



**CASE  
CLOSED**

Date: 5/9/19

**Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust**  
**Investigative Report**

Investigator: Nilda Olmo  
Complainant: Stephanie Kienzle  
Date Opened: 04/11/19

Case No.: PI 19-19  
Subject/Case Name: Paule Villard  
Date Submitted: 05/06/19

**Allegation(s):**

On March 21, 2019, the COE received an email from Stephanie Kienzle (Kienzle) regarding City of North Miami Beach Commissioner Paule Villard (Villard). Kienzle alleges that at the March 19, 2019 Commission meeting, Villard provided a false statement by stating she had been a law enforcement officer for twenty-eight years, when certification records noted she was a police officer for twenty-one years.

In addition, Kienzle indicated Villard had made the same statements during her campaign for City of North Miami Beach Commissioner, while appearing on a campaign video on or about August, 2018, therefore, violating the Citizen's Bill of Rights by making false statements in both occasions.

**Relevant Law:**

Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, Citizens' Bill of Rights, Section (A)(2) "*Truth in Government*. No County of 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."

**Investigation:**

Paule Villard, Commissioner - Group 2  
17011 NE 19th Ave  
Miami, FL 33162

On Monday, April 22, 2019, this investigator along with COE Advocate, Michael Murawski, met with Villard at North Miami Beach City Hall. Villard is currently Vice-Mayor, appointed on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

Villard was interviewed and provided the following information pertaining to Kienzle's allegation:

As per the YouTube campaign video allegation, Villard was a candidate for the City of North Miami Beach Commission Seat #2 at the time.<sup>1</sup> Under the Citizen's Bill of Rights, the Truth in Government provision only applies to municipal officials and employees.

Villard stated that from February 1987 to December 1990, she was hired as a Public Service Aide (PSA) for the City of Miami. She indicated that as a PSA, she provided support to police officers basically performing the same duties, i.e., investigations; responding to the scene; submitting written reports, and go through the academy, which covers most of the Basic Law Enforcement Training. The difference between police officers and PSA's is that PSA's are civilian employees with no enforcement powers.

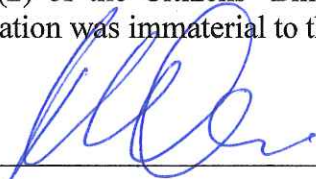
Villard stated that after approximately three years as a PSA, on or about December 26, 1990, she held the position of Clerk, subsequently becoming a City of Miami Police Officer in May 1993, retiring in December 2014. Including her years as PSA, Villard was involved with law enforcement for approximately twenty-eight years.

**Documents/Exhibit Review:**

- Emails/documents provided by Kienzle
- North Miami Beach Commission Meeting Agenda, 03/19/19.
- YouTube video.
- City of Miami employment information-Villard

**Conclusion:**

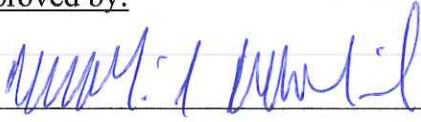
After discussion with the Ethics Advocate, it was determined that this matter would be closed with no further action. At the March 19, 2019 Commission meeting, Villard did state that she was a law enforcement officer for twenty-eight years, however, there is no evidence or indication that Villard made this statement with the intent to knowingly furnish false information. Villard was, in fact, involved *in law enforcement* for twenty-eight years (although not all of those years as an "officer." The evidence also fails to establish that this misstatement by Villard was material to the issue she was presenting (which concerned the incompetence of the City Clerk). The alleged violation herein falls short of the requisite quantum of evidence necessary to establish a knowing violation of (A)(2) of the Citizens' Bill of Rights; particularly where it appears that the alleged false information was immaterial to the issue being discussed.

  
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Nilda Olmo, COE Investigator

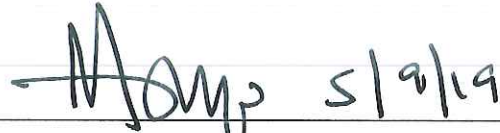
  
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Date

<sup>1</sup> During her campaign, Villard appeared on the YouTube radio show Up & Up Queen, with host Regine Bell.

Approved by:



Michael Murawski, Advocate



José Arrojo, Executive Director