

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO:

MAYOR PHILIP LEVINE

MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION CITY MANAGER JIMMY MORALES

FROM:

RAUL J. AGUILA CITY ATTORNEY

DATE:

FEBRUARY 8, 2017

SUBJECT:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING AN OATH OF

CIVILITY FOR CITY APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission recently adopted a Resolution requesting that municipalities consider expanding upon the oath of office administered to City elected and appointed officials by including therein an "Oath of Civility", reading as follows:

"To my colleagues and to all of those I represent and serve, I pledge fairness, integrity and civility, in all actions taken and all communications made by me as a public servant"

Mayor Philip Levine has reviewed this issue and has requested introduction of the attached City of Miami Beach Resolution, believing adoption of such Oath to be consistent with prior legislative actions taken by the City Commission. This Oath is not meant to be exhaustive, but instead to set a tone or guide for conduct not specifically covered by the ethics laws applicable to City officials, with the intended underlying principles being good-faith, as well as civil and respectful communication by, between and among the City's officials and the public.

Should the City Commission adopt the attached proposed City Resolution, all elected and appointed officials of the City shall be required to take this "Oath of Civility" prior to assumption of duties (in addition to the presently-imposed statutory oath of office).