



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
November 10, 2015**

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on Second Reading. An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, creating a False Claims and Presentations Ordinance to prohibit false or incomplete presentations to or false or fraudulent claims against the City of Coral Gables, providing for enforcement; providing for severability, repealer, codification, and an effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The City of Coral Gables wishes to insure that individuals presenting before the City Commission or a City Board or Committee are truthful and forthcoming in the information they provide and which is relied upon by the City. While individuals make presentations to the City Commission or City Boards or Committees, are sworn in before presenting, a prosecution for perjury is rare given the challenge in proving the conduct under the criminal standard. This ordinance allows the City to seek damages and civil penalties for false presentations, in addition to the criminal penalties already available under a prosecution for perjury.

As voted on by the Commission during first reading, the ordinance now also prohibits the submittal of an incomplete, inaccurate or false application for permit or development approval to City staff and provides for modification or revocation of said permit or approval.

Furthermore, the City wishes to deter persons from causing the City to pay claims that are false, fraudulent, or inflated. In the event that an individual submits a claim that is false, fraudulent or inflated, the ordinance allows the City to obtain damages and civil penalties from the individual perpetrating the false claim.

REVIEWED BY:

City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Draft Ordinance