

From: **Phyllis Smith** <[smithbuzz@gmail.com](mailto:smithbuzz@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Oct 10, 2022, 12:40 PM  
Subject: North Miami Beach Campaign Sign Violations  
To: <[arthur.sorey@citynmb.com](mailto:arthur.sorey@citynmb.com)>  
Cc: Ethics (COE) <[ethics@miamidade.gov](mailto:ethics@miamidade.gov)>

Dear Mr. Arthur Serey III, North Miami Beach City Manager,

As a candidate for City Commission during election season, I feel that it is important to take a moment to bring a disconcerting and escalating campaign sign issue to your attention in order for you to address it immediately in accordance with the City of North Miami Beach Ordinances and Charter.

A few weeks ago, you and the department head of code compliance, Mr. Aldridge Merisier, phoned me. You stated that my temporary campaign signs, at commercial locations, were two (2) feet too high from the city's ordinance of "no greater in height than six (6) feet above the ground". While that was partially inaccurate, I was appreciative of the forewarning prior to a fine or removal. At additional expense to my campaign, in order to be in compliance, I had a crew go the next day to each sign, measure, pull those over the height restriction out of the ground, cut the eight (8) foot wood posts down approximately 12 inches, and put them back at least one (1) foot deep. None of my campaign signs were greater than 12 inches above the height restriction.

As you are aware, on commercial properties, ordinance 2012-36 states no sign "to be no greater than 16' square feet". Unfortunately, there are candidate signs on commercial properties more than double that size. Over a week ago, when I called code compliance regarding oversized campaign signs, I was told that the code enforcement department was no longer handling any campaign related issues - that is, "strictly the manager". It was conveyed to me that my concerns would be forwarded to you.

Since nothing has been done to date, this is a formal written request for you to address this immediately. We have an obligation to the residents and businesses to conduct our municipal election with the greatest integrity.

The ordinance also refers to having consent from the property owner or tenant. I believe that many of the signs are being installed WITHOUT consent. Please address this, as well.

Finally, there are a few signs not on private property, but on government owned lands, which is also prohibited..

Thank you for your prompt attention. I know that election season is a very stressful and difficult time, as the manager it is your obligation to delegate that the City's laws are being complied with and to oversee enforcement. Have a wonderful day off and please address these issues asap. Too much time has passed already when time is so important - the election is now! Please consider this a formal request to you to convey to your staff to follow our city ordinances, NMB's city charter and the other government laws that may apply. .

Just so you are aware, I am dealing with issues of my campaign signs being destroyed or stolen from all over the city. I have already filed a report with the police department and will be following up on their investigation.

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." – Maya Angelou

With appreciation and sincerity,  
Phyllis Smith  
North Miami Beach City Commissioner Candidate, Seat 6