

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item G-7
February 14, 2023
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Michael Mena

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner James Cason

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Assistant City Attorney, Stephanie Throckmorton

Police Chief, Ed Hudak

Information Technology Director, Raimundo Rodulfo

Public Speaker(s)

Enrique Bernal

Agenda Item G-7 [1:50 p.m.]

Discussion regarding crime statistics on the City's website.

(Sponsored by Commissioner Anderson)

(Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: Moving on to G-7. This is a discussion regarding crime statistics on the City's website.

Vice Mayor Mena: Chief, you should probably stay for this, no?

Police Chief Hudak: Yeah.

Vice Mayor Mena: Yeah.

Commissioner Cason: Yeah.

Commissioner Anderson: Yeah. sis, and I see his website A for this animator.

Mayor Lago: Madam Attorney, how are you?

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Good afternoon, Mayor and Commissioners. This is Commissioner Anderson's item, and we're just here to answer any questions once her discussion begins.

Commissioner Anderson: Right, and it was the Mayor's item as well.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Oh, excuse me, Mayor.

Commissioner Anderson: So, you know, we had an opportunity to meet and go over our City's website and show what crime statistics are readily available. Would you like to start with that and have the Clerk demonstrate what's available at this time?

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Sure, if we could ask the City Clerk to pull up our City website. We do have a fair amount of crime information on our website, readily available now, which has been appropriately redacted and approved by the department to be released. Yeah.

Commissioner Anderson: Right. So, if you go to the, you know, regular homepage, there is a tab that says, what, police or...?

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Police Department.

Police Chief Hudak: Under Resident Resources, Commissioner, there's a tab. You see P2C, police records. And let me just clarify for this body, part of the reasoning that we came to you last year and pushed for the CAD RMS change -- and I understood, you know, the impetus to get this done as quickly as possible -- and Raimundo's here -- is because this system that we're showing you now has been pretty much close to obsolete, and it did not compete -- compatible -- compatibility with our current OSSI system, which is why you all were asked to approve a \$4.5 million dollar new computer-aided dispatch and RMS system. Part of that reasoning of pushing this when we did was because of the long process of getting these data -- this data out as quickly as possible in an automated form. The ability to put things on this are things that we, as the police department, are allowed -- and I'll defer to the City Attorney -- are allowed not to put out, and we would restrict from a myriad of different reasons. Marsy's Law, things like that, where we would not put that information out. And I think the IT Director would tell you, over the years, this system has not worked very well, got it, but what we have now is the ability to push out our reports real-time when people are looking for them. When we get a public records request, it triggers a total different response from my records personnel, my internal affairs, my CID people who have different sets of records on the same case. And then it has to go to the City Attorney's Office, and then to the City of Clerk office, so that takes time in and of itself, but it's just whatever we're asked. And we do not create reports. This system that we're going to show you now has been up and operational on our website from the get-go. It has had flaws. It has been downtime. So, if the City Clerk could put it back up again, I could show those at home -- we can kind of open up one of the reports -- of how easy it is on a certain area. And we've talked about -- not that, and please don't show me that picture again. Thank you. We're working on that one. If we clicked on -- when you get this, this is a certain area around Biltmore Way. And the dropdown, you go through the dropdown menu of what address you're looking for, how long you want to go. You set the box, you set

what'll be the last month, and then you will click the search engine, and those four reports will show up with those addresses. All the individual has to do is click on the PDF icon, all the way on the right-hand side.

Commissioner Anderson: Sometimes it takes a little time to come up even with this...

Police Chief Hudak: To load it back in.

Commissioner Anderson: Antiquated system.

Police Chief Hudak: So, this is tying into our records system and generates this report. And even though it's a little bit different, it has Coral Gables watermark on the back, so we know this was taken -- this was made copies of off of our system. And this shows all the details. If this were things that needed to be redacted, it would have been redacted before, and it would have been put out in the public.

Commissioner Anderson: Right. Dates...

