradictory thesis.

SECTION 7

The constitutional oath

Article 238.- The electoral magistrates shall recite the constitutional oath before the Senate; the commissioners of the Committee of Directors, who are also members of the Federal Judicial Council, shall recite the constitutional oath before the Federal Judicial Council.

The secretaries and employees of the Superior Court and of the Committee of Directors shall recite the constitutional oath before the President of the Electoral Court.

The rest of the public servants and employees shall recite the constitutional oath before the courtroom chairman in question.

In all cases, the constitutional oath shall be recited according to the Article 155 of this organic law.

Article 239.- All public servants and employees of the Electoral Court shall behave with impartiality and shall unconditionally apply the principles of constitutionality and legality while performing their duties. They also are obliged to keep secret on the affairs processed by the Electoral Court.

SECTION 8

Electoral Court personnel

Article 240.- Electoral Court public servants and employees, assigned to the magistrates' offices, those public servants who have the same category or similar to those mentioned in the articles 180 and 181 of this organic law, shall be considered as trusted employees. The rest of employees shall be considered as auxiliary personnel.

Article 241.- For labor conflicts, the Substantiating Commission shall be composed of: a) a representative from the Superior Court, who shall chair, b) a representative from the Committee of Directors and c) a representative appointed by the trade union of workers belonging to the Federal Judicial Power. In order to appoint the representative from the Committee of Directors, the representatives appointed by the Superior Court and the trade union shall express their opinion. Processing and solution of labor conflicts between the Electoral Court and its public servants and employees shall be carried out according to the articles 152 to 161 of the National Labor Act for Public Servants, which is the statutory law corresponding to the part "B" of the Article 123 of the Mexican Constitution. For these purposes, the powers and duties established for the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice shall be applicable to the Superior Electoral Court. The powers and duties established for the President of the Supreme Court shall be applicable to the President of the Electoral Court.

Electoral Court public servants that have been dismissed can appeal before the Superior Court of the Electoral Court.

TITLE TWELVE

Support fund

CHAPTER I

Organization

Article 242.- The Federal Judicial Branch shall have a support fund for improvement of the administration of justice.

CHAPTER II

Integration

Article 243.- The support fund for the administration of justice is integrated with:

I. Donations made by third parties.

II. The income from alienation of real estate, according to the Article 23, section II, of the General Law on Nation Property, as well as income from confiscated property in federal criminal proceedings, in accordance with the Article 182-R of the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

III. Yields from investments of cash and securities deposited in the organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Power of the Federation.

IV. Income generated by the administration of cash and securities, different from those mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Article 244.- Resources that integrate the support fund shall differ from those covering the annual budget and shall not affect the items authorized in the budget.

CHAPTER III

Management and operation

Article 245.- The support fund will be managed and operated by the Federal Judicial Council, which shall be also the technical committee.

Article 246.- The Federal Judicial Council shall be the fund technical committee, which shall be composed of seven councilors from the Council. There shall be a technical department consisting of a specialized professional in finance and administration.

The chairman of the Federal Judicial Council shall be the also the technical committee chairman.

The technical committee shall decide the specific use of the fund resources.

Article 247.- The fund technical department shall have the following duties:

- I. To generate the appropriate documentation.
- II. To prepare periodic reports on the accounting and financial situation of the fund.
- III. To propose expenditures necessary for the improvement of the administration of justice.
- IV. Other duties entrusted by the technical committee.

Article 248.- Fund resources must be invested in fixed income securities of the highest performance, provided that they allow the immediate availability of sufficient amounts for return to depositors or deliver to owners.

CHAPTER IV

Fund resources allocation

Article 249.- The fund resources shall be allocated to:

- I. Expenses incurred by its administration.
- II. Acquisition, construction and refurbishment of properties to be used as headquarters of the organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Branch.
- III. Acquisition, rent, repairing and maintenance of furniture and equipment necessary for the functioning of the organs belonging to the Federal Judicial Branch.
- IV. Provision of training, improvement and specialization to the Federal Judicial Power's personnel.

Article 250.- The yields from investments shall be the only available resources.

Article 251 The administration of the Fund shall be governed by all applicable provisions stated in this organic law.

TRANSITORY ARTICLES

First Article.- This organic law shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- The indirect *Amparo* trials against acts made by unitary circuit courts, which are based in district courts, shall continue to be processed and resolved by the district courts.

