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**MIAMI-DADE  
COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST**

**In re:**

**C 17-35**

**Gary Ressler**

**v.**

**Daniel Alfonso**

**PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER**

Complainant Gary Ressler (Ressler), a board member of the City of Miami's Flagler Street Development Task Force (FSDTF), filed this complaint against City of Miami City Manager, Daniel J. Alfonso (Alfonso), alleging that he made a "patently false" statement in a May 1, 2017 Memorandum. Alfonso sent the memo to Miami Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Chairman Ken Russell (Russell). The memo indicated that Ressler had called the City's staff "corrupt" [quotation marks included] and used profanity during a FSDTF meeting.

Investigation showed that, although Alfonso's memo inaccurately attributed the use of the word "corrupt" to Ressler, the evidence fell short of proving that he "knowingly" furnished false information on a public matter. The tenor of Alfonso's memo was to highlight the unprofessional decorum that Ressler displayed at the FSDTF meeting. In truth, Ressler's decorum was unprofessional. Ressler used profane language twice during this public meeting. Alfonso's misquote of Ressler's exact wording does not negate the overall message conveyed by his memo, i.e. that Ressler acted unprofessionally.

C17-35

In re: Ressler v. Alfonso

Final Order

Alfonso was relaying information that was provided to him by his staff. Mr. Alfonso, in retrospect, should have reviewed the recording of the meeting himself before attributing words to Ressler that were never spoken by Ressler, but that at worst, Alfonso's quoted language reflects Alfonso's poor judgement, not a "knowing" intention to provide false information.

On January 17, 2018 the Ethics Commission adopted the recommendation of the Advocate and found No Probable Cause to support the allegation.

Wherefore it is:

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that COMPLAINT C 17-35 against Respondent Daniel Alfonso is dismissed.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on this 17th day of January, 2018.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON  
ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:



H. Jeffrey Cutler

Chairman

Signed on :

01/23/2018