Police Chief Hudak: Alright.

Commissioner Anderson: Of birth, sensitive information...

Police Chief Hudak: Yes.

Commissioner Anderson: Names that cannot...

Police Chief Hudak: Yes.

Commissioner Anderson: Be disclosed, et cetera, are reacted.

Police Chief Hudak: Right. So, this is currently what residents can see looking in a specific area, searching different criteria, going back that (INAUDIBLE). This is going to get even better. The mapping system or the mapping software does not work as well as this third provider -- third-party provider has, so we won't have that ability. I believe Raimundo will tell you that, going into the future, we're going to be able to draw a polygon around an area and be able to pull up the reports on those certain areas. So, this is what the public can look at at any time. The second thing that we had talked about in this, as far as statistics, is every two weeks -- and this came from Mayor -- then Mayor Cason, every week or two weeks, we give you what we call the focus crimes. So, the one or two part one crimes, whether it be...

Vice Mayor Mena: Every week we get that.

Police Chief Hudak: Every week, so you get those. And we added -- if you've noticed over the years, we've added these cases were arrested. The reason why we do that -- and this goes back to 2014 -- there's a set of numbers that we submit every year that gets validated by FDLE and the FBI, and those are completed closed cases. And there's another set of open and closed cases that may be one offender we closed three cases, and those numbers have always, always been different. And in the spirit of transparency, putting those out was a bit confusing back in 2014. And as the Mayor remembers, and I'm sure both mayors remember, I'm not a big conversationalist when it comes to statistics. At the end of the year, we can look at the statistics and see what we did. And since then -- and I have our tech services person here -- you see our numbers we used to use are now been changed. So, one incident that used to be categorized as one number under the new categorized system for the federal government has three occurrences, so now it's by individual charge, not individual incident, which shows our numbers would be through the roof, through NIBRS. So, again, that's the changing of that. We have to rely on the FDLE to submit that stuff electronically, which we are. So, as far as the conversation on the ability to put out information ahead of time, and speaking with Commissioner Anderson yesterday, there are certain things that I'm just not comfortable and -- nor can I legally tell you all what's going on in public. I am very

careful in the emails that I send after speaking with my boss about what we're talking about operationally. And you know -- all know that when those emails come out, I know that's public record. If there's any other additional conversations -- but there are certain people that we won't talk about what's going on strictly because it puts people in jeopardy, and we know we've had that issue happen in a Coral Gables case. So, that was, in a nutshell, the conversation that we come up, and myself, Raimundo, the Deputy City Attorney, as well as my tech services people and the Assistant Chief are here for any questions that may come up further.

Commissioner Anderson: Well, I mean, I've spoken to the concerned residents and a couple of things, as I'm certain they would not operationally want to jeopardize any ongoing investigations or the ability of the police department to make these arrests. And based upon my experience, and I've had both experience in criminal law, as well as civil law, one arrest can be multiple charges. So, no, you're not going to have, you know, matching numbers on those types of events just because the charges against one person can be many, as opposed to one incident, one arrest, kidnapping, theft, robbery, whatever it is, combined in there, not that we have any of those offenses. The timeline for the new system, Raimundo, I think is what, the beginning of next year?

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: We just finished the procurement process, Now, we started -- the kickoff meeting already happened, and we started the data -- there's a process where we have to convert the data from the previous system, provide it to the vendor so they start their migration. That's what we started, the data process. We are talking about one year starting when we deliver the data so the vendor can start working with the system.

Commissioner Anderson: More or less, month or year you're talking about?

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: So, if the data is delivered and mapped in April, we're talking April next year.

Commissioner Anderson: Okay, one year from the delivery date. Okay, any other comments, folks?

Mayor Lago: None.

Commissioner Anderson: Thank you.

Commissioner Cason: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Mena: Thank you.

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Mayor, Mr. Bernal has requested to speak.

