

The City of Aventura



19200 West Country Club Drive Aventura, FL 33180

City Commission Workshop Meeting

October 15, 2015
9:00 A.M.

Executive Conference Room

AGENDA

1. *Resolution Establishing Procedures for Commission Travel (City Manager)**
2. *Charter Revision Commission (City Manager)**
3. *2016 Meeting Schedule (City Manager)**
4. *Annual Selection of Representative to the Miami-Dade County League of Cities (City Manager)*
5. *City Clerk Review (Mayor)**
6. *Arts & Cultural Center Advisory Board (City Manager)**
7. *Miami-Dade County League of Cities Meeting (Commissioner Weinberg)**
8. *Adjournment*

*** Back-up Information Exists**

This meeting is open to the public. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 305-466-8901, not later than two days prior to such proceeding.

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: September 18, 2015

SUBJECT: **Proposed Resolution Establishing Procedures for Commission
Travel and Expenses**

In accordance with the direction of the City Commission at the September Workshop Meeting, attached is a Proposed Resolution Establishing Procedures for Commission Travel and Expenses based on the discussions at that meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

EMS/act

Attachment

CCO1906-15

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-___

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AVENTURA, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR COMMISSION TRAVEL AND EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AVENTURA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The following procedures for City Commission travel expenses associated with the attendance of conferences and seminars is hereby established as follows:

1. The Mayor and City Commission members shall be reimbursed for their attendance at the following conferences or events:

- National League of Cities Conference
- Florida League of Cities Conference
- Annual Dade Days
- Miami-Dade League of Cities Meetings (Mayor and City Commission Designee)
- Annual National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Conference

All other conferences or seminars require approval of the City Commission.

2. At the conclusion of the conference or seminar, each City Commissioner in attendance shall provide a report to the entire City Commission relative to the conference or seminar.

3. Reimbursements will include registration, hotel, travel and meals. Travel expense reimbursements shall comply with the City's Administrative Policy Directives and Procedures Manual Chapter 6.3.1.

Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to take all necessary action to implement this Resolution.

Section 3. Conflict. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause, section, or other part or application of this Resolution shall be held by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutional or invalid part or application shall be considered as eliminated and so not affecting the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Resolution, with such ineffective provisions or applications remaining in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date. That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Teri Holzberg	_____
Commissioner Denise Landman	_____
Commissioner Marc Narotsky	_____
Commissioner Robert Shelley	_____
Commissioner Howard Weinberg	_____
Vice Mayor Enbar Cohen	_____
Mayor Enid Weisman	_____

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2015.

ENID WEISMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELLISA L. HORVATH, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CITY ATTORNEY

CITY OF AVENTURA

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: October 8, 2015

SUBJECT: **Charter Revision Commission**



The City Charter provides that at the first regular meeting of November 2015, the City Commission shall appoint a Charter Revision Commission (CRC). The CRC shall consist of five persons, one of whom shall have served as a member of the previous Charter Commission.

The CRC shall commence its proceedings within 15 days after appointment by the Commission. Any recommended changes are required to be submitted to the City Commission by January 1, 2016. The City Commission shall, not less than 60 days or more than 150 days after the submission of the proposed amendments to the City Commission, submit them to the electors of the City. Attached hereto is a list of the previous members of the Charter Commission.

I have placed this item on the Workshop Agenda in order to begin the process of appointing members of the CRC. I will email the individuals that have been recommended by members of the City Commission on October 12, 2015, once I receive their resumes.

EMS/act

Attachment

CCO1908-15

Section 7.06. Charter revision.

At its first regular meeting in November of every fifth year after the adoption of this Charter, commencing with December, 2000, the Commission shall appoint a Charter revision commission consisting of five persons, one of whom shall have served as a member of the previous Charter commission and four of whom shall be electors of the City. If a former Charter commission member is not available to serve, five electors of the City, rather than four, shall be appointed. The City Commissioners shall not be eligible for appointment to the revision commission. The revision commission shall commence its proceedings within 15 days after appointment by the Commission. If the revision commission determines that a revision is needed, including but not limited to a change in the boundaries or numbers of Residential Areas, it shall draft such amendments to this Charter as it deems appropriate and submit the same to the Commission not later than January 1 of the following year after their appointment by the Commission. The Commission shall, not less than 60 days or more than 150 days after submission of the proposed amendments to the Commission, submit them to the electors of the City in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.02, except that the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of such Section shall not apply.

(Ord. No. 97-30, § 7, adopted 12-16-97, passed at referendum 3-10-98; Res. No. 2001-15, § 1(pt. G), adopted 2-6-01, passed at referendum 5-15-01)

Section 7.07. Variation of pronouns.

All pronouns and any variation thereof used in this Charter shall be deemed to refer to masculine, feminine, neutral, singular or plural as the identity of the person or persons shall require and are not intended to describe, interpret, define or limit the scope, extent or intent of this Charter.

Section 7.08. Style and capitalization.

When a defined word is enclosed in quotes and in parentheses after the definition, that word shall be treated as a defined term in the remainder of this Charter, when capitalized.

Section 7.09. No discrimination.

The City shall not adopt any measure or policy or otherwise discriminate against any person due to race, religion, color, national origin, physical or mental disability, creed, sexual preference or sex. The City shall not adopt any policy regarding the use of City facilities that would discriminate against any person due to race, religion, color, national origin, physical or mental disability, creed, sexual preference or sex.

(Res. No. 2001-15, § 1(pt. H), adopted 2-6-01, passed at referendum 5-15-01)

Section 7.10. Fire rescue services.

The City of Aventura shall utilize the services of the Metro-Dade Fire Rescue Department to provide fire and rescue services to the City.

2010 Charter Revision Commission Members

Stanley Price
Enid Weisman
Michael Yavner
Len Brenner
Alan Lips

Stuart Altman' Bio:

Stuart Altman was born and raised in Chicago. He received his B.S. Degree in Accountancy from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 1965 and his law degree, with honors, from the University of Miami in 1970. Prior to 1970, Stu practiced as a Certified Public Accountant in both Illinois and Florida. Upon graduating from law school, Stu joined the law firm of Fowler White Burnett Hurley Banick & Knight, now known as Fowler White Burnett P.A., where he recently celebrated his 46th year in the practice of law with only one firm. Although now "of counsel" to the firm, Stu, a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent rated attorney, remains active in the areas of real estate, probate, trust, guardianship and estate planning. Stu is past President of the Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami, is a past Chair of Jewish Community Services of South Florida, is a past Chair of the Attorney/Trust Officer Liaison Conference, and is a past Chair of the Annual RPPTL (Real Property, Probate and Trust Law) Legislative Update Seminar. Stu is also a member of the Executive Council of the RPPTL Section. Stu and his wife, Mickey, reside in Aventura and have two sons, Mark, married to Natalie, and Jeff, and three granddaughters, Amanda, Alexa and Allyson.

Rebecca Fishman Lipsey

Rebecca Fishman Lipsey is CEO of Radical Partners, a social-impact accelerator that runs bootcamps for nonprofit leaders, and coaches outstanding organizations to grow their impact. She is the youngest person appointed to the Florida Board of Education, serving a 4-year term alongside six other statewide leaders overseeing educational policy from kindergarten through college. Rebecca was named "Best Non-Profit Executive" by The International Stevie Award for Women in Business, "Best Role Model" by Miami Today, and "20 Under 40" by The Miami Herald". Before launching Radical Partners, Rebecca served as Executive Director of Teach For America in Miami. In addition to her work on the Board of Education and with Radical Partners, Rebecca sits on a variety of boards, including EcoTech Visions, Health Information Project, and Overtown Music Project. She was the valedictorian of her graduating class at the University of Pennsylvania, and has a Masters in Education from Bank Street College of Education. Rebecca lives in Aventura with her husband and two young boys.





