



March 23, 2026

Via E-Mail

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City of North Miami Beach
17011 NE 19th Avenue
North Miami Beach, FL 33162

**Re: Letter of Representation for Mayor Michael Joseph and Notice of
Opposition of Formal Censure without Complete Investigation
(Resolution No. R2026-48)**

Dear all:

My law firm, Heise Suarez Melville, PA represents Mayor Michael Joseph in connection with the above-referenced matter.

Please direct all communications regarding this matter to my attention and we request that you provide all materials and documents pertinent to this Resolution, including any communications to the City Clerk or the City Attorney.

Additionally, I am writing to formally **oppose** the formal censure on your upcoming agenda scheduled for March 26, 2026:

11.9. [Resolution No. R2026-48 Formally Censuring Mayor Michael Joseph \(Sponsored by Commissioner Su\)](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, FORMALLY CENSURING MAYOR MICHAEL JOSEPH; MAKING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE CITY CHARTER; DIRECTING COMPLETION OF AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION; AND FORMALLY REFERRING CERTAIN MATTERS TO THE OFFICE OF THE MIAMI-DADE STATE ATTORNEY, THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS, AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

At this early juncture, proceeding with a formal censure absent a complete and duly conducted investigation raises significant due process concerns. Florida courts have recognized that officials are entitled to due process protections. Proceeding on a censure vote at this stage risks violating Mayor Joseph's right to due process.

Obviously, the Commission admits that an investigation has not been completed. A formal censure carries significant reputational consequences and implicates legal rights. Proceeding without a completed investigation may also expose the City to unnecessary legal scrutiny or potential liability, particularly if it appears that conclusions have been reached prematurely.

Accordingly, I respectfully advise you to postpone any vote on the proposed formal censure until such time as a full and impartial investigation has been concluded and its findings properly reviewed.

Please contact me should you wish to discuss these concerns further.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Luis E. Suarez
Luis E. Suarez

LES/MAC