Mayor Lago: Yeah, public -- I was going to go -- I was going that way, no worries. Public comment.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much, team. Public comment, please.

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Bernal.

Mayor Lago: Doctor, good to see you, sir.

Enrique Bernal: Good to see you. You know, I'm so glad to see the city come alive with Miracle Mile and Giralda and everything else. I think that the Commission has done a great job...

Mayor Lago: Thank you.

Mr. Bernal: And so has the City Manager and the Chief. But there are some policy issues that I think, you know -- you're the Commission, you're our elected representatives. And I want to tell you a story about our experience here with crime.

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Bernal, I'm sorry, but can you speak into the microphone, please?

Mr. Bernal: Oh, yes. This is -- okay. So, in 2017, we were living in Ponce, 1607 Ponce, and I was the president of the association there, and we had a lot of crime. We decided we wanted to move from Ponce. And so, we considered coming here to the Biltmore section. As part of the due diligence to decide whether or not to invest here, we -- I looked in Google. And I looked in Google and I found crime statistics for the City of Coral Gables by police zone and neighborhood. So, I looked at the neighborhood, 718 Valencia Avenue, Biltmore Park Condominium, where I'm the president of the board there now, and it was one of the freest areas of crime in the city. That had a big impact in our deciding to invest there and we love it. But our experience has been this: In 2018, we moved in there. In 2019, we had one break in in the garage that didn't have a door, which was the way the City approved it. They stole a bicycle. They lost a \$7,000 bicycle, okay.

Vice Mayor Mena: \$7,000.

Mr. Bernal: Yes, right.

Mayor Lago: Do you have cameras?

Mr. Bernal: We have 18 cameras. But you know, what I want to point out is, in 2019, we had one. In 2022, we had eight, okay. Five of those were bicycles that were stolen. One of those was the removal of a 300-pound safe from one of our units in the second floor. Another one was an invasion of our lobby by five thugs that challenged our front desk person and threatened residents inside an elevator. The other one was a break in across from 718 at 7403, the townhouse there on

the corner of Anderson and Valencia, where they broke the second floor doors and tried to break into the unit so...

Mayor Lago: Did you catch any of this on camera?

Mr. Bernal: Yes, and we have provided -- we have 20 incidents that we have provided to the police, and I have the police reports. No complaint about the response of the police or the quality of the reports. They're very good, but the fact remains that this is an exponential growth in crime in the City. So, when I go now in 2022 and look at Google for crime statistics, there is nothing, nothing, nothing, okay. So, somebody in the City made policy that blocked the access to that information. And you know, the reason I'm here is basically because, you know, first of all, I came here from Columbia, South America, okay. And the reason I stayed here is because I believe in government of the people, by the people, and for the people. And I -- you know, in Florida, I would like to think that our sunshine law will say that you cannot just change the reporting to the public without having some kind of a policy document that comes from elected officials. I have had two meetings with the City Manager. I had one meeting with the City Manager, the Chief, and a representative of IT. And basically, they have been very unsuccessful. I would say that we came to a difference of opinion that got a little heated, and it became clear that it was nonproductive to pursue it from the administrative path because, you know, the fundamental question is the citizens should have the right to see how the police is performing, and we should be able to compare ourselves, not to Miami, which is the typical thing. We're better than Miami. Well, surprise. But there should be a metric, and I would think that our elected representatives should determine what the police can restrict and what is available to the citizens.

Commissioner Anderson: Mr. Bernal...

Vice Mayor Mena: We do -- we do have that. I'm curious...

Mr. Bernal: Where is that document?

Vice Mayor Mena: So, I'm curious what piece of information you're looking for.

Mr. Bernal: Well, obviously...

Vice Mayor Mena: Because I want to make sure to under...

Mayor Lago: This is very...

Commissioner Anderson: Vice Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Important.

Mr. Bernal: Okay.

Vice Mayor Mena: And I want to understand. So...

Mr. Bernal: Sure.