STANLEY B. PRICE

Partner, Government Relations & Land Development Chair

sprice@bilzin.com
P: 305.350.2374 | F: 305.351.2204

Overview

Since his early career as an Assistant County Attorney for Miami-Dade County, Stanley B. Price has worked in the forefront of Florida land use law, and was the principal draftsman of important land use legislation. He is frequently consulted on the subjects of owners' and developers' rights and complex zoning and permitting issues. He chairs Bilzin Sumberg's Land Development & Government Relations Group.

In addition to representing clients in land use, Stan works extensively with government and regulatory agencies, developers and landowners to examine, interpret and establish land use policy. He has served as special land use counsel to several Florida municipalities and as the special magistrate in land use litigation for the Miami-Dade County and Orange County Circuit Courts. He has chaired the Building and Zoning Committee of the Miami Chamber of Commerce; the Commerce Planning, Zoning, and Growth Management Subcommittee of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce; the Miami-Dade County Impact Fee Review Committee; the Special Task Force to Review Area Studies in Miami-Dade County; and the Land Use Subcommittee of the Builders Association of South Florida.

Since 1987, Stan has been actively involved with Builders Association of South Florida. He has provided legal counsel on a pro bono basis, written and helped revise ordinances, facilitated presentations on BASF's behalf before the Miami-Dade County Commission, represented BASF on subcommittees and served in various leadership positions. At the request of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez and County Commissioner Sally Heyman in the fall of 2015, Stan serves on the Historic Preservation Advisory Work Group, which has been tasked to review and provide recommended updates to the Miami-Dade County Historic Preservation Ordinance.

In 2005, Stan was honored for his dedication to the industry by being inducted into the BASF Hall of Fame for a lifetime of achievement. Most recently in 2011, Stan was awarded the Al Singer Spirit of the Industry Award in recognition of his career excellence and great counsel.

A frequent author and lecturer on the subject of growth management, Stan was selected to lecture on the appellate review of land use cases to the Dade County Circuit Court, Appellate Division. He has taught at the University of Miami School of Law as an adjunct professor of land use law and moderated and lectured at the Florida Chamber of Commerce "Growth Management Short Course."

Stan has received *Chambers USA's* highest ranking in Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use since 2004 and has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* for more than two decades. In 2014, Stan was named "Miami Lawyer of the Year" in Land Use & Zoning Law by *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Practice Focus

Land Development &
Government Relations

Education

Syracuse University, J.D.,
1969

New York University, B.S.,
with honors, 1966

Awards and Honors

Band 1, *Chambers USA*,
Real Estate: Zoning/Land
Use, 2004 - present

Daily Business Review,
Most Effective Lawyers -
Finalist, Real Estate, 2014

*The Best Lawyers in
America*, Land Use &
Zoning Law, Litigation -
Land Use & Zoning, 2015

*The Best Lawyers in
America*, Miami Lawyer of
the Year - Land Use &
Zoning Law, 2014

*The Best Lawyers in
America*, Miami Lawyer of
the Year - Environmental,
2012 *The Best Lawyers in
America*, Environmental
Law, Land Use & Zoning
Law, Litigation - Land Use
& Zoning, Real Estate
Law, 1989 - present

Daily Business Review,
Most Effective Lawyers,
Real Estate, 2012

STANLEY B. PRICE

Experience

- **\$55 million expansion of 32-acre Palmer Trinity private school expansion**
Represented Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc. in connection with the school's \$55 million expansion of its current campus onto an adjacent, 32-acre parcel of land that it acquired specifically for that purpose in 2003. Expansion plans include the addition of a library/media center, administrative building, chapel, performing arts center, gymnasium, dining hall, as well as classrooms and athletic fields. Bilzin Sumberg's representation included providing land use and zoning counsel, and successfully representing the client in eight appellate proceedings brought by neighboring residents opposed to the campus's expansion.
- **Development of waterfront property and marina in Miami-Dade County, Florida**
Represent client in resurrecting a waterfront project originally slated to have 468 condos in two 24-story towers, plus a 100-slip marina. Bilzin Sumberg led the way in obtaining approvals to modify the previous development plan to provide for approximately 400 apartment units, a 5,000+/- square foot restaurant and a 100-slip marina.
- **Mixed-use development of town center in Doral, Florida**
Represented Shoma Homes in the mixed-use development of a town center in Doral, Florida. The project encompassed over 157,000 square feet of retail, 218,000 square feet of office space and 927 residential units, as well as an amphitheater, and required obtaining an amendment to the City's comprehensive plan in order to create a Downtown mixed-use district.
- **Expansion of private, non-profit secondary school**
Represented Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, the only all-female high school operated by the Archdiocese of Greater Miami. For almost 17 years, the Academy attempted to get approval for a school expansion on the property. Bilzin Sumberg succeeded in obtaining zoning approval for the Academy's expansion. The Academy is located in a predominantly single family community. A sector of the community has opposed any expansion of the school based upon the possibility of increased traffic and noise caused by the greater utilization of the site. Bilzin Sumberg, through the use of traffic consultants as well as land use planners, successfully argued that the neighbors' fears were not well-founded and received a unanimous vote of the local zoning board. This matter took several years to resolve and included defending a legal challenge in the trial and appellate courts by neighboring property owners.
- **\$105 million development of University of Miami's life sciences technology park**
Serve as counsel to Wexford Miami, LLC, the developer of the first and second phase of the University of Miami Life Science & Technology Park. The first phase of this park is a \$105 million development project comprised of a six-story research & development building, containing approximately 170,000 square feet of offices and laboratories, plus the 80,000 square foot University of Miami Tissue Bank, a world-class facility that collects, processes and distributes donated human tissue. The Life Science & Technology Park will include a "landing pad," a business incubator for start-up companies involved in the life science industry. Bilzin Sumberg represents Wexford in securing land use and zoning approvals from the City of Miami and in partnering with the University of Miami on real estate issues. We previously represented the client in negotiating an economic incentive agreement with the City of Miami Community Redevelopment Agency.

Top 100 Miami Florida Super Lawyers, Florida Super Lawyers, 2012 - present

Florida Super Lawyers, 2006 - present

Builders Association of South Florida, AI Singer Spirit of the Industry Award, 2011

Legal 500, Real Estate - Land Use and Zoning, 2008 - 2010

South Florida Legal Guide, Top Lawyers, 2006 - present

Florida Trend's Legal Elite, 2001 - 2012

South Florida Business Journal, Corporate & Elite Law Professionals, 2001 - present

Inducted into Builders Association of South Florida Hall of Fame, 2005

Builders Association of South Florida, Presidents Award, 2005 - 2007

Latin Builders Association, Attorney of the Year, 1992 & 1998

Martindale-Hubbell, 2014 Energy, Environment Natural Resources Law AV Preeminent® Top Rated Lawyer

