

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA
2023-2024 BUDGET

CITY ATTORNEY

FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Prevailed in Mas Canosa v. City of Coral Gables, et al., with the Third District Court of Appeal affirming summary judgment in favor of the City in a challenge to the constitutionality of the City's use of Automatic License Plate Readers ("ALPRs"), a case having significant implications throughout the State of Florida and the country, as many police departments use ALPRs as an effective law enforcement tool.
- ✓ Guided City through various real estate transactions including a lease with Francesco Miracle Miles, LLC for a new restaurant at the City-owned property located at 278 Miracle Mile; and an amendment to lease with Actor's Playhouse Productions, Inc. regarding the City-owned property located at 280 Miracle Mile, commonly known as the Miracle Theater.
- ✓ Continued to assist the Community Recreation Department in complying with legal requirements relating to the management of the Coral Gables Country Club.
- ✓ Achieved compliance, pursuant to enforcement actions, from 4 additional properties on the City's Abandoned Property List.
- ✓ Negotiated fine reduction agreements in Code Enforcement and Construction Regulation Board cases which lead to over \$115,798 in collections between October 2022 and August 2023.
- ✓ Drafted numerous ordinances including amendments to the City Code to establish regulations for mobile food trucks, adding certain requirements for hotels/motels, adding preferences in the procurement processes for Miami-Dade County-based vendors, prohibiting smoking in City parks, establishing certain requirements relating to undergrounding of utilities, prohibiting the parking of vehicles under car covers on city swale areas, adding regulations for parking of vehicles providing landscaping and tree trimming services, establishing a new City board comprised of representatives from the southern communities along the waterways, clarifying prohibitions relating to construction on nights and weekends, ; and zoning code text amendments revising the provisions relating to the radius for providing mailed notice outside of the City limits, amending the vote requirement for the Planning and Zoning Board relating to comprehensive plan amendments, amending landscaping requirements as to planting height, and revising remote parking and payment-in-lieu processes and requirements.
- ✓ Assisted with resolutions and memorandums of understanding between the City, County, and other municipalities, including establishment of a revised peafowl mitigation policy as approved by Miami-Dade County and guiding the City through the process of transferring from Miami-Dade County the only remaining special taxing district not already under the control of the City.

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FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – (Continued)

- ✓ Assisted with setting and advocating for City's legislative priorities and proposing amendatory language in the City's interest.
- ✓ Interpreted final bills resulting from 2023 legislative session and working with City staff to ensure that all necessary changes are made to comply with the requirements of the various bills affecting municipalities.
- ✓ Achieved a fully-Board Certified City Attorney's Office by having two additional members achieve Board Certification by the Florida Bar in City, County, and Local Government Law, such that all four attorneys are now Board Certified.
- ✓ Guided the City through the process of dissolving the Business Improvement District, including drafting the appropriate legislation, providing advice to City departments relating to the continuity of certain events traditionally handled by the BID, and obtaining authorization to take legal action to recover assessment funds.
- ✓ Provided advice regarding the establishment of temporary and permanent dog parks in the City, including preparation of license agreement with property owner and assisting staff in development of operational enforcement plan for violations related to dogs at parks.
- ✓ Guided the City Commission through the process of filling a vacancy on the City Commission.
- ✓ Assisted with due diligence related to proposed annexation of Little Gables and High Pines/Ponce Davis.
- ✓ Provided guidance to City Clerk and Canvassing Board regarding 2023 Biennial Election.
- ✓ Assisted the City Clerk and Asset Manager with updating database of deeds for all City-owned real property.
- ✓ Assisted with the process of transferring from Miami-Dade County the only remaining special taxing district not already under the control of the City.
- ✓ Researched and developed presentation to City Commission providing options for changing the City's municipal election dates.