Vice Mayor Mena: What piece of information specifically is it you're looking for that you're not able to find, and I don't mean on Google, but I mean either from the City or from any...

Mr. Bernal: Well, I have spent four months trying to get information from the City via the P2C, via the website, via -- you know, and essentially, I have gotten is excruciatingly difficult. The City says that there are only two clerks that have to do all of this...

Vice Mayor Mena: What in -- what type of information?

Mr. Bernal: I wanted to know the crime statistics for the neighborhood surrounding us, okay.

Vice Mayor Mena: Okay.

Mr. Bernal: And I have gotten it in bits and pieces, but it's almost impossible to the process, okay.

Commissioner Anderson: Mayor.

Mr. Bernal: Now, the point is -- (INAUDIBLE) -- the point is, you know, I wanted to see heatmaps.

Commissioner Anderson: Right.

Mr. Bernal: I wanted to see trends, three-year trends. I want to see what are the crime statistics, you know, in the year 2020, 2021, and then the cumulative for the year 2022.

Vice Mayor Mena: Right.

Mr. Bernal: Okay.

Commissioner Anderson: So...

Mr. Bernal: I mean, but the point is, the point is, you know, I'm just saying to you, this should not be a discussion between citizens and the administration. It should be a discussion between the citizens and the elected representatives that say in a document people are entitled to get this...

Vice Mayor Mena: Of course.

Mr. Bernal: And not to get that. Okay, so we understand it, and we can have an orderly process of debate, and you know, essentially guide us on -- at election time, right.

Vice Mayor Mena: So, I think this is an ongoing dialogue we have with residents and feedback that we get all the time.

Mr. Bernal: Right.

Vice Mayor Mena: We -- I think that's part of the reason why we invested in this new system, which you just heard is going to be coming online. It's going to take some time to see the type of technology I think that you're looking for, which, I think...

Mr. Bernal: Yes, sir. No, what I am asking, you know -- I mean, let's not get confused between technology -- I mean, we do have a wonderful Smart City Hub and everything else, right. We made this huge investment. But the police is not on board with this, okay.

Vice Mayor Mena: But that's what they're doing.

Mr. Bernal: I asked -- no, I asked for the design document, what are the specifications for this wonderful system, and what is it going to be that we see. And their answer is, in my understanding -- that's why I'm bringing it to you -- it's -- that's none of your business.

Commissioner Anderson: Alright, so...

Mayor Lago: Let me...

Commissioner Anderson: May...

Mayor Lago: Let me take a step back.

Commissioner Anderson: When you're done...

Mayor Lago: Let me just...

Commissioner Anderson: I got to add.

Mayor Lago: Let me take a step back. Let me take a step -- okay. You came to see me during open office hours...

Mr. Bernal: Yes.

Mayor Lago: A week ago. I put this item on the agenda.

Mr. Bernal: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Commissioner Anderson was also going to put the item on the agenda, so we cosponsored. I think we're cosponsoring.

Vice Mayor Mena: Yeah.

Mayor Lago: I could be wrong.

Commissioner Anderson: Yes.

Mayor Lago: It's been a long meeting so far, and we haven't had lunch yet. I'm a little foggy, I apologize. So, I don't know of a city in Miami-Dade County that has open office hours, you get an item -- a resident comes to see you, an item gets put on the agenda, and the resident openly debates with the Commission. The way it works in the County is you speak at 8:30, 9 o'clock, you speak for two minutes, you're out. The Commission comes in, there's no rebuttal, there's no back and forth. You gave your two minutes, and it's out. The City is not hiding anything.

Mr. Bernal: I'm supporting the resolution.

Commissioner Anderson: Okay, okay.

Mayor Lago: Hiding anything from anybody.

Commissioner Anderson: I need to add because you and I have had direct conversations.

Mr. Bernal: Right.

Commissioner Anderson: And I have experience that maybe some of the others don't.

Mr. Bernal: Yes.