Martindale-Hubbell™, Top Rated Lawyer in Land Use & Zoning, 2013

Martindale-Hubbell™, AV Preeminent® Rating, 30 Consecutive Years

STANLEY B. PRICE

- **Zoning for Burger King world headquarters**
Served as principle legal counsel in securing all land use and environmental approvals for the then World Headquarters for the Burger King corporation. The proposed site was located in a primarily upper class single family community, located on Biscayne Bay. Despite strong initial opposition from the community, the applicant was able to mollify the opposition through a series of community charities and outreach programs.
- **Palmetto West Park, L.C., etc., et al. v. Miami-Dade County and Corporate Park of Miami, Case No. 3D06-710, Consolidated 3D06-483 and Palmetto West Park, L.C., et al. v. City of Doral, et al., Case No. 3D06-710, Lower Tribunal No. 04-634 AP**
Represented a corporate park in connection with an unsafe traffic circulation pattern created by an adjacent property owner. The local municipality and enforcement boards have agreed with our client's position and the matter is pending in the appellate courts. The case was remanded for further administrative proceedings.
- **Redevelopment of a golf course community**
Represented developer client in connection with the development of 1,836 residential units of various types and the redevelopment of two golf courses and preservation of open space.
- **\$100 million development of Riverfront East and Riverfront West mixed-use high-rise towers in Miami, Florida**
Represented the developers in the Riverfront East and Riverfront West projects. These were two contiguous properties owned by three developers. The West property included four mixed-use high-rise towers and the East included three towers. One of the land use issues we handled included an attempt by the City of Miami to take a parcel of the land for a tunnel. Bilzin Sumberg was successful in convincing the city to drop their requirement in the major use special permit ("MUSP") for the tunnel. Other issues with this project included a Metrorail, easements for the Miami Avenue Bridge and dedication of public right of ways.
- **Rezoning and redesignation of mixed-use development**
Successfully represented a joint venture property owner in obtaining approval from the City of Aventura for partial redesignation and rezoning of a seven-acre parcel of land to allow for a mixed-use development, including residential, commercial, hotel, and office use.
- **\$32 million acquisition and pre-development loan**
Represented client in the formation of joint-venture companies Cineret, LLC, Tifeeret, LLC, and Tzion, LLC, and in the acquisition of property encompassing the Jockey Club in North Miami, Florida. Representation included the negotiation and closing of a \$25 million acquisition and pre-development loan from Marshall Investments, and an additional \$7 million mezzanine loan from Hudson Debt Fund I, LLC. The Jockey Club property contains three existing condo towers (not included in the acquisition), a marina, adjacent tract of land and other common areas.
- **The Town of Golden Beach, etc., et al. v. The City of Sunny Isles Beach and Regalia, LLC, Case No. 06408 AP, Lower Tribunal No. 06-Z-102**
Represented the developer of a 45-story luxury oceanfront condominium in the City of Sunny Isles Beach, Florida in an appeal where the neighboring Town of Golden Beach objected to the development approval by the City of Sunny Isles Beach.

Admissions

Florida
New York

STANLEY B. PRICE

Professional and Community Involvement

- Builders Association of South Florida, Board of Directors; General Counsel, 2011 - present
- Dade County Bar Association
- Floridians for Smarter Growth (FSG), Chair, Local Policy Council
- Latin Builders Association

Speeches & Publications

- Speaker, "Code Professionals & Ethics," 27th Annual South Florida Building Code Educational Conference, Broward County Building Officials Association, Davie, FL, March 25, 2015
- Author, "Atlantic Crossing: Delray Beach Gets a Makeover," Homebuilder Blog, July 31, 2014
- Author, "The Koontz Decision; Back to Florida," Homebuilder Blog, May 27, 2014
- Author, "Covenants in Lieu of Unity of Title; A Flexible Vehicle to Address Phased and Multi-Purposed Developments," Homebuilder Blog, March 10, 2014
- Author, "U.S. Supreme Court Decision on Land-Use Exactions Impacts Developers, Government," Homebuilder Blog, January 29, 2014
- Author, "Rainmaker Q&A: Bilzin Sumberg's Stan Price," Law 360, July 30, 2013
- Author, "Florida Legislature Strengthens Act To Protect Property Rights," Bilzin Sumberg Client Alert, June 14, 2011
- Speaker, at DCBA Environmental & Land Use Law Committee Seminar at Bilzin Sumberg, April 15, 2011
- Author, "Deadline for Filing 2-Year Extension Under Senate Bill 1752 is December 31, 2010," Bilzin Sumberg Client Alert, December 20, 2010
- Author, "Amendment 4 Would Invite a State of Economic Chaos," Bilzin Sumberg Client Alert, April 12, 2010
- Author, "Legislature Approves SB 360, Which Would Extend Existing Development Approvals For Two Years It Awaits Governor's Signature," Bilzin Sumberg News Alert, May 2009
- Co-Author, "Civil Rights Considerations in Zoning," Environmental and Land Use Law, The Florida Bar, 1984, January, 1984



LUZ WEINBERG

Aventura, FL 33180
CommissionerLuz@Gmail.com • 305-772-7100

CV-BIO

A communications professional with an impressive political and professional background, Luz Urbáez Weinberg was first elected to the *City of Aventura Commission* on March 1st, 2005, taking 63% of the vote in a 3-way race, and becoming the youngest at 32 and the first Hispanic ever to serve the City's council. She was re-elected unopposed in 2010, and completed her max two terms of service on November 6, 2014. On July 3, 2013, Florida Governor Rick Scott appointed Luz to a 4-year term on the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority where she chairs the Public Communications and Intergovernmental Committee. From 2009 to 2015, Luz served two terms on the board of directors of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), and was twice elected by her peers to serve as Vice President for her last three years of service to NALEO.

Luz is an energetic, engaging and motivating public speaker who has been featured on CNN, C-SPAN, Univision, Fox, NBC and MSNBC, and often serves as keynote, moderator or trainer at local and national events on topics like the Census, the Latino Vote, effective communications, team building, energy, broadband and transportation. In 2013, Luz testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing on the restoration of protections of the Voting Rights Act following the Shelby v. Holder Supreme Court decision. Over 400 of her English and Spanish marketing/PR and op-ed articles have been published.

A *Magna Cum Laude Psychology graduate* of Florida International University, Luz currently lends her extensive, results-driven, media and public relations, business development, client and crisis management, consensus building, community outreach, team building, presentation, operations, messaging and corporate communications skills as *Director of Communications* for global conglomerate Bouygues Construction's inaugural USA projects: the *PortMiami Tunnel* and *Brickell City Centre*. Luz's previous roles include *Vice President of Operations* for CitiMed Group, *Director of Marketing and Government Affairs* for HCA-Aventura Hospital and Medical Center, and *Case Manager* for Psychological Associates of Miami, Dr. Leonard Haber, P.A.

Since moving to Miami-Dade from Puerto Rico in 1986, Luz has served on youth, education and health organizations' board of directors, like *Aspira of Florida* and *World ORT*. Her community service has been recognized numerous times, including a 2006 "*Up & Comer*" award by The South Florida Business Journal, 2009 & 2013 *Hispanic Achiever Award* by the FL-Puerto Rican Chambers of Commerce, 2010 *Pace Setter of the Year Award* by the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, 2011 *Woman of the Year & 2012 Elected Official of the Year Award* by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the 2013 *Elaine Gordon You Make a Difference Award* by Miami-Dade Days, and in 2014 *Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine* named her a "*Latina of Influence*".

Luz lives in Aventura with her three children, ages 22, 20 and 14.

