

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST



In Re: Isaac Salver

C 22-22-05

PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER

Complainant, Frances Neuhut, filed this Complaint against Isaac Salver, a Town of Bay Harbor Islands Council Member. The Complaint alleged that Council Member Salver violated Section 2 of the Miami-Dade County Citizens' Bill of Rights titled "Truth in Government," when he allegedly made "'injurious' and 'harmful' statements to ruin [Mrs. Neuhut's] reputation," at a May 11, 2022, Bay Harbor Islands Town Council meeting.

Legal sufficiency exists where the complaint adequately alleges a violation of an ordinance within the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission, committed by an individual within the authority of the Ethics Commission, based substantially on the personal knowledge of the Complainant and filed with the Ethics Commission within three years of the alleged violation.

Pursuant to the Miami-Dade County Citizens' Bill of Rights Truth in Government provision: "No County or municipal official or employee shall knowingly furnish false information on any public matter, nor knowingly omit significant facts when giving requested information to members of the public." At the May 11, 2022, Bay Harbor Islands Town Council meeting, Mrs. Neuhut spoke during the public comment portion of the meeting and Council Member Salver responded to Mrs. Neuhut's comments. Council Member Salver allegedly said, in part: "the comments that were made by Mrs. Neuhut are incredibly antisemitic, anti-religious . . . [i]t is the most insulting, disgusting rhetoric, and it is antisemitism to the core." Because Council Member Salver's alleged statements constituted an expression of opinion and did not concern a public matter, and because the Miami-Dade Citizens' Bill of Rights Truth in Government provision is limited only to public matters and does not govern the rules of cordiality, civility, and decorum, the Complaint does not sufficiently allege a violation of that provision.

On June 8, 2022, the Ethics Commission voted unanimously and dismissed the Complaint for lack of legal sufficiency.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

Wherefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that COMPLAINT C 22-22-05 against Respondent Salver is hereby dismissed.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on this 8th day of June 2022.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:

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Judith Bernier
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Dr. Judith Bernier
Chair

Signed on: 6/14/2022

CC: Respondent
Complainant