Commissioner Anderson: I ran a Google search. The City doesn't run Google, control Google, or otherwise.

Commissioner Menendez: Private entity.

Commissioner Anderson: I got results. The Police Department is not hiding anything. And there's no judge, state or federal, that is going to require a police department to give out their operational plans through heatmaps.

Mr. Bernal: Nobody's asking for that.

Commissioner Anderson: You asked for heatmaps.

Mr. Bernal: Heatmaps.

Commissioner Anderson: Maybe it's just a language thing, but in order to have successful law enforcement, you're not going to be giving your plan of action to those who you're trying to catch.

Mr. Bernal: Nobody's asking for that, ma'am.

Commissioner Anderson: Okay. You're asking for heatmaps. This information is on Google. Maybe it's just because I have more experience on how to do Google searches.

Mr. Bernal: Could be, okay.

Commissioner Anderson: Okay, but nothing's being hidden here.

Mr. Bernal: I'm just saying, you know, we should be able to state -- the policymakers should be able to say...

Mayor Lago: But we are.

Mr. Bernal: This is what the public can see.

Mayor Lago: But we are.

Commissioner Cason: We just had this whole discussion.

Commissioner Anderson: We are, here.

Mr. Bernal: Huh?

Mayor Lago: We're having this discussion and...

Commissioner Cason: You're basically saying that the City's hiding information from you because Google, which is a private company, has not put statistics on its site. Google has nothing to do with Coral Gables.

Mr. Bernal: No, sir. I also have gone to the...

Commissioner Cason: You started by saying that Google Maps does not have the crimes that you saw committed.

Mr. Bernal: And I said...

Commissioner Cason: What does that have to do with us?

Mr. Bernal: No, what I said also was that...

Commissioner Anderson: You can have this.

Mr. Bernal: I have gone to the City website; I have made requests. I also requested a report that comes to the Commissioners, and I was told that it was no longer being published.

Commissioner Anderson: So...

Vice Mayor Mena: Who told you that?

Mr. Bernal: The City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Mena: Told you what?

Mr. Bernal: That the police said that the report was no longer being published.

Mayor Lago: So, can we -- we have a lot of things going on right now. So, let's address one item by one. We got a lot of things going on here. Mr. Chief, are you providing the Commission and the Manager with a report in regards to crime statistics?

Police Chief Hudak: Yes, sir, every week.

Mayor Lago: Well, let's -- so let's check that off.

Police Chief Hudak: And that's public.

Mayor Lago: Do we need that...

Police Chief Hudak: And that's public.

Mayor Lago: Do we need that under oath? Do we need that under oath, yes or no? Sir, do we need it under oath? Okay.

Commissioner Menendez: Public record.

Mayor Lago: That's a check.

Police Chief Hudak: It's public record. Once I...

Mayor Lago: So, that's completed.

Police Chief Hudak: Once I send it to you, it's public record...

Mayor Lago: So, that is...

Police Chief Hudak: And you can give it to anybody you want.

Mayor Lago: That is completed. So, that is...

Commissioner Cason: May I ask one thing? And I ask whether that information could be given out to a relative of mine. I asked the City Attorney, and they said yes.

Police Chief Hudak: Yes.

Commissioner Cason: So...

Police Chief Hudak: Once it leaves us to you in writing, it's public record.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Commissioner Menendez: Public record.

Commissioner Anderson: And I shared it.

Mayor Lago: So, okay.

Police Chief Hudak: And it...

Commissioner Anderson: And I shared it.

Police Chief Hudak: And we have no issue.

Mayor Lago: So, moving on from that -- so that is debunked.

Mr. Bernal: But I cannot get it. The City Clerk...

City Clerk Urquia: No, you can get that. What you couldn't get was a report that said "from this intersection from this intersection to this intersection to this intersection..."

Vice Mayor Mena: Right.

City Clerk Urquia: Drawing a circle around a property. That's not what the Commission gets every two weeks.