LUZ WEINBERG

CommissionerLuz@Gmail.com • 305-772-7100

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- *Director of Communications*, Bouygues Construction
- *VP Operations and Healthcare Compliance*, CitiMed Group
- *Marketing Director*, HCA-Aventura Hospital
- *Case Manager*, Psychological Associates of Miami, Inc.
- Created/Launched Major Marketing campaigns
- Award-winning *Marketing Professional*
- Crisis and Media Management Professional
- *City Councilwoman*, City of Aventura, FL
- *Gubernatorial Appointee*, MDX
- *National Vice President*, NALEO
- Speaker / Moderator / Radio/TV Commentator
- Budget and Project Management Experience
- Strong Advocacy background/various issues
- Team Builder / Team Developer / Trainer

EDUCATION / TRAINING

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude Honors
Florida International University, Miami, FL • 2002

Associates in Arts, Psychology
Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL • 1992

Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) Advanced Certification
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and American Traffic Safety Services Association • 2014

National Economic Policy Certificate
Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL • 2011

Media Crisis Management Professional Certificate Program
Florida International University, College of Business Administration, Miami, FL • 2005

National Leadership Certificate
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA • 2005

PUBLIC SERVICE

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTEE

Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (www.MDX.org)
Appointed by Governor Rick Scott on July 3, 2013
Chair, Public Communications & Inter-Governmental Committee
Member, Budget & Finance and Policy & Planning Committees

July 2013 to Present
Board of Directors

COMMISSIONER

City of Aventura, Florida (www.CityofAventura.com)
City of Aventura Charter School (ACES)

March 2005 to November 2014
Board of Commissioners
Board of Directors

VICE PRESIDENT

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials
Board Member: June 2009 to June 2015 / Treasurer 2011-2012

June 2009 to June 2015
Board of Directors
www.NALEO.org

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Communications • www.Bouygues-Construction.com

Dec. 2010 to Present

Bouygues is one of the world's leading construction companies with 52,000 employees and projects in 80 different countries. As Director of Communications for Bouygues' inaugural USA projects, I have been responsible for developing this global conglomerate's corporate communications plan for our workforce and the American market, and for managing communications and outreach for both of these mega transportation / infrastructure building projects, as follows:

Bouygues Civil Works Florida's (BCWF) PortMiami Tunnel Project

Dec. 2010 – Dec. 2014

- *BCWF is a subsidiary of Bouygues Travaux Publics, Bouygues Construction's civil works division in Florida.*
- *Led and managed efforts of the \$1M-USD PR/marketing budget for the five-year design-build phase of the project.*
- *Prepared Weekly Construction Report on key activities' progress for our Paris/home office executives.*
- *Prepared Monthly Design and Construction Report for our clients, MAT and FDOT.*
- *Tracked the project's recruitment and procurement impact on the community, and prepared quarterly report.*
- *Creator and Editor-in-Chief for *Bouygues Buzz* (newsletter) targeted to employees, community and industry.*
- *Created and managed all internal messages and messaging, including intranet for BCWF employees.*
- *Created content for marketing material/media pitches for trade publications and filing of industry awards.*
- *Presented construction activity updates to stakeholders, industry organization, clients and community groups.*
- *Led Bouygues' informational group/individual project presentations and site visits/tunnel tours.*
- *Managed community outreach for both recruitment and procurement events' development and execution.*
- *Served as the Project's *PIO Team* Representative for Bouygues (MAT, FDOT, BCWF).*
- *Founded and led Bouygues Annual Golf Tournament, a successful fundraising event benefitting local charities.*
- *Founded and led monthly "*Team Bee*" Luncheons with team building exercises and project update presentations.*
- *Visual and written chronicling of the Project both for Paris office, dissemination to MAT, FDOT and *Project Book*.*

Americaribe/Moriarty Joint Venture's Brickell City Centre Project

July 2013 – Present

- *Americaribe is a subsidiary of Bouygues Batiment International, Bouygues Construction's building division.*
- *Manage client relations and address all our Client communications requests on construction updates as needed.*
- *Lead community outreach efforts, including complaints, claims and reporting needs and events.*
- *Track the project's recruitment and procurement impact on the community, and prepare quarterly report.*
- *Serve as MOT (Maintenance of Traffic) representative for the project with City of Miami coordination meetings.*
- *Create PowerPoint Presentations on construction activities for all departments as requested.*
- *Present construction activities and project updates to stakeholders and community groups as requested.*
- *Lead AMJV's informational group/individual project site visits and tours.*
- *Prepare Monthly Construction Report to client.*
- *Creator/Editor-in-Chief, *BCC Buzz* Newsletter targeted to employees, community and industry.*
- *Founded and host monthly "*Team BCC*" Luncheons with team building exercises and project updates/presentations.*
- *Visual and written chronicling of the Project for our client and for the *Project Book*.*
- *Any other duties as deemed necessary by the Project Executive, including Business Development.*

Vice President of Operations and Healthcare Compliance

Jan 2008 to Dec. 2010

CitiMed Group (f.k.a. Neurology Associates Group) • www.CitiMedLegal.com

Responsible for daily operations of a 5-office rehab/physical therapy group, having achieved the following:

- *Increased business development, patient visits, billing and collections efforts.*
- *Developed annual Strategic Planning, Budgetary and Marketing Plan (2008, 2009 and 2010).*
- *Created Corporate Training Program, Procedures Manual and Healthcare Compliance Program.*
- *Created New Patient Welcome Package and Patient Satisfaction Questionnaire to aid retention efforts.*
- *Created content and assisted with design of our new website launched in 2009 and again in 2014 as consultant.*
- *Created and managed Corporate Compliance Program, identifying, preventing and addressing compliance issues.*
- *Supervised the construction, AHCA inspection/approval and staffing of the new Miami and Plantation offices.*
- *Launched and supervised major Hispanic-market advertising campaign (radio and TV).*
- *Created and managed Internal Messaging Plan to foster team development/building.*
- *Hired, trained, placed, discharged and supervised medical and management level employees.*
- *Led Business Development Team and followed ROI on marketing/BD events and projects.*
- *Generated/maintained content for website and other marketing materials.*
- *Served as Corporate Representative for litigation of cases at numerous depositions and trials.*
- *Created content for message-on-hold and new website of www.TheAelionFirm.com, a CitiMed partner.*

Director of Marketing & Public Relations

Sept. 2006 to Dec. 2007

Gerson Preston Robinson & Company, P.A., Miami Beach, Florida • www.gprco-cpa.com

- Created and managed the firm's \$100K marketing plan and budget, including public relations functions, advertising, events and donations by the firm, content for marketing material/media pitches and firm partners' articles for trade publications, firm's new website, message-on-hold system, and new client proposals for prospective clients.

Director of Marketing, Public, Community & Government Relations

June 2005 to Sept. 2006

HCA-Aventura Hospital & Medical Center, Aventura, Florida • www.AventuraHospital.com

- Managed \$100K marketing budget and monitored effectiveness and ROI of new and existing marketing campaigns.
- Developed and implemented annual marketing plan and budget, and the facility's communications plan.
- Served as spokesperson/PIO, representing the hospital for various media matters and community events.
- Managed media crises via press announcements and interviews, leading facility through three major media events and two hurricanes, both externally (community/media) and internally (messaging to employees).
- Organized in-house employee events to aid staff retention and inform/promote Government issues.
- Coordinated press conferences, grand-openings, groundbreakings and other hospital events.
- Coordinated logistics for various community health screenings and health fairs.
- Created and launched a successful physician lecture series titled "Health Matters", and a free community CPR training program titled: *Life Link*, whose kick-off event attracted hundreds of community and media guests.
- Chaired the hospital's *Good Government Group* (GGG), and represented HCA interests in the Florida legislature.

P.R. Freelance Writer

Jan. 2004 to July 2006

Community Newspapers, Inc., Miami, Florida

- Provided print-ready public relations, marketing and event promotion articles for Community Newspapers, Inc.

Case Manager

Oct. 1993 to Dec. 2004

Psychological Associates of Miami, Inc., Dr. Leonard Haber, P.A., Miami, Florida

Private, high-profile, Forensic Psychology practice serving Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe county courts.

