

## Summary of the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust Meeting Held on December 14, 2022

MIAMI, FL (December 14, 2022) – The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust held a public meeting on December 14, 2022. The following actions took place:



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### COMMISSIONERS

Dr. Judith Bernier,  
CHAIR  
Wifredo “Willy” Gort  
VICE-CHAIR  
Nelson C. Bellido Esq.  
Judge Lawrence A.  
Schwartz

**Executive Director**  
Jose J. Arrojo, Esq.

**General Counsel**  
Martha D. Perez, Esq.

**Advocate**  
Radia Turay, Esq.

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### **Complaint Filed Against North Bay Village Mayor Found Not Legally Sufficient**

**C 22-62-10:** A complaint filed against North Bay Village (NBV) Mayor, Brent Latham, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Mayor Latham violated the Truth in Government section of the Citizens’ Bill of Rights when he “knowingly omitted” significant facts by not reading into the record a letter sent by MDCPS personnel during the discussion of a resolution at a Commission Meeting.

The complainant also claimed that Mayor Latham exploited his position when he accepted a trip to London from a Village proposer. Lastly, the complainant alleged that the Mayor “knowingly lied” when he stated he had obtained an opinion from the COE when there was no written opinion.

The complaint was filed by Laura Cattabriga.

### **Complaint Filed Against Town of Surfside Civilian Police Employee Found Not Legally Sufficient**

**C 22-64-11:** A complaint filed against Dina Goldstein, the Executive Assistant to the Town of Surfside Police Chief, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Ms. Goldstein violated Section 21-20 of the County Code when she used her administrator position in the Nextdoor social application to remove negative postings aimed at Town officials and personnel.

The same allegations made in this complaint were made by the same complainant in a previous complaint that was dismissed by the Commission.

### **Executive Director Briefs Commission on Procedural Matters and General Counsel Recruitment Process**

The COE Executive Director briefed the Commissioners regarding Complaint legal sufficiency and probable cause procedures and received policy guidance regarding possible changes to staff procedures prior to probable cause determinations by the Commission.

The COE Executive Director also briefed the Commissioners on the recruitment, interview, and selection procedures for the soon to be vacant General Counsel position.

### **Complaint Filed Against North Bay Village Manager Found Not Legally Sufficient**

**C 22-65-11:** A complaint filed against North Bay Village (NBV) Manager, Ralph Rosado, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Mr. Rosado violated the Truth in Government section of the Citizens’ Bill of Rights by knowingly omitting significant facts when he failed to read into the record a letter sent by MDCPS personnel during the discussion of a resolution at a NBV Commission meeting.

### **No Probable Cause Found in Case Involving North Bay Village Mayor**

**C 22-39-07:** The Ethics Commission unanimously found No Probable Cause that North Bay Village (NBV) Mayor, Brent Latham, violated the Truth in Government section of the Citizens’ Bill of Rights. The complaint alleged that Mr. Latham falsely stated that the NBV Commission had agreed and given instructions to file a Florida Bar Complaint against the Complainant, Norman Powell, a former NBV City Attorney.

## **No Probable Cause Found in Case Involving North Bay Village Commissioner**

**C 22-40-07:** The Ethics Commission unanimously found No Probable Cause that North Bay Village (NBV) Commissioner, Rachel Streitfeld, violated the Truth in Government section of the Citizens' Bill of Rights. The complaint alleged that Commissioner Streitfeld falsely stated that the NBV Commission had "agreed" and "voted unanimously" to file a Florida Bar Complaint against the Complainant, Norman Powell, a former NBV City Attorney.

## **Outgoing COE General Counsel Recognized**

The Ethics Commission recognized outgoing COE General Counsel, Martha D. Perez, by presenting her with a plaque and commending her for her many years of service to the COE and the residents of Miami-Dade County.

*The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of training, outreach and enforcement, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.*