Vice Mayor Mena: Correct.

Mayor Lago: We don't get that.

Commissioner Cason: We don't get that information.

Mayor Lago: We don't get that information. So, we debunked that, right?

Mr. Bernal: I do have a public records request that I can pull from the website to...

Mayor Lago: But let me just finish -- let me just finish it. We're going to -- you know, it's so funny that people attack us for not being transparent. This is incredible. And then we have full-fledged conversations, and we get to the crux of a matter, and we try to address it. No other city does that, no other city does that. Okay, so we got that. That's done, right? We put that to bed. Moving on. How much are we spending on this new system?

Police Chief Hudak: I believe, in total, it'll be \$4.7 million in total.

Mayor Lago: This will put the City, in regards to transparency and our ability to report, at what level in regards to communities throughout South Florida and throughout the state of Florida?

Police Chief Hudak: Well, I -- again, I think it's going to be seamless because it's going to be able to incorporate, once it's public record, the body camera footage, whatever drone footage we have. We're going to be able to put it all together and work our cases the same way. And I'll defer to the expert because if he says we need it, I'm all in.

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: And the reason we selected this system is because it's data driven. It was developed by data scientists in Harvard in their labs. And it's the most advanced in terms of data. And if you look to Boston PD website, you will see what Boston PD is doing with crime statistics and (INAUDIBLE). That's the technology we're going to get.

Commissioner Cason: Does any other...

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: The same in Boston.

Commissioner Cason: Does any other city in South Florida have this?

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: Miramar.

Mayor Lago: Miramar.

Commissioner Cason: Just Miramar.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Police Chief Hudak: Miramar, and I believe, Miami Gardens went to it.

Mayor Lago: When do we start? When do we start?

Police Chief Hudak: We've started sending the information over already. We've -- Raimundo and I have already had a meeting. Once we migrate all the information, so we're saying a year, but I'm pushing hard on my side to try and get all our information in.

Mayor Lago: So, to bring this in for a landing, you had three meetings with the Manager and with the Chief. You had a meeting with myself last week. You had a meeting with Commissioner Anderson. I think you may have met with other Commissioners. You spoke to the Clerk. What is it that's pending so that I can make sure you get what you want, that we can give you, so that you feel satisfied that government has treated you accordingly.

Mr. Bernal: Mayor, respectfully, the only thing that I'm saying is why can't we see the heatmaps, okay?

Mayor Lago: But I don't -- I...

Commissioner Menendez: What are we...

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: So...

Commissioner Menendez: What are we obligated to by law?

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Sure. I'm happy to address that. So, it's my understanding that if all, if not most of Mr. Bernal's public record requests have -- all of them have been fulfilled. There is a difference between the City creating a record that does not exist and providing a record that does exist. It's my understanding that Mr. Bernal was provided with the record of a zone in which he resides that had criminal statistics from his zone, which may be larger

than the specific area he was looking for, but the City doesn't need to create a new record just for that particular...

Mayor Lago: Have we ever created a heat...

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Few blocks.

Mayor Lago: Have we ever created heatmaps?

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: I'm not sure if heatmaps do or do not exist, but it's my understanding that there have been some concerns about active criminal intelligence exemptions that may apply to certain heatmaps that are more current. So, obviously, a heatmap from two or three years ago may be able to be released. But something that's very current, you know, I would defer to the Chief about whether or not something is active criminal intelligence or relates to an active criminal investigation, both of which are exempt from public records disclosure.

Mayor Lago: Chief.

Commissioner Menendez: But what you just said -- I'm sorry, Mayor. What you just said in terms of public record, that applies to basically all public records.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Of course.

Commissioner Menendez: We don't create what's not created.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Of course. Writing a report...

Commissioner Menendez: We have the raw data.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Yeah.

Commissioner Menendez: We -- so, it applies not only to this situation...

Commissioner Cason: If the record is (INAUDIBLE).

