



## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 15B6

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TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez, and  
Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 2011

FROM: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk  
Circuit and County Courts

SUBJECT: Certification of Petitions  
for Recall of  
Commissioner Natacha Seijas

Diane Collins, Division Chief  
Clerk of the Board Division

*Diane Collins*

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Please place the Clerk of the Courts Certification of Petitions for Recall of Commissioner Natacha Seijas on the Agenda of the Special Meeting of Thursday, January 13, 2011, as well as on the Agenda for the Regular Board of County Commissioners' Meeting of Thursday, January 20, 2011.

DC/fcd



**HARVEY RUVIN**  
**MIAMI-DADE CLERK**  
**COURTS • COMMISSION • RECORDER • FINