



Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust

Investigative Report

Investigator: Nilda Olmo

Case: K16-30B	Case Name: Olmedillo-CBR	<u>Date Opened:</u> August 23, 2016	CASE CLOSED
Complainant(s): Victoria Saife	Subject(s): Guillermo Olmedillo		

Date: 12/27/2016

Allegation(s):

COE received a complaint from Victoria M. Saife (Saife), against Town Manager of Surfside, Guillermo Olmedillo (Olmedillo). In the complaint she calls for the removal of Olmedillo as Town Manager. She alleges that Olmedillo was negligent and did not perform his duties in a timely and diligent manner. Saife added that Olmedillo did not respond to e-mails or make an attempt to fix or expedite the permit process, even after she met with him. As per Saife, both she and her husband, Oscar Adrian Chavez Batta (Batta), have received terrible customer service by the Town of Surfside.

Relevant Law:

Section (A) (1) of the Citizen's Bill of Rights, Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. *Convenient Access.* Every person has the right to transact business with the County and the municipalities with a minimum of personal inconvenience. It shall be the duty of the County Manager and the Commission to provide, within the County's budget limitations, reasonably convenient times and places for registration and voting, for required inspections, and for transacting business with the County.

Investigation:

Interviews:

Guillermo Olmedillo (Olmedillo), Town Manager, Surfside

This investigator met with Olmedillo and he provided the following information regarding the allegations raised by Saife. He stated that he met with Saife to discuss her concerns about her dissatisfaction with the permit process. According to Olmedillo, there is no set timeline stipulated with regards to permits, since the permit process requires steps that must be taken in order to assure that all the work is done in accordance with building and zoning laws. She was requesting for the process to be expedited.

He explained the process to her and assured that not only himself but his staff followed procedures and was in communication with Saife throughout this process. Olmedillo added that he is very familiar with the process and has over 45 years of experience as a government planner and administrator. For approximately 10 years he worked for Miami-Dade County as a Director for the Department of Planning and Zoning.

Olmedillo advised that his main concern is not to expedite the process but to assure that all life safety issues are reviewed and followed and all work is up to zoning code.

Rosendo Prieto (Prieto), Building Official, Town of Surfside

Prieto was interviewed regarding the allegations made by Saife and provided the following information. He mentioned that there were three different permits for the property owned by Saife:

1. Pool
2. Electrical
3. Fence

Prieto stated that all procedures were followed as with any other request. In this case, there was a change in contractor, therefore, that might have played a factor in the process moving forward in a less timely manner. Prieto added that his first priority is to lawfully enforce the Code.

Prieto assures there was always communication between the Town of Surfside and the Applicant by way of e-mails, phone calls or meetings. He stated that he has no control of the information the contractor passes on to the applicant (resident) regarding the permit process.

Prieto provided the chronology and tracking of the plan review, issuance and inspection records for Saife's project.

An email dated October 27, 2016, from Prieto to Olmedillo, states that "all permits that have been applied for have been issued."

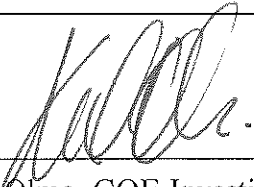
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Records Review:

- E-mails between Town of Surfside and Applicant reviewed.
- Application Inquiry reviewed.
- Chronology and tracking of the plan review, permit issuance and inspection records for the project in question reviewed by this Investigator and Investigator Breno Penichet.¹

Conclusion:

After review by Advocate Murawski it was determined that there was insufficient evidence to charge Olmedilo with a Citizens' Bill of Rights violation and that this matter should be closed with no further action.

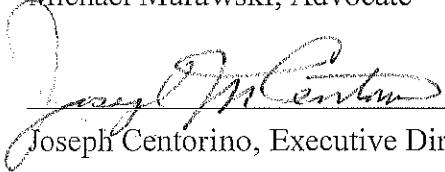


Nilda Olmo, COE Investigator

Approved by:



Michael Murawski, Advocate



Joseph Centorino, Executive Director

Date: 1/27/16

¹ Investigator Penichet worked previously as an Inspector and also Director of Code Compliance for the City of Hialeah, Florida, and has vast knowledge of the permit process.