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North Miami Public Records

2 messages

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Sat, May 23, 2020 at 10:38 PM

To: "Arrojo, Jose (COE)" <jose.arrojo@miamidade.gov>

Cc: Arthur Sorey Jr <asorey@northmiamifl.gov>, "Cazeau, Jeff P.H." <jcazeau@northmiamifl.gov>, "Bien-Aime, Philippe" <pbien-aime@northmiamifl.gov>, Alix Desulme <adesulme@desulme.com>, "Keys, Carol" <ckeys@northmiamifl.gov>, Scott Galvin <scott@scott-galvin.com>, mestime-irvin@northmiamifl.gov, vjoseph@northmiamifl.gov, Aaron Leibowitz <aleibowitz@miamiherald.com>

Good evening, Mr. Arrojo. I hope all is well with you.

As you know, requests for public records are customarily directed to the municipal clerk of cities in Miami-Dade County, as well as cities all over Florida and the entire country. In North Miami, however, former City Manager Larry Spring decided to relieve the North Miami City Clerk's Office of this responsibility and move this function to his office. Despite that unusual change in policy, public records were still obtained within a reasonable amount of time from his office.

When Arthur H. Sorey III was appointed as interim City Manager on February 1, 2020, he retained that policy; however, he has been less than cooperative in fulfilling public records requests. I still have several requests made as far back as February 28, 2020 that have still not been fulfilled.

This email, however, refers specifically to Public Records Request #4089 made on May 8, 2020 for "a copy of the correspondence from Joseph Roglieri to Richard M. Weiner, PA dated May 5, 2020 and any responses thereto." Please refer to the attached copy of same which was printed out from the North Miami public portal, northmiamifl.justfoia.com. It has now been over two weeks since I made this request and I have yet to receive a response.

To compound the problem, Miami Herald reporter Aaron Leibowitz was apparently able to receive a copy of this letter within a day or two of making his request, as evidenced by his May 20, 2020 article, a copy of which is attached hereto, in which he references said letter.

Mr. Leibowitz reported:

'In a May 5 letter to the union's lawyer, Personnel Administration Director Joseph Roglieri said that if the union rejects the plan, "layoffs will commence effective June 1."

To generate the same cost savings as the two-day-a-month furloughs, Roglieri said the city would need to lay off eight blue collar and seven white collar employees.

"This is not our preferred method," he wrote.'

Mr. Arrojo, I realize I am not a reporter for a major newspaper. However, there is still no excuse for my public records requests to be completely ignored by the public records custodian of a Miami-Dade County municipality, who in this instance happens to be the interim City Manager of North Miami, Arthur H. Sorey III.

By copy of this email, I am requesting your assistance in obtaining this particular public record, as well as any and all other outstanding public records requests that have still not been fulfilled.

Thank you in advance for your help as always.

Stephanie Kienzle