Commissioner Menendez: Florida Statute.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Of course, yes.

Commissioner Menendez: The public records law.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Yes. So, running a report is certainly something we can do. But if someone asks for a chart of what color your ties all were today, we don't need to create that chart if that doesn't already exist.

Mr. Bernal: Can you make it available in a form that can be processed by computer? Because right now you send PDFs, and you know, you can't do anything with PDFs.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: So, we are required to provide records in the format in which they were created, and in one -- so, if it was in a particular system that you didn't have access to, for instance, a specialized CAD program, of course, we couldn't provide you that if you can't read it. But if it was created in a PDF, that's how it will be sent to you. If you would like to request a paper copy of that, we can certainly do that and provide you paper copies of those records...

Mr. Bernal: I have electronic copies.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: and the statutory fees with that.

Vice Mayor Mena: Do you have the weekly reports?

Mr. Bernal: No.

Vice Mayor Mena: You don't?

Mr. Bernal: I was given one by Commissioner Anderson, but I have not been able to get them via a public records request.

Vice Mayor Mena: No, but I was told that what you asked for via public records...

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Bernal...

Vice Mayor Mena: Was something different.

City Clerk Urquia: What you requested, it was -- via public record, everything was given to you. The Neighborhood 14 -- you requested 2022, the entire statistics. That was...

Mr. Bernal: I...

City Clerk Urquia: Given to you.

Mr. Bernal: I sent a public records request saying that I would like to see the reports that the Commissioners get, and I was told that they are not available, okay.

Vice Mayor Mena: By who?

Mr. Bernal: So, I have...

City Clerk Urquia: When did you send that, sir?

Mr. Bernal: The City Clerk. Well, let me send it to you from...

City Clerk Urquia: Please.

Mr. Bernal: Yes. But my question is, I want to see those reports. And the question is, can I see them, or can I not see them?

Mayor Lago: Yes.

City Attorney Suárez: Yes.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: A public...

Police Chief Hudak: (INAUDIBLE) send it to you...

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Yeah.

Police Chief Hudak: Understand those are focused crimes. That is different -- what I send you all are focused crimes that we discuss.

Vice Mayor Mena: Yes.

Police Chief Hudak: It is not everything. So, if I chart -- on the computer, if I chart littering, the heatmap is going to show where our litter citations are. So, again, that's -- the heatmaps are generated, and that is a work product -- because if I'm putting undercover officers in a certain area,

I'm not going to give that out because that is something that is germane to an active, open, confidential case.

Mr. Bernal: Nobody's asking for that, Chief.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: So, Mr. Bernal can always make public records requests, which will be timely fulfilled by the police department and the Clerk's Office, as they always are. There are no standing requests, but if you want to continue to make requests for those reports, we will certainly provide them...

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Expeditiously...

Mayor Lago: I'll make it even...

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: As we're required.

Mayor Lago: I'll make it even easier for you.

Mr. Bernal: Yes, sir.

Mayor Lago: Make a public records request and copy me on it.

Mr. Bernal: I can do that. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: You good?

Mr. Bernal: Alright.

Mayor Lago: Okay. Can I get an admission from you?

Mr. Bernal: Okay. Admission?

Mayor Lago: An admission.

Mr. Bernal: Yes.

Mayor Lago: There is no other city quite like the City Beautiful, where you can have this type of...

Mr. Bernal: That's why I'm ask...

Mayor Lago: Back and forth.

Mr. Bernal: You know, this is great.

Mayor Lago: But *la cosa no está la mala. La cosa no está mala.*

Mr. Bernal: I got some...

Mayor Lago: Because you said you moved here, and things are falling apart.

Mr. Bernal: So, that's why I want to...

Mayor Lago: So, things aren't that bad.

Mr. Bernal: Live here, but I'm also very jealous about maintaining our rights.

Mayor Lago: And I agree, you have your rights.

Mr. Bernal: Yes.

Mayor Lago: You have your rights. Look at this.

