

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Steven Meiner and Members of the City Commission

**FROM:** Rafael A. Paz, City Attorney



**FIRST READING**

**DATE:** April 3, 2024

**SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION," BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, ENTITLED "CITY COMMISSION" BY CREATING SECTION 2-16, ENTITLED "CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT," TO ESTABLISH A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERACTIONS AMONG ELECTED OFFICIALS, ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, AND THE PUBLIC; AND PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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At the request of the sponsor, Mayor Steven Meiner, this proposed ordinance to establish a code of professional conduct among elected officials is presented to the Mayor and City Commission for your consideration on first reading.

The City Code currently includes a Code of Conduct ("Code") that applies to elected officials, City employees and officers and employees of the City's agencies. These provisions are contained in Section 2-446 – Section 2-461. The Code currently lacks, however, any guidelines regarding the manner in which the Mayor and members of the City Commission should treat one another, City staff, constituents and others with whom they come into contact in the course of their service as elected representatives for the City of Miami Beach.

It is imperative for elected officials to uphold the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and respect in all interactions, whether on the dais, when addressing administrative staff and residents, or when engaging with each other. Further, elected officials should engage with each other in a professional manner, allowing for thorough examination of issues and respectful dialogue while refraining from disruptive behavior.

RAP/RJD