



CITY OF DORAL COUNCIL MEETING MEMORANDUM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

ITEM TITLE:

Discussion on Presentation of Certificates and Ordinance No. 2025-09, Amending Chapter 2, Key to the City, Proclamation and Certificates Policy and Procedures.

BRIEF HISTORY:

Section 2.02(b) of the City Charter states, in relevant part, “During the absence or incapacity of the Mayor, the Vice-Mayor shall have all the powers, authority, duties and responsibilities of the Mayor.”

Section 2.02(a) of the City Charter states, in relevant part, the Mayor shall be “recognized as head of the City government for all ceremonial purposes [. . .].”

On February 12, 2025, the City Council voted to approve Ordinance No. 2025-09, amending Chapter 2, Key to the City, Proclamation and Certificates Policy and Procedures. The Ordinance states in relevant part, that certificates of recognition can be requested by Councilmembers. While the Ordinance is silent on who presents certificates requested, the practice has been that the requesting councilmember presents the certificates. Further, according to our City Attorney’s legal opinion dated January 30, 2025, the Ordinance provides that the “Mayor and requesting Councilmember will present the Certificate to the Certificate’s recipient. Consistent with our Charter, should the Mayor be absent at an event where a Certificate is presented, [the Vice Mayor] may present the Certificate alongside the requesting Councilmember.”

Since the passage of Ordinance No. 2025-09, the Mayor has discriminately applied her discretionary authority to grant certificate requests made by councilmembers that she favors while arbitrarily denying requests made by my office. So far, the Mayor has denied 4 certificate requests from my office deeming them as untimely filed or without citing any just cause while at the same time approving at least 24 untimely filed certificates requested by other Councilmembers, including her office. This blatantly biased behavior is unprofessional and demonstrates a lack of respect for my office and the proposed recipients who were to receive the certificates.

Given this abuse of power and lack of respect for my office’s request, I am notifying my colleagues that I will present all certificates in the Mayor’s absence, including those requested by Councilmembers. As such, I ask that each Councilmember and City Staff contact my office to coordinate the presentation of certificates, proclamations, and keys in the Mayor’s absence.

Failure to do so, will result in my office filing an ethics complaint against said Councilmembers for intentionally violating of the City Charter and Ordinances.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: (IF APPLICABLE)

Date:	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The proposed item has a fiscal impact on revenues and/or expenditures in the amount of:

☒ \$50,000.00 or less (**No Fiscal Impact**)

☐ \$50,000.00 or more

RECOMMENDATION:

See above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

A. Forthcoming