### NEWS RELEASE



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#### **COMMISSIONERS**

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### Summary of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust Meeting Held on May 10, 2023

MIAMI, FL (May 10, 2023) The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust held a public meeting on May 10, 2023. The following actions took place:

#### **New Chief Judge Appointment to the Ethics Commission**

COE Executive Director Jose Arrojo advised the Commission that former Circuit Court Judge Dava Tunis had accepted appointment to the Ethics Commission by Chief Judge Nushin Safie. Former Judge Tunis should be sworn in as a Commissioner in June and is expected to sit for her first meeting in July 2023.

# Complaint Filed Against Former Opa-Locka City Commissioner Found Not Legally Sufficient

C 23-15-03: A complaint filed against former City of Opa-Locka Commissioner, Audrey Dominguez, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Ms. Dominguez engaged in violations of misconduct within the City of Opa-Locka charter, Florida Statutes, and the Miami-Dade County Ethics Code when she allegedly demanded that the Opa-Locka City Manager demote a Police Pergeant.

# Complaint Filed Against Former City of Miami Beach Commissioner Found Not Legally Sufficient

C 23-18-03: A complaint filed against former City of Miami Beach Commissioner and current Miami Beach mayoral candidate, Michael Gongora, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Mr. Gongora violated the City of Miami Beach Campaign Finance Laws by accepting campaign contributions from a prohibited party.

## Complaint Filed Against County Solid Waste Management Employee Found Not Legally Sufficient

C 23-19-04: A complaint filed against the Assistant Director for waste collections operations in the Department of Solid Waste Management, Sherra Durham-Camp, was found Not Legally Sufficient and dismissed. The complaint alleged that Ms. Durham-Camp violated the Truth in Government provision of the County Charter's Citizens' Bill of Rights, the County Public Service Code, the State of Florida Ethics Code, and the United States Constitution by enforcing disciplinary action and promoting fear and intimidation for the "achievements of personal or institutional interest or loyalty."

#### **Lobbyist Stipulates to Finding of Probable Cause**

**C 23-21-04:** Lobbyist Mauricio Gonzalez stipulated to a finding of Probable Cause and entered into a settlement agreement for violating the Principal and Lobbyist Registration section of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. The lobbyist will be issued a Letter of Instruction and is ordered to pay \$500 in investigative costs.

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.