



## MEMORANDUM

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To: Mr. Luis Figueredo  
City Attorney

Date: April 22, 2019

From:   
Mr. Glenn Stolzenberg  
Investigator

Re: Complaint of Mr. Henry Salazar and  
Ms. Maria Sanchez Case # IG2019-02

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On February 27, 2019, Mr. Henry Salazar and Ms. Maria Sanchez filed a sworn complaint with the City of Doral Clerk, Ms. Connie Diaz under Doral City Ordinance 2018-25. Attached to the complaint was miscellaneous correspondence as well as a CD that contains additional correspondence. (For additional information, see attachment #1)

Mr. Salazar had previously filed a complaint that had been reviewed by this writer, the State Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, as well as the Florida Attorney General's Office.

Below is a summary of the actions taken to address the initial complaint of Mr. Henry Salazar:

On July 30, 2018, Mr. Robert Dominguez, attorney for Mr. Henry Salazar sent a letter to City of Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez detailing Mr. Salazar's complaint against the City in regards to a business that he was attempting to open in the City, but did not because he never received all of the necessary permits. The letter was forwarded to this writer for review. (For additional information, see attachment #2)

After a review of the complaint, there did not appear to be any criminal misconduct on behalf of any City of Doral employees, however, the file was forwarded to Division Chief Tim Vandergeisen of the State Attorney's Office (SAO), Public Corruption Unit, Criminal Investigations Division, for further investigation.

On August 21, 2018, the State Attorney's Office closed the case after the investigation revealed no probable cause to suspect any corruption occurring within the City of Doral Planning and Zoning Department regarding this complaint. (For additional information, see attachment # 3)

The Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust had also reviewed Mr. Salazar's allegations and documented their investigation in a Report of Inquiry. The report states that "there is insufficient evidence to sustain any ethics violations against any Doral officials". The case was closed on October 22, 2018. (For additional information, see attachment # 4)

On February 7, 2019, this investigator was made aware that Mr. Salazar had responded to the Doral Police Department on December 21, 2018, in an attempt to have a police report written regarding the same allegations. On that date, Mr. Salazar met with Officer Duclaire Desius and was told that the matter was civil in nature at which time Mr. Salazar asked to speak with a supervisor. Doral Police Sergeant Luis Celis responded and met with Mr. Salazar. Sergeant Celis also advised Mr. Salazar that the matter was civil. Mr. Salazar was provided a police case card, case # DR181221024658 by Officer Desius.

On February 7, 2019, this investigator made contact with Mr. Salazar and he advised that he had responded to the police department on numerous occasions to get a copy of the report that was written by Officer Desius on December 21, 2018. An attempt was made by this investigator to locate the report, but it was determined that although Officer Desius provided the case card to Mr. Salazar he never wrote the report. The report was subsequently written on February 10, 2019, and this investigator provided a copy to Mr. Salazar on February 11, 2019.

On February 11, 2019, this investigator contacted FBI Special Agent Tony Castaneda who advised that Mr. Salazar's complaint did not have a criminal nexus and that the FBI would not be investigating it.

On February 12, 2019, this investigator contacted the Florida Attorney General Office and was informed that Mr. Salazar's concerns did not meet the criteria of the Florida Attorney General's office for investigation. (For additional information, see attachment # 5)

At that time the Police Department had exhausted all investigative efforts and the case was closed.

In regards to the February 27, 2019, sworn complaint filed by Mr. Henry Salazar and Ms. Maria Sanchez, the following actions were taken:

On March 28, 2019, this writer met with ASA Tim Vandergeisen to discuss Mr. Salazar and Ms. Sanchez' latest complaint. On April 1, 2019, the documents were forwarded via email to ASA Vandergeisen for review. On April 2, 2019, ASA Vandergeisen advised that he had reviewed the complaint and that it was not criminal in nature. ASA Vandergeisen advised that although this complaint had additional allegations from Mr. Salazar's previous complaint from August 2018, there is nothing that indicates a crime was committed.

In Mr. Salazar's letter dated February 22, 2019, he states that he was informed of the "surprise resignation of Mr. Edward Rojas". Mr. Rojas was the City Manager at the time of Mr. Salazar's initial complaint. There was no evidence to indicate any wrong doing on behalf of former City Manager Mr. Rojas, nor is there any evidence to suggest his resignation was related to Mr. Salazar's allegations. This matter was discussed with ASA Vandergeisen on April 2, 2019, and he concurred.

In Mr. Salazar's emails dated February 26, 2019, he advised that walls and doors of the business located at 7753 NW 53 St, Doral, FL do not comply with the one-hour fire code and the Florida Building Code. He further advised that Mr. Wilson Hernandez who operates a business at 7751 NW 53 Street did not have a "process permit". Furthermore, Mr. Salazar refers to "fraudulently approved" plans and other official misconduct in regards to 7751, 7753 and 7757 NW 53 Street. Mr. Salazar also enclosed photographs of the work bay of 7751 NW 53 Street which indicate that the electrical work, air compressor and two-post lifts were all installed without permits. He also indicates that the business is operating as a General Mechanical Service without the proper permits.

Mr. Salazar also included seven photographs that include Architectural Page A-1 and Electrical Page E-1 from plans that his company, Motor Parts Industry Corp, USA, submitted to the City for a Change of Occupancy. On those photographs he indicates original plans not approved by the City or altered plans approved by the City. After a review of those documents, there does not appear to be anything that indicates a crime was committed.

These matters were discussed with ASA Vandergeisen on April 2, 2019, and he concurred that there does not appear to be any fraud related to these allegations. He advised that there is possibly some code compliance issues and Code Compliance should review the allegations and handle as they deem appropriate.

On April 11, 2019, this writer contacted Investigator Sylvia Batista from the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust to review the complaint. After a review and lengthy discussion, Ms. Batista advised that there is nothing additional that was presented to indicate there was any evidence of an ethics violation by a City of Doral official.

In conclusion, this writer found no evidence of any City of Doral policies or procedure violations, or any evidence that any criminal misconduct on behalf of any City of Doral employee occurred.

In regards to the Code Compliance issues that were addressed in Mr. Salazar and Ms. Sanchez' complaint, it is apparent that the City already has a mechanism in place to report violations at [Codecompliance@Cityofdoral.com](mailto:Codecompliance@Cityofdoral.com). However, it is recommended that the Code Compliance Department, review the allegations in regards to work done without permits at 7751 NW 53 Street, Doral, Florida, and take whatever action they deem appropriate.

No further action to be taken in this matter. This case is closed.

GS/

c: Mr. Albert P. Childress, City Manager