Third Article.- The Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch, published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on January 5, 1988, and its reforms, is repealed.

Fourth Article.- The decree that establishes the causes for the forced or voluntary retirement of the ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice, issued on February 19, 1951 and its 1963 reform, is repealed.

Fifth Article.- The administrative covenants issued by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice and by the Committee of Directors of the Supreme Court, on the basis of the organic law which is repealed through this decree, will remain in force, provided that they do not oppose this organic law, until the Federal Judicial Council or the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice issues the new administrative rules.

Sixth Article.- This organic law empowers the plenary meeting of the Supreme Court of Justice and the plenary meeting of the Federal Judicial Council to adopt all the measures necessary for the effective and immediate enforcement implementation of this organic law, in their respective spheres of authority.

Seventh Article. The Federal Judicial Power's budget corresponding to the 1995 financial year shall be managed and used by the President of the Supreme Court of Justice and by the Federal Judicial Council, in the categories and amounts required, respectively. For this purpose, within 30 days following enforcement of this organic law, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice shall submit to the plenum of the Federal Judicial Council his proposal for division of the budget, taking into account the administrative needs of both for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Eighth Article.- The articles 3, 51 and 79 of the Public Service Accountability Act are repealed, but only the part talking about the Supreme Court of Justice.

Ninth Article. The working days mentioned in the first paragraph of the Article 23 of the *Amparo* Act means the working days indicated in the Article 160 of this organic law.

Tenth Article. The duties, budget and staff currently belonging to the Judicial Specialization Institute shall be transferred to the Judicial Institute.

Eleventh Article. To fill absences of the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, according to the Article 13 of this organic law, the order of appointments approved by the Senate must be taken into account.

Twelfth Article. Members of the academic committee of the Judicial Institute shall be appointed within the 30 days following the publication of this organic law. Half of the academic committee members shall hold office for two years, the other half shall hold office for four-year period.

Thirteenth Article.- Ministers appointed for a period of less than 15 years, shall be entitled to a pension, according to the first paragraph of the Article 183 of this law, having met the period for which they were appointed. If a minister goes to retirement without having fulfilled his period, he/she shall be entitled to a pension in proportion to the service time.

Fourteenth Article.- Within 30 days following the enforcement of this organic law, the President of the Federal Judicial Council and the councilors appointed by the Senate and by the President of the Republic shall elect, by secret vote, the circuit magistrates and district judge that are to become councilors, who shall hold office until conclusion of the term established in the fifth transitory article of the decree that reforms several provisions of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on December 31, 1994.

Fifteenth Article. Rulings pronounce by the plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice set legal precedent, provided that rulings are based on five sentences that have not been interrupted by a contrary sentence and have been approved at least by eight ministers.

Mexico City, May 19, 1995.-Senator German Sierra Sanchez, chairman- Congressman Alejandro Zapata Perogordo, chairman- Senator Angel Ventura Valle, secretary- Congresswoman Anastacia Guadalupe Flores Valdez, secretary- signatures.

Pursuant to the provisions established in the section I of the Article 89 of the Mexican Constitution, I issue this decree for publication and enforcement in the President's residence. Mexico City, May 25, 1995- The President of the United Mexican States- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon- signature- the Secretary of the Interior, Esteban Moctezuma Barragan- signature.

Transitory articles of the reform acts on this organic law

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORM ACTS
PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL OFFICIAL GAZETTE
ON NOVEMBER 7, 1996**

First Article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- The articles 167, section IX, and 196 bis of the Federal District Criminal Code on common law and on federal jurisdiction for the rest of the country, shall remain in force for the cases initiated before enforcement of this decree. Also, these precepts shall continue to apply to persons prosecuted or sentenced for offences described and punished by these articles, without prejudice to apply the article 56 of the aforementioned criminal code.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORM ACTS
PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL OFFICIAL GAZETTE
ON NOVEMBER 22, 1996**

First Article.- The reforms made to this organic law shall come into force on the day of publication of this decree in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second.- Magistrates assigned to the Superior Court shall have the same wage than the ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice. Salary of the magistrates assigned to regional courtrooms shall be equal to the circuit magistrates' salary. Salary of the rest of the Electoral Court personnel shall be equal to the salary in a similar position inside the Federal Judicial Branch.

Magistrates assigned to regional courtrooms are entitled to be off work during the time they hold office.