- Conducted psychological interviews of case subjects (criminal defendants and probate clients).
- Administered and interpreted psychological tests of case subjects (personality, IQ, etc.).
- Reviewed/analyzed medical, prison, school, criminal and other relevant case records for report generation.
- Gathered case data and generated psychological evaluation report to referring party for Dr. Haber's review.
- Prepared and managed annual operating budget and business plan with Dr. Haber.
- Served as media contact, coordinating Dr. Haber's on-air and on-screen commentaries.
- Served as government affairs liaison, tracking criminal justice legislation of interest to the firm.
- Coordinated psychological evaluations at various county jails, hospitals and nursing homes.
- Coordinated full mock trials and/or focus groups presentations on civil trial consultation cases.
- Supervised clerical staff and psychological interns and residents.
- Served as Spanish translator for Spanish interviews/evaluations and case records' review.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Sept. 20, 2015 **Keynote Speaker** – Florida National University 2015 Fall Commencement Ceremony – James L. Knight Center, Miami, FL
- Sept. 1, 2015 **Moderator** – “Procurement, Contracting and Creative Competition” – International Bridge Tunnel and Turnpike (IBTTA.org) 83rd Annual Congress and Meeting breakout session, featuring executives from SEOPAN, Accenture LLP, Faneuil and Innovative Road Solutions, LTD – Doubletree Hilton, Dublin, Ireland.
- June 17, 2015 **Master of Ceremony** – NALEO’s 32nd Annual Convention Opening Leadership Luncheon, featuring Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro and Republican Presidential Candidate Dr. Ben Carson – Aria Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, NV
- May 29, 2015 **Master of Ceremony/Moderator** – AMERICARIBE’s (Bouygues Construction) First Annual Team Development Convention / full morning program for all employees – JW Marriott Marquis, Miami, FL.
- May 15, 2015 **Moderator** – “*Successful Women Entrepreneurs as Powerful Leaders in Government and Corporate America: Balancing Life and Leadership*” – 6th Annual State of Puerto Affairs Summit presented by the Puerto Rican Chambers of Commerce of Florida and the National Puerto Rican Council – Orlando, FL
- May 12, 2015 **Speaker/Instructor** – “*Advocacy Communications*” – Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NAYGN) 62nd Annual Nuclear Energy Assembly – 90-minute Coaching Session on effective communications techniques to address government officials and the general public; Marriott Marquis, Washington, D.C.
- April 24, 2015 **Moderator** – “*Working Together Towards Better Health*” – South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 9th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session – Miami Convention Center, Miami, Florida.
- Mar. 13, 2015 **Speaker** – “*Closing Public Policy Roundtable – Consensus Points for Reform*” – New York Law School’s Advanced Communications Law & Policy Institute 10th Annual Summit – New York Law School, New York.
- Mar. 12, 2015 **Discussant** – “*Policy Makers’ Broadband Planning Workshop Module 2: The Role of Policy*” – New York Law School’s Advanced Communications Law & Policy Institute 10th Annual Summit – New York Law School, New York.
- Feb. 23, 2015 **Panelist** – Florida International University’s 9th Annual *Women Who Lead* Pre-Conference Breakfast Panel, featuring Florida House of Representatives Jeannette Nuñez and Cynthia Stafford, presented by The Student Government Association and The Women’s Center – FIU’s Graham Center, Miami, FL
- Nov. 17, 2014 **Presenter / Tour Host** – “*Challenges in Building the Port Miami Tunnel*” • PMO Symposium presented by the Project Management Institute: The PortMiami Tunnel Project Presentation and Learning Excursion 120-minute session – Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
- Sept. 12, 2014 **Session Chair / Moderator** – “*Infrastructure Financing of the Future: Public Private Partnerships*” – NALEO 2nd Annual National Policy Institute on Infrastructure, Sheraton Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX
- June 2014 **Chapter Section Author** – “*Putting Government-Owned Broadband Networks in Proper Context*” with Commissioner Ryan Palmer, West Virginia Public Service Commission – contribution for New York Law School’s Advanced Communication Law & Policy Institute’s white paper, “*Understanding the Debate Over Government-Owned Broadband Networks: Context, Lessons Learned, and a Way Forward for Policy Makers*” – published by New York Law School, New York, NY
- June 27, 2014 **Session Chair** – “*Latinas in Action: The Emerging Face of Power and Leadership*” – NALEO’s 31st Annual Convention Plenary Session- 90-minute living-room style session with three prominent Latina Leaders; Loews Hotel, San Diego, CA
- June 12, 2014 **Advocate/Speaker** – *Voting Rights Act Advocacy Day* – National press conference outside the United States Supreme Court, followed by meetings with congressional leadership on the VRA Amendment of 2014, Washington, D.C.

- 2010 – 2014 **M.C./Presenter/Motivator** – Bouygues Civil Works Florida's Port of Miami Project Tunnel Project office and field staff's 120-minute monthly project update and team building luncheons; Jungle Island, Miami.
- April 11, 2014 **Moderator – Healthcare Exposition Expert Panel** – South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 8th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session – Miami Convention Center, Miami, FL
- April 3, 2014 **Witness: Florida Senate** – SB772 Florida Senate Transportation Committee Hearing, Tallahassee, FL
- Feb. 12, 2014 **Master of Ceremony** – NALEO's Hon. Edward Roybal Gala – The Ritz Carlton, Washington, D.C.
- Jan. 25, 2014 **Panelist** – “*Framing the Alignment of Stakeholders with the Interest of Women*” – Emerging Issues Policy Forum 2014 Digital Pathway Summit – The Ritz Carlton Hotel, Amelia Island, FL
- Jan. 23, 2014 **Presenter** – “*One Community: The Public and Private Side of a Partnership*” – Team Florida and Florida Transportation Commission Joint Meeting/Conference – 90minute presentation on the challenges and success of managing public information and community outreach at the Port Miami Tunnel Project – Grand Hyatt, Orlando Airport, Orlando, FL
- Jan. 15, 2014 **Panelist** – “*Broadband Policy Successes and Challenges in the National Context*” – New York Law School's Advanced Communications Law & Policy Institute 9th Annual Summit – New York Law School, New York, NY
- Dec. 10, 2013 **Op-Ed Writer** – “*Broadband Can Help Communities Far and Wide through Education*” – published by www.TheHill.com.
- Dec. 6, 2013 **Panelist** – “*Latinos in Broadband*” – American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) Communications Technology Task Force Annual Conference, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C.
- Nov. 15, 2013 **Panelist** – “*Common Core Standards: Truths and Myths*” – Hispanic CREO 2013 Education Summit – Intercontinental Hotel, Doral, FL
- Oct. 12, 2013 **Panelist** – “*Smart Grid 2.0 – The Regulatory and Legislative Perspective*” – Emerging Issues Policy Forum 13th Annual Energy Summit, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Sarasota, FL
- Sept. 7, 2013 **Keynote Speaker** – “*Empowerment and Community Service: Commitment to Action, From Local to Global*” – Orlando's First Annual Expo *Mujer*, The Wyndahm Resort, Orlando, FL
- Aug. 21, 2013 **Panelist** – “*Taking Charge of Your Career*” – Hispanic Women Society's First Annual Little White Dress Women's Mentoring Luncheon, Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL
- July 17, 2013 **Witness: The United States Senate** – “*From Selma to Shelby County: Working Together to Restore the Protections of the Voting Rights Act*” – one of only five witnesses invited to testify on behalf of this national issue; U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing, Washington, D.C.
- June, 27, 2013 **CNN Guest Commentator** – CNN Español's *Directo USA* and *Actualidad* TV shows – live segments on the *Voting Rights Act* decision by the United States Supreme Court, and the passing of Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill by U.S. Senate, Swissotel, Chicago, IL
- June 27, 2013 **Master of Ceremony** – NALEO's 30th Annual Convention's Leadership Luncheon, Swissotel, Chicago, IL
- May 17, 2013 **Panelist** – “*The Political Process*” 4th Annual Summit on Puerto Rican Affairs: A Vision for the Future. Kissimmee, FL
- April 26, 2013 **Moderator – Healthcare Exposition Expert Panel** – South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 7th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session – Miami Convention Center, , FL
- April 16, 2013 **Master of Ceremony** – Israel's 65th Independence Anniversary Ceremony, presented by The Office of the Consul General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico, featuring Florida Governor Rick Scott at the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center, Aventura, FL
- April 8, 2013 **Op-Ed Writer** – “*Don't Be in a Hurry to Replace State's Nuclear Plants*” – published by The Sun Sentinel, FL

