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Former Doral mayor joins county ethics board

By Joey Flechas
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Juan Carlos Bermudez

Doral's first mayor will serve on the county's ethics commission for the next four years.

J.C. Bermudez, one of the city's founders and its mayor during the first nine years of existence, was sworn in Tuesday as a commissioner on the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. He is a former president of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, the organization that appointed him to the ethics commission.

"I was honored to have the league ask me to serve on the commission," he said Wednesday.

He said his more than 25 years of experience as a land-use attorney and his years as Doral mayor will serve him well on the commission.

The commission has recently looked at a few Doral-related issues, including [Mayor Luigi Boria's relationship](#) with a real estate project led by his adult children and a [complaint](#) against Councilwoman Sandra Ruiz over an alleged abuse of power. In both cases, the commission did not find any ethics violations.

Bermudez said he would approach complaints about his city fairly.

"I would treat Doral like any other municipality, and certainly weigh the facts of whatever circumstances are presented to us," he said.

The commission also swore in Marcia Narine, an assistant professor of law at St. Thomas University. Narine, a Harvard Law graduate, teaches classes on civil procedure, social responsibility, human rights and employment law.

The law schools at St. Thomas and the University of Miami share an appointment to the commission.

Together with Judith Bernier, the academic program director for Florida International University's Center for Labor Research and Studies who joined the commission earlier in May, the appointments mark the largest change to the commission's makeup in a single month since its formation in 1996.

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