Mr. Bernal: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: This is beautiful. The only thing left to do is run the meeting.

Mr. Bernal: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Mena: Here are the reports for January.

Mr. Bernal: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Vice Mayor Mena, on the record, handing the reports to Dr. Bernal.

Vice Mayor Mena: And we get -- and it's important to note that we get those every week.

Mayor Lago: Every week.

Vice Mayor Mena: Contrary to certain reports that we don't get them...

Commissioner Cason: Every week.

Vice Mayor Mena: We do get them.

Mayor Lago: Every week.

Vice Mayor Mena: Not monthly.

Commissioner Cason: Every week.

Vice Mayor Mena: Every week, we get reports that look just like that, and you're welcome to any week you'd like to see.

Mayor Lago: By the way, I think the Vice Mayor brought up a very good point. It's been said before by people in this community, very small, not even a handful of people who, you know, run blogs and a lot of people anonymously to trash employees and other elected officials here that we are not getting these reports and that we're being misled. We can't say nicer things about the police and how much we appreciate them and the efforts that they do in this community. And we need to be very, very, very careful what we say, because when we say things that are misleading or are not the truth, if it spreads, people start believing it. And before you know it, you have a tidal wave of people who come. And some people do this intentionally throughout the City in an effort to -- let me be careful what I say -- in an effort to...

Commissioner Cason: We understand.

Mayor Lago: To get...

Police Chief Hudak: I appreciate that.

Mayor Lago: To get certain things across the finish line. But the City of Coral Gables has always prided itself on being not only exceptionally beautiful, but being ethical, and being the city on a shiny hill.

Police Chief Hudak: Because I -- I'm responsible for about 300 of your employees over in the police department, sworn and civilian. And I will tell you the numbers are as low as they are and continue to trend in that direction because of their hard work, both inside and outside. And we don't hide anything. Sometimes we have to get through and find out exactly what people are trying to ask us, but we will give out the information.

Mayor Lago: Can I...?

Police Chief Hudak: We have nothing to hide.

Mayor Lago: Can I give you -- can I give a point to that? Just to give you...

Police Chief Hudak: Sure.

Mayor Lago: An example. I spoke about something earlier when the police were here. I didn't - - I was kind of vague, and I thanked the police, and I talked highly about the police. It's an ongoing investigation, but I felt that I needed to make a comment because our conversations with the Manager yesterday were -- we were having a conversation in the briefing in preparation for this Commission meeting. You told me some things about an investigation, about an active...

Police Chief Hudak: Correct.

Mayor Lago: An active criminal investigation. I can't divulge that, and I won't divulge that because I won't jeopardize our police and the hard work that they're doing. But I still am so proud of the technology and the effort that is being used, and I felt compelled -- because I had the command staff there -- to make sure that I told them how grateful I was for the hard work.

Police Chief Hudak: I just (INAUDIBLE)...

Mayor Lago: And when people find out about what happens when an arrest is hopefully made soon enough, I want a...

Police Chief Hudak: We've ID'd the subject, I'll tell you right now. Give me a couple of hours and you can tell them what we're talking about all because we believe we have the suspect that we're looking for on the burglary on Santa Maria through a lot of use of the technology that we had talked about it.

Mayor Lago: So, I think that we -- I think that that's something that, once we have that arrest made, I would like -- Mr. Clerk, Mr. Manager, with your approval, I would like for the Chief to come back and talk a little bit about what transpired, what the police department did, and put criminals on notice in this community not only are we going to give police officers every single resource that they need, but that this community's in the best of hands, both of this Commission, along with the police and fire department.

Police Chief Hudak: And that's because of your support and understanding.

Mayor Lago: Listen, it's all your hard work; it's not us. It's like you said...

Police Chief Hudak: Appreciate that.

Mayor Lago: It's the employees that you have, the 300.

Police Chief Hudak: I appreciate that.

Mayor Lago: Thank you.