- March 4, 2013 **Panelist** – “*Are we up to speed? – Broadband and Wireless*” – LISTA’s South Florida Emerging Technologies “*A Call to Action*” Summit, Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL
- Jan. 24, 2013 **Presenter / Tour Host** – Young Presidents Organization (YPO) Conference: PortMiami Tunnel Project – Presentation at The Viceroy Hotel followed by a project site tour – Miami, FL
- Dec. 11, 2012 **Panelist** – “*Evaluating Progress Toward and Barriers to More Robust Adoption & Utilization of Broadband in the United States*” • New York Law School’s Advanced Communications Law & Policy Institute 8th Annual Summit – Hotel Sofitel, Philadelphia, PA
- Oct. 12, 2012 **Panelist** – “*The Purchasing Power of Latinos*” • Summit by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s Hispanic Heritage Month Expo Luncheon – Miami Convention Center, Miami, FL
- Sept. 21, 2012 **Panelist** – “*Hispanic Power and What It Means*” • Panel discussion presented by the Miami-Dade County Office of Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board and the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on the power of the Latino vote for the 2008 and 2012 elections – Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL
- Aug. 27-30, 2012 **Print Commentary - NBC Latino and Fox Latino** – Offered requested commentary in Spanish on the Latino reaction to the Republican National Committee Convention in Tampa, FL
- Aug. 28, 2012 **Radio Show Guest** – Minnesota Public Radio’s “Daily Circuit” – Half hour show with national feed: Live from the Republican National Committee Convention with guest Susan MacManus, Political Scientist at University of South Florida, discussing *The Latino Vote!* – Tampa, FL
- Aug. 28, 2012 **TV Show Guest** – Orlando/Tampa’s Bay 9 News show “Infomás” – Spanish magazine news show discussing the Latino voters’ reaction to the Republican National Committee Convention; Tampa, FL
- June 27, 2012 **Guest Speaker** – “*Latinas in Politics*” – Miami-Dade County Commission for Women – Aventura, FL
- June 23, 2012 **Panelist** – “*Winning Strategies for Latina Leaders*” Panel with NALEO President Hon. Sylvia Garcia and Stephanie Schriock of Emily’s List, moderated by Journalist Lynda Lopez • National Association of Latino Elected Officials 29th Annual Conference – Disney’s Contemporary Resort, Orlando, FL
- June 23, 2012 **Radio Show Commentator** – WAEC Atlanta’s Love860, “The Crossover” discussing Governor Romney and President Obama’s addresses to the NALEO conference – Disney’s Contemporary Resort, Orlando, FL
- June 21, 2012 **TV Guest Commentator** – Fox’s “Good Day Orlando” – Live segment on the expectation of Latinos from the presidential candidates, Governor Romney and President Obama, expected addresses to the National Association of Latino Elected Officials – Fox Studios, Orlando, FL
- Jun. 20-23, 2012 **TV Guest Commentator** – CNN – Taped segments, later aired, on the expectation and reaction of Latinos from the presidential candidates, Governor Romney and President Obama, expected addresses to the National Association of Latino Elected Officials – Disney’s Contemporary Resort, Orlando, Florida.
- June 11, 2012 **Presenter** – “*The Power of Latinos in 2012*” • *The Florida Jewish Symposium*, presented by the Office of Consul General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico – one hour presentation on the political power of Latinos – Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach offices, Boca Raton, FL
- May 2, 2012 **Radio Show Guest** – “*The Port of Miami Tunnel*” • Hot 105 FM’s “Reggae Runnings” – Hollywood, FL
- April 27, 2012 **Moderator – Healthcare Exposition Expert Panel** – *South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 6th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon* Panel Session with featured panelist experts in the areas of Neurology, Genomes, Family Medicine and Nutrition – Miami Convention Center, Miami, FL
- April 25, 2012 **Spanish TV Guest Speaker** – *The Port of Miami Tunnel Update: The Tunnel Boring Machine* – TeleMiami’s “Esta Semana Con Raquel” news show – Miami, FL
- Mar. 22, 2012 **Presenter** – The Florida Society of Engineers Luncheon, featuring: The Port of Miami Tunnel Project – Coral Gables, FL
- Mar. 15, 2012 **Presenter** – The American Society of Civil Engineers’ Geotechnical Committee Luncheon – The Port of Miami Tunnel Project – Tampa Bay, FL

- Nov. 1, 2011 **Spanish TV Guest Speaker** - *The Port of Miami Tunnel* - TeleMiami's "Esta Semana Con Raquel" news show - Miami, FL
- June 24, 2011 **Spanish TV Guest Speaker: "Café CNN"** TV Morning News Show • CNN-Español; Live interview discussing role of Latinos in politics today; from the National Association of Latino Elected Officials 28th Annual Conference; San Antonio, TX
- June 24, 2011 **Panelist: "Winning Women"** Conference Session • National Association of Latino Elected Officials 28th Annual Conference; San Antonio, TX
- May 6, 2011 **Keynote Speaker** - Aspira of Florida's 21st Annual Muchachas Conference Morning Session at Miami-Dade College North Campus - Miami, FL
- April 29, 2011 **Moderator - Latino Health Panel Discussion** • South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session with featured panelist experts in the areas of Primary Medicine, Cancer and Nutrition - The Sheraton Mart Hotel, Miami, FL
- Oct. 14, 2010 **Featured Speaker** - Latina Style Magazine's 12th Annual Business Series • Day-long national business series fair and exposition; Hilton Downtown Miami, Miami, FL
- Sept. 15, 2010 **Spanish Political Analyst** • Miami's 1020AM Radio show "La Actualidad" - Miami, FL
- July 28, 2010 **Summit Facilitator, Panelist and Sessions Moderator** - L.I.N.I. National Campaign Launch - Latino Infant Nutrition Initiative Campaign • Day-long launch featuring panelists and participant leaders in the fields of healthcare and infant nutrition aimed at improving nutrition amongst Latino infants and report to White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity - The Grand Hyatt, Detroit, MI
- July 13, 2010 **Lecturer: Healthcare Compliance Training** and team-building exercises that I created for my medical and administrative staff of CitiMed Group (f.k.a. Neurology Associates Group), North Miami Beach, FL
- June 26, 2010 **Session Chair / Moderator - Healthy Communities Discussion Roundtable: Establishing and Maintaining a Successful Health and Environment Coalition** • National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) 27th Annual Conference Healthy Communities afternoon session with featured panelist experts in *Green Building* - Denver, CO
- May 21, 2010 **Panelist** - "The Power of The Vote" • South Florida Puerto Rican Chambers of Commerce's Summit on Puerto Rican Affairs: A Vision for the Future - Kissimmee, FL
- April 23, 2010 **Moderator - Healthcare Exposition Panel** • South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 4th Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session with featured panelist experts in the areas of Heart, Cancer, Brain and Nutrition - Doubletree Hotel, Miami, FL
- Feb. 5, 2010 **Spanish Radio Guest Speaker** - "2010: El Censo Es Sexy" - WWFE 670AM La Poderosa Radio Station Talk Show "La Hora De La Alianza" ("The Alliance for Aging Hour") - Miami, FL
- Feb. 4, 2010 **Spanish Guest Speaker** - "2010: El Censo Es Sexy" Ana G. Mendez University ESOL Students Presentation on my community outreach campaign to promote *Full Latino Participation* in the 2010 census.; Miramar, FL
- Feb. 2, 2010 **Lecturer: "Stress and Crisis Management"** - Self-developed training and team-building exercises for my entire medical and administrative staff at Neurology Associates Group, North Miami Beach, FL
- Jan. 26, 2010 **Spanish Radio Guest Speaker** - "2010: El Censo Es Sexy" - WRHC 1550AM Cadena Azul Radio Station Talk Show "Sin Fronteras" ("Without Borders"). Miami, FL
- Jan. 22, 2010 **English & Spanish Moderator** - Census 2010 Expert Panel Luncheon • Presented by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for its members - Miami, FL
- Jan. 22, 2010 **Guest Speaker** - United States Census Bureau, Census 2010 Regional East-Miami Office Grand Opening Reception - Miami Gardens, FL
- Jan. 14, 2010 **Spanish TV Guest Speaker** - "2010: El Censo Es Sexy" - Initial launch of my EL CENSO ES SEXY Campaign aimed at increasing Latino Participation in the 2010 Census; Caribe Vision Cable Channel's "Consultas y Consejos" TV Talk Show ("Consult & Advice"); Miami, FL