Third Article.- Based on the decree published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on October 31, 1996, the Electoral Court shall appoint its president, who will hold office until the last Friday of September 2000.

Fourth Article.- The Federal Judicial Council shall appoint the commissioners mentioned in the second paragraph of the Article 205 of this organic law, within ten calendar days after enforcement of this decree.

Fifth Article.- Until the Committee of Directors is integrated, the President of the Electoral Court is empowered to take the measures necessary for opening and operation of the Superior Court and the regional courts.

Sixth Article.- The organs belonging to the Federal Electoral Tribunal shall continue to function until the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch is integrated and the appropriate regulations and decisions are issued, in accordance with the provisions established in this decree.

The departments and organs under supervision of the Federal Electoral Tribunal in charge of management, training, research, documentation, dissemination and social communication, will continue performing their duties.

Likewise, with the exception of the examining magistrates, the legal and administrative personnel, currently serving in the Federal Electoral Tribunal shall continue in office, but subject to the labor regime established by this decree.

Current examining magistrates may be considered for other positions in the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch.

Seventh Article. For the elections for Head of the Federal District Government and members of the Federal District Assembly of Representatives, to be held in 1997, the rules governing the federal election must be applied, where applicable. Consequently, political parties cannot appeal.

Eighth Article.- Sections IX of the Article 191 and XXIV of the Article 209 of the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch shall come into force for the 1998 budget year. For the 1997 fiscal year, the Electoral Court shall submit and apply the budget planned by the Federal Electoral Tribunal, with such modifications as required for the new structure and functions.

The Superior Court and the regional courtroom with jurisdiction on the fourth plurinominal district, which are headquartered in Mexico City, shall be provided with human and materials resources necessary to cope with the additional workload generated by the elections for Head of the Federal District Government and members of the Federal District Assembly of Representatives.

Ninth Article. All the properties and goods belonging to the Federal Electoral Tribunal shall be transferred to the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Power.

TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE DECREE WHICH REFORMS, ADDS AND REPEALS SEVERAL PROVISIONS OF THE FEDERAL CODE OF ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCEDURES; OF THE REGULATORY LAW CORRESPONDING TO SECTIONS I AND II OF ARTICLE 105 OF THE MEXICAN CONSTITUTION; OF THE ORGANIC LAW OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY; OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT CRIMINAL CODE ON COMMON LAW AND FOR THE REST OF THE REPUBLIC ON FEDERAL JURISDICTION; OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT GOVERNMENT CODE; ALSO, THE GENERAL ACT OF THE APPEAL SYSTEM ON ELECTORAL MATTER IS ENACTED (PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON NOVEMBER 22, 1996).

First Article.- Reforms made by this decree shall come into force on the day of publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, with the characteristics set out in the transitory articles.

Second Article.- All provisions contrary to this decree are hereby repealed.

Third Article.- On July 6, 1997 only the Head of the Federal District Government and the members of the Assembly of Representatives shall be elected.

All articles of the Federal District Government Code related to the election citizen-councilors are hereby repealed.

The current rules governing the citizens-councilors' duties shall remain in force until the end of their terms.

Based on the new Federal District Government Code, the Assembly of Representatives shall issue provisions on citizen participation.

Fourth Article.- The President of the Republic is empowered to order the Department of the Treasury to transfer the necessary resources to the responsible authorities in order to comply with the new duties imposed by these reforms.

Fifth Article- The legal precedents set by the Main Court and the Second Instance Court of the Federal Electoral Tribunal, shall remain in force insofar as they do not oppose the reforms made in the second, third and fourth articles of this decree.

In order to make binding the criterion used in the legal precedents, the Superior Court of the Electoral Court must pronounce the respective formal declaration, which shall be notified immediately to the regional courtrooms, the Federal Electoral Institute and, where appropriate, to the local electoral authorities.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLE OF THE REFORMS PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
JANUARY 23, 1998**

Only Article- This decree shall come into force on March 20, 1998.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORMS PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
MAY 28, 1998**

First Article.- The Federal Law on Public Counsel Service and the reforms made to the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- The Federal Law on Counsel Services, published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on February 9, 1922, is hereby repealed.

Third Article.- All human and material resources allocated for the Counsel Service on Federal Matter shall be transferred to the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy. Labor rights of the personnel assigned to the Counsel Service on Federal Matter must be respected in full. The cases that are being processed by the Counsel Service shall be submitted to the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy.

