

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION 2023-**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION READOPTING THE CIVILITY CODE FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION, EXPANDING ITS APPLICABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE, PROCEDURES, AND CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CIVILITY CODE

**WHEREAS**, in 2016 the City Commission adopted Resolution 2016-279 setting forth a civility code for members of the public, outlining rules of participation and behavior for City meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the City Commission adopted Resolution 2021-187 adopting a Civility Code for members of the City Commission as well as a Civility Code for employees of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Civility Code for elected officials is to establish rules of decorum and civility for elected officials during all interactions with each other, the public, and in all situations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission wishes to clarify that the Civility Code for elected officials applies during any and all public meetings and communications; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of providing a clear process with sufficient notice and evidence for all involved the City Commission would like to adopt procedures for the Commission’s consideration and finding of a violation of the Civility Code for elected officials and set forth consequences for violations of the Civility Code for elected officials; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:**

**SECTION 1.** That the foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Commission hereby re-adopts the Civility Code for members of the City Commission as amended:

All members of the City Commission shall:

- Work to foster an atmosphere of respect and civility among colleagues, City

- employees, and members of the public;
- Be professional and respectful in all interactions with each other and members of the public;
- Work to promote, in the general public, an understanding of the role of elected officials and accurate information regarding City matters;
- Attempt not to abruptly interrupt each other or members of the public;
- Refrain from using profanity or ~~other~~ untruthful disparaging remarks towards each other or towards members of the public in all public settings and communications;
- Refrain from making comments, references, or statements regarding the race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation of a colleague or member of the public; and
- Refrain from yelling or screaming at each other or a member of the public.

**SECTION 3.** In accordance with the procedures outlined in the City Code a member of the Commission may place a resolution on the City Commission agenda finding that a member of the Commission has violated the Civility Code for elected officials. Such resolution must be published on the City Commission agenda published seven (7) days prior to the meeting during which the resolution will be considered. Any and all evidence that will be presented during consideration of the item shall be submitted to the City Clerk five (5) days prior to the meeting and made available to the public. Any audio or written evidence submitted in a foreign language shall be accompanied by a certified translation of such evidence. During consideration of the resolution by the Commission the commissioner who is the subject of such resolution shall be given an opportunity to be heard in his or her own defense.

**SECTION 4.** That following a finding by the City Commission of a first violation of the Civility Code the member of the Commission shall be issued a warning from the City Commission. A finding of a second or subsequent violation of the Civility Code for elected officials may result in a public reprimand from the City Commission.

**SECTION 5.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D., 2023.

(Moved: \_\_\_\_/ Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_)

(Yeas:)

(Unanimous:)

(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ  
CITY ATTORNEY