- 2009-2010 **Lecturer** – “*Effective Communication and Strategic Planning*” – Quarterly training and team building exercises I devised for my entire medical and administrative staff of Neurology Associates Group, North Miami Beach, FL
- Nov. 18, 2009 **Panelist** – “*Workplace Success*” • Ana G. Mendez University Masters Degree Level Career Day Expert Panel, AGM Florida Campus, Miramar, FL
- May 22, 2009 **Keynote Speaker** – Ana G. Mendez University Second Annual Achievement Awards Dinner for Masters Degree Graduates – Hilton Garden Inn, Miramar, FL
- April 24, 2009 **Moderator** – **Healthcare Exposition Panel** • *South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 3rd Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon* Panel Session with featured panelists, leaders of the medical community in the areas of Sleep Disorders, Pulmonary and Heart Disease, Behavioral Health and Nutrition – Doubletree Hotel, Miami, FL
- Nov. 20, 2008 **Keynote Speaker** – *Latina Style Magazine’s 10th Annual Business Series*, daylong national business series fair and exposition – Hyatt Regency, Miami, FL
- Oct. 28, 2008 **National Panelist**: “*Latinas in the U.S.: The Story Behind The Numbers*” – **Presented by the Center for American Progress – CAP (www.americanprogress.org)** • CSPAN-televised live panel discussion held at the CAP Offices, Washington, D.C.
- Sept. 2, 2008 **Guest Speaker** – Republican Youth of South Florida Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL
- June 28, 2008 **Presidential Forum Question Presenter for Senator Obama • Question #6 re: Foreign Trade**
National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) 25th Annual Conference’s Presidential Forum with Presidential Candidates Senators Barrack Obama and John McCain; (YouTube: NALEO08 Obama Question6); followed by numerous live/recorded, on-air media commentaries – Washington, D.C.
- June 28, 2008 **Session Chair / Moderator** – **National Healthcare Reform: The Obama & McCain Election Year**
National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) 25th Annual Conference Closing / Healthcare Session Panelists: Dr. Robert Valdez, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Dr. Dora Hughes, Policy Advisor to Senator Barrack Obama; and Dr. Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Senior Policy Advisor to Senator John McCain – Washington, D.C.
- May 9, 2008 **Moderator** – **Healthcare Exposition Panel “The State of Hispanic Health”** • South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 2nd Annual Health & Wellness Exposition and Fair Luncheon Panel Session with featured panelists, leaders of the medical community in the areas of Cancer, Heart Disease, Alzheimer’s, Diabetes and Nutrition – Miami, FL
- April 25, 2008 **Session Chair** – **Opening Ceremony Networking Activity (NALEO)** – National Association of Latino Elected Officials Policy Institute “Building Better Communities”; Lowes Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
- April 24, 2008 **English & Spanish Panelist** – “*Puerto Rican Community Empowerment*” – Presented by the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce Joint Chambers of Florida; 3-member panel discussion with City of North Miami Beach Mayor Ray Marin and Former City of Miami Mayor Maurice Ferré – The Grand Hotel, Miami, FL
- March 21, 2008 **Keynote Speaker** – Aspira of Florida’s 6th Annual “Latinas & Muchachos” Conference – Miami, FL
- Nov. 9, 2007 **Keynote Speaker** – South Florida Realtors Association Annual Board of Directors Induction Ceremony, Miramar, FL
- Feb. 21, 2007 **Keynote Speaker** – National Conference of Puerto Rican Women’s (NACOPRW) Annual Scholarship Luncheon – The Grand Hotel, Miami, FL
- May 17, 2006 **Keynote Speaker** – Aspira of Florida Broward Charter School’s Student Awards Ceremony, Miami, FL
- May 5, 2006 **Keynote Speaker** – Aspira of Florida Miami-Dade Charter School Teacher Appreciation Awards Luncheon, Miami, FL
- March 22, 2006 **Lecturer**: “*Detecting, Diffusing and Dealing with Anger*” • Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center Sisterhood, Aventura, FL

- March 20, 2006 **Lecturer:** "Spider Stress Solutions" • Turnberry Chapter of Hadassah, Aventura, FL
- Nov. 23, 2005 **Guest Speaker:** "Cultural Differences Are Not That Different" • Norland Senior High School Annual Hispanic Heritage Luncheon, Miami, FL
- May 26, 2005 **Guest Speaker:** • Aventura Marketing Council Board of Directors meeting, Aventura, FL
- May 9, 2005 **Guest Speaker:** "Success Starts In the Middle" • Highland Oaks Middle School National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Miami, FL
- April 28, 2005 **Guest Speaker:** "Preparing for the Middle and Beyond" • Aventura City of Excellence K-8 Charter School Career Day, Aventura, FL
- April 19, 2005 **Guest Speaker:** "The Three S's of Women in Charge" • Brandeis University National Women's Committee Hollywood/Aventura Chapter; Aventura, FL
- May 25, 2005 **Lecturer:** "Spider Solutions for Managing Stress" • Stress Management Workshop for Aventura City of Excellence Charter School parents and teachers; Aventura, FL
- Nov. 10, 2004 **Guest Speaker:** "The Five P's of Success" • Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School Career Day for English Honors Program Students, Miami, FL
- Aug. 11, 2004 **Lecturer:** "Detecting Diffusing and Dealing with Anger" • 90-Minute Presentation on Anger Management for the Miami-Dade County Community Action Agency's 8th Annual Staff Conference, Hyatt Regency Miami, FL.
- March 9, 2004 **Spanish Lecturer:** "Stress Management Training" • 60-minute presentation on managing stress presented to and at the request of Miami-Dade County Community Action Agency for their 2nd Annual International Women's Conference; Miami, FL

AWARDS

- 2014 "*Latina of Influence*" Recognition by Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine
- 2013 "*Hispanic Achiever Award*" by Dynamic Community Development's 4th Annual Summit on Puerto Rico Affairs
- 2013 "*The Elaine Gordon You Make a Difference Award*" by Miami-Dade County Days in Tallahassee, FL
- 2012 "*Elected Official of the Year*" by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- 2011 "*Woman of the Year*" by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- 2010 "*Pace Setter of the Year*" by the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women
- 2009 "*Outstanding Coach of the Year*" by employer CitiMed Group
- 2009 "*Woman of Leadership*" by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- 2009 "*Hispanic Achievers*" by the Puerto Rican Chamber of South Florida
- 2007 "*Outstanding Community Service*" Chair, Relay for Life Aventura by the American Cancer Society
- 2006 "*Miami's Savviest 50*" Benefiting Hope Center by the Miami New Times
- 2006 "*Up & Comer*" Marketing Category by the South Florida Business Journal
- 2006 "*Outstanding Community Service*" as Chair of Relay for Life Aventura by the American Cancer Society
- 2005 "*Hurricane Hero*" by employer Aventura Hospital and Medical Center
- 2005 "*Outstanding Community Service*" as *Founding Chair* of Relay for Life Aventura by the American Cancer Society
- 2004 "*Miami's Outstanding Professional*" by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Aventura Magazine
- 2003 "*Outstanding Volunteer Service Award*" by Miami Dade County Community Action Agency