Fourth.- The Federal Judicial Council shall appoint the General Director of the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy within a period of thirty days; and within sixty days, the Council shall appoint the members of the Board of Directors of the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy, starting from the date of enforcement of this organic law.

Fifth Article- Within the six months following the enforcement of the Federal law on Public Advocacy, all members of the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy must be performing their duties and providing the services mentioned in this organic law.

Sixth Article.- Within six months after enforcement of this law, the Board of Directors of the Federal Institute of Public Advocacy shall issue the general rules that will govern the organization and functioning of this Institute.

Seventh Article. All provisions contrary to this decree are hereby repealed.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORMS PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
MAY 18, 1999**

First Article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- Whenever other federal provisions refer to the Federal District Criminal Code on Common Law and for the rest of the Republic on federal matter, it must be understood the Federal Criminal Code.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLE OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
MAY 12, 2000**

Only Article.- Reform made to the Article 88 of the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
JUNE 12, 2000**

First Article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- Within six months, the President of the Republic must create the necessary administrative structure for the Ministry of Justice in order to process the crimes provided in the articles 366, section III; 366 ter and 366 quater of this decree.

The President of the Republic is empowered to modify the budget in order to comply with the previous paragraph.

Third Article.- The articles 366 ter and 366 quater of the Federal Criminal Code shall remain in force for the crimes committed before publication of this decree.

Fourth Article.- All provisions that oppose to this decree are hereby repealed.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLE OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
MAY 17, 2001**

Only Article- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLE OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
JANUARY 31, 2005**

Only Article. –This decree shall come into force on the day after its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
FEBRUARY 14, 2006**

First Article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- The fund mentioned in the Article 246, shall be formally created within the 60 days after enforcement of this decree.

**TRANSITORY ARTICLES OF THE REFORM PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
JULY 1, 2008**

First Article.- Within a non-extendable period of 15 calendar days after the date of enforcement of this decree, the Committee of Directors of the Electoral Court must:

I. Prepare and approve the project for the reallocation and, if necessary, increase, of budgetary resources to the Electoral Court for the fiscal year 2008, in order to provide the five regional courtrooms with the material resources and legal and administrative personnel to perform the duties conferred by the Article 99 of the Mexican Constitution and the laws related to this decree.

II. The Committee of Directors is authorized to move and reassign the legal and administrative staff assigned to the Superior Court in order to comply with the above established, respecting fully the labor rights of the affected personnel.

III. The President of the Republic is empowered to order the Department of the Treasury to transfer the necessary resources to the Electoral Court of the Federal Judicial Branch in order to comply with this transitory article, according to that established in the last paragraph of the twenty first transitory article of the federal expenditures budget decree for the fiscal year 2008.

IV. The previous paragraph must be complied within a maximum of fifteen calendar days, starting from the date of the request made by the Committee of Directors to the President of the Republic.

Second Article.- Until the acts and authorizations required by the previous transitory article are carried out, the regional courtrooms' powers and duties shall be performed by the Superior Court.

Third Article.- In any case, the regional courtrooms shall start work no later than 30 calendar days after enforcement of this decree.

Fourth Article.- In order to carry out the staggered election of magistrates of the Superior Court, established in the Article 99 of the Mexican Constitution, the following criteria must be taken into account:

I) Before April 20, 2015, the Senate shall elect the electoral magistrate who will replace the magistrate, whose term of office ends on the aforementioned date. The elected magistrate shall hold office until November 4, 2016.

II) At the latest on October 30, 2016, the Senate shall elect seven new electoral magistrates for the Superior Court, who will begin their term on November 4, 2016. Two of them will hold office until October 31, 2019. Two magistrates will hold office until October 31, 2022 and; the remaining three magistrates will hold office until October 31, 2025. The Senate shall indicate the term corresponding for each magistrate. Electoral magistrates cannot be reelected.

Fifth article.- In order to carry out the staggered election of the magistrates assigned to the regional courtrooms, according to the Article 99 of the Mexican Constitution, the following criteria must be observed:

a) Magistrates appointed on the day of enforcement of this decree shall hold office until March 7, 2013.

b) In the event of vacancies after enforcement of this decree, the substitute shall hold office until the end of the original appointment.

c) No later than March 5, 2013, the Senate shall elect all the electoral magistrates for the regional courtrooms, who shall begin their term on March 7, 2013. In each courtroom, one magistrate will hold office for three years, one more for six years, and the last one will hold office for a nine-year period.

**REFORM ACT PUBLISHED
IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION
ON JANUARY 15, 2009**

Second Article.- Sections XXXV and XXXVI of the Article 81 of the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch are reformed.

TRANSITORY ARTICLES

First Article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- The Federal Judicial Council must do all arrangements necessary for recordings the sessions carried out in the collegiate circuit courts, within the 90 working days after enforcement of this decree.

Mexico City, December 11, 2008.- Congressman **Cesar Horacio Duarte Jaquez**, chairman- Senator **Gustavo Enrique Madero Muñoz**, chairman- Congressman **Manuel Portilla Dieguez**, secretary- Senator **Gabino Cué Monteagudo**, secretary- signatures.

**DECREE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON
NOVEMBER 30, 2010**

Fifth Article. This decree reforms the articles 50 Bis and 50 Ter, first paragraph, of the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch, and adds a second paragraph to the article 50 Ter, thus the subsequent paragraphs have been moved forward.

TRANSITORY ARTICLES

First Article.- This decree shall come into force ninety days after its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article.- Criminal proceedings that have been filed before the date this Decree comes into force, shall be processed until conclusion according to the legal provisions in force at the time of the crime. The same criteria applies to the penalties to be imposed.

Third Article.- All legal provisions contrary to this Decree are hereby repealed.

Fourth Article.- Implementation of this Decree shall be charged to the budgets approved for the agencies belonging to the three levels of government, which are obliged to observe this Decree.

Fifth Article.- Provisions relating to kidnapping of the National Criminal Law and the local criminal laws, in force before this Decree comes into force, shall remain in force for the crimes committed during their validity, as well as for those persons prosecuted or sentenced for offenses under these provisions.

Sixth Article.- The Attorney General of the Republic and the attorneys general of the states and the Federal District shall issue the necessary administrative provisions regarding people protection within the first year of the date of publication of this Decree in the official gazette of the Federation, without harming the previous protection measures.

Seventh Article.- The National Public Safety Council and the National Conference of Law Enforcement are responsible for preparing a national plan to prevent, prosecute and penalize the offences mentioned in this provision, regardless of the local plans, within 6 months of the date of publication of this Decree in the Official Gazette of Federation.

Eight Article.- The reform to the section XIV of article 44 of the Federal Telecommunications Law shall come into force on the day after the publication of this Decree, regarding mobile telephony acquired before the date this Decree comes into force, and regarding new users, according to the forth transitory article of the Reform Decree to the above mentioned law, published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on February 9, 2009.

Ninth Article.- The Federal Institute of Public Advocacy shall create specialized areas in support of victims of kidnapping, according to the law.

Tenth Article.- For the establishment and organization of the specialized anti-kidnapping units, the Mexican states will be allocated with funding from the Fund to Support Public Safety.

Eleventh.- The Congress can enact laws to empower the victims of the crimes described in the Law to Prevent and Punish Kidnapping, which regulates the article 73, section XXI, of the Mexican Constitution, to file a criminal action with the court for kidnapping.

Twelve Article.- Within 180 days of the date in which this law comes into force, the necessary adjustments will be made to the applicable provisions so that resources are allocated to the Fund mentioned in the article 38 of the Law to Prevent and Punish Kidnapping, which regulates the article 73, section XXI, of the Mexican Constitution.

Mexico City, October 7, 2010.- Senator Manlio Fabio Beltrones Rivera, chairman.- Deputy Jorge Carlos Ramírez Marín, chairman.- Senator Martha Leticia Sosa Govea, Secretary.- Deputy María de Jesús Aguirre Maldonado, Secretary.- Signatures.

**DECREE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF THE FEDERATION ON MAY 26,
2011**

Single article.- This decree reforms the second paragraph of section II and adds the third and fourth paragraphs of the article 114 of the Organic Law of the Federal Judicial Branch.

TRANSITORY ARTICLE

Single article.- This decree shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

AUGUST 30, 2011

Mexico City, 24th day of February 2011.- Deputy **Jorge Carlos Ramirez Marin**, chairman.- Senator **Manlio Fabio Beltrones Rivera**, chairman.- Deputy **Maria Guadalupe Garcia Almanza**, secretary.- Senator **Martha Leticia Sosa Govea**, secretary.- Signatures.