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MIAMI-DADE
COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

In re:

C 17-31

Planas v.

Eddie Lim and Frank Rollason

PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER

Complainant J.C. Planas (Planas) filed this complaint against North Bay Village Vice-Mayor Eddie Lim (Lim) and Village Manager Frank Rollason (Rollason) alleging they violated the Truth in Government provision of the Citizens' Bill of Rights.

Regarding Lim specifically, Planas alleged that at the October 10, 2017 Village Commission meeting, Lim lied when he stated that the people who filed a lawsuit against Village Commissioner Douglas Hornsby never attended commission meetings and that their lawsuit was frivolous. Additionally, Planas alleged that Lim lied when he stated that Village Mayor Connie Leon Kreps (Kreps) was under federal investigation.

Investigation showed that Lim made it clear that it was his "belief" about the meeting attendance and stated "correct me if I'm wrong." His statement that the lawsuit was frivolous is an opinion not a statement of fact.

Lim may have been mistaken about Kreps being under "federal scrutiny," but his October 10 statement about the investigation represented a reasonable belief given that the Village Attorney stated, on the record, at the May 9, 2017 commission meeting that the anonymous letters Hornsby received threatening to expose his prior drug conviction were referred to federal investigators because the Village Attorney believed they constituted a federal crime.

The allegations against Rollason that he "served as [a] conduit to a Sunshine law violation" is not legally sufficient since the Sunshine law is not within the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission and the allegations that Rollason is "attempting to bring shame on [NBV] residents" and that Rollason is defending Hornsby in order to keep his job are not legally sufficient and were dismissed. Accordingly the Ethics Commission found that there was No Probable Cause with regard to the allegations against Lim and the allegations against Rollason were not legally sufficient.

Wherefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that COMPLAINT C 17-31 is hereby concluded.

C17-31

In re: Planas v. Lim and Rollason

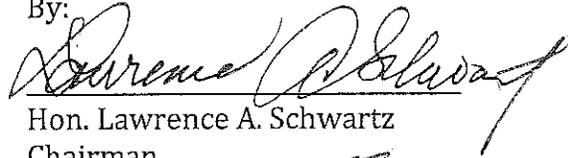
Final Order

Y 709 7017

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics &
Public Trust in public session on this 14th day of December, 2017.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON
ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:



Hon. Lawrence A. Schwartz
Chairman

Signed on : 12-17-20
20-17