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Guest Speaker* · Various local/national events, organizations, media (TV/radio), etc. – 2004 to Present
- Vice Provost Executive Council* · Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus – 2013 to 2014
- Lifetime Member* · Florida International University Alumni Association, 2002 to Present
- Lifetime Member* · National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, 2006 to Present
- Board Member*, National League of Cities Hispanics Elected to Local Office (NLC-HELO), 2008 to 2009
- Executive Board Member/Social Chair* · ORT America, Greater Miami Chapter Board of Directors, 2006 to 2008
- Founding Chair* · American Cancer Society Aventura "Relay for Life" 2005, 2006 and 2007
- Member*, Florida International University, Biscayne Bay Vice-Provost Screen & Search Committee, 2008
- Chairperson*, Aventura City of Excellence Charter School Fundraising Committee, 2004 to 2005
- Recording Secretary*, Aventura City of Excellence Charter School Advisory Board, 2003 to 2005
- Member / Student Representative*, Aspira of Florida Board of Directors, 1989 to 1993
- Recording Secretary*, Board of Directors, The Aspira National Association, Washington, D.C. 1989 to 1991



COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

January Commission Meeting	January 5, 2016	6:00 P.M.
January Workshop Meeting	January 21, 2016	9:00 A.M.
February Commission Meeting	February 2, 2016	6:00 P.M.
February Workshop Meeting	February 18, 2016	9:00 A.M.
March Commission Meeting	March 1, 2016	6:00 P.M.
March Workshop Meeting	March 17, 2016	9:00 A.M.
April Commission Meeting	April 5, 2016	6:00 P.M.
April Workshop Meeting	April 21, 2016	9:00 A.M.
May Commission Meeting	May 3, 2016	6:00 P.M.
May Workshop Meeting	May 19, 2016	9:00 A.M.
June Commission Meeting	June 7, 2016	6:00 P.M.
June Workshop Meeting	June 23, 2016	9:00 A.M.
July Commission Meeting	July 12, 2016	6:00 P.M.
July Workshop Meeting	July 21, 2016	9:00 A.M.
August	NO MEETINGS	
September Commission Meeting	September 6, 2016	6:00 P.M. **
September Workshop Meeting	September 15, 2016	9:00 A.M. **
October Commission Meeting	October 5, 2016	6:00 P.M.
October Workshop Meeting	October 20, 2016	9:00 A.M.
November Commission Meeting	November 8, 2016	6:00 P.M.
November Workshop Meeting	November 17, 2016	10:00 A.M.
December	NO MEETINGS	

** Two Budget Public Hearings to be held in September will be scheduled in July.

Workshop Meetings are held in the 5th floor Executive Conference Room
Commission Meetings are held in the Commission Chamber on the 2nd Floor.

Aventura Government Center, 19200 W. Country Club Drive, Aventura, FL 33180

CITY OF AVENTURA

OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Mayor Enid Weisman 

DATE: October 6, 2015

SUBJECT: **City Clerk Evaluation**

On October 20, 2015, Ellisa Horvath will celebrate her first year anniversary as our City Clerk. I have been very pleased with her performance, since my election to office. I utilized the same formal evaluation process that has been used for this position in prior years.

Each criterion was rated based on the following rating system:

- 1=Needs Strengthen/Improvements
- 2=Meets Expectations
- 3=Excellent

The following represents the Performance Categories and my ratings for this past year:

1. **Corporate Secretary:** Records and maintains the official actions of the City Commission and its Advisory Boards. Custodian of the City seal. Administers the publication of the Code Book and supplements thereto. Provides for publication and distribution of public notices and legal advertisements, as required by state law. Prepares and distributes agenda packages and recaps of Commission meetings. Assists City Manager's office with special projects. Provides clerical support to City Commission as needed, including mail, correspondence, travel and conference registration, as well as preparation of proclamations and certificates. In 2015, she implemented the use of an electronic City seal for enhanced documentation use and storage. **Score 3**
2. **Elections Supervisor:** Coordinates municipal elections. Serves as the Elections Supervisor, in conjunction with the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. Maintains candidate campaign account reports. Advises candidates on local, county and state election laws. Coordinates early voting and regular voting with Miami-Dade County. Monitors the Canvassing Board actions. The last municipal election was held in November 2014, with the additional processing of candidate items through January 2015. **Score 3**

3. **Official Records Custodian:** Maintains custody of City records, including Ordinances, Resolutions, Minutes, Agendas, Contracts, Agreements, and other documents. Establishes and coordinates the City's records management program, in compliance with state law. Coordinates the destruction of City records, in accordance with state statutes. Responds to information requests from City Commissioners and Administration, as well as public records requests from the public, in a timely and effective manner. In 2015, she coordinated the response with other City Departments and the City Attorney, in response to an extensive public records request. **Score 3**
4. **Professional Skills and Status:** Knowledgeable of current developments affecting the City Clerk's office. Respected by local and state elected and appointed officials and colleagues. Demonstrates a capacity for innovation and creativity. Carries out the directives of the City Commission. Informs the Commission as needed, of current issues and administrative developments in a timely manner. Receptive to constructive criticism and advice. Enforces the City's policies and ordinances. Offers workable alternatives, such as Ordinances, to the governing body for changes when necessary. In October 2015, she suggested an Ordinance proposing an amendment to the lobbying ordinance, to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements, thereby removing burden on City staff and improving efficiency. **Score 3**
5. **Citizen and Community Relations:** Responsive to complaints and requests from citizens. Has the capacity to listen to others, recognize their interests, and work well with others. Cooperates with neighboring communities and other governmental agencies. Ellisa actively participates as a member of the Miami-Dade County Municipal Clerks Association, Florida Association of City Clerks, and International Institute of Municipal Clerks. In 2015, she was invited to serve on the City Clerk Selection Panel for another municipality. She continues to provide guidance as needed, to the municipality that she previously served as the City Clerk for. **Score 3**
6. **Personal:** Invests sufficient effort toward being diligent and thorough in the discharge of duties. Exercises excellent judgment. Is enthusiastic, cooperative and willing to adapt. She is a self-starter and possesses the necessary charisma and ethical character. Her composure, appearance and attitude are fitting for an individual in this position. **Score 3**

During the past year, Ellisa has provided a smooth transition for the City by providing the same standard of excellence in her Department, as was set by her predecessor. She has conducted herself in a highly professional manner and has continuously excelled in all official duties assigned to her. Based on the foregoing, I recommend that a 5% bonus be given to her, in addition to the COLA increase that is given to all other employees.

EW/

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Commission

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, ~~City Manager~~ 

DATE: September 22, 2015

SUBJECT: **Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Advisory Board**

The current two (2) year term of the members of the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Advisory Board expires in October 2015. The following is the list of the current members:

Amit Bloom
Gloria Muroff
Gladys Mezrahi
Dr. Jules Oaklander
Renee Rotta
Susan Gottlieb
Lenore Toby-Simmons

I have placed this matter on the Workshop Agenda for direction from the City Commission.

EMS/act

CCO1910-15

CITY OF AVENTURA
OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM, City Manager

FROM: Commissioner Howard Weinberg

DATE: October 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Discussion to Host Miami-Dade County League of Cities Meeting

Please place on the October Workshop Meeting a discussion to host a Miami-Dade County League of Cities Meeting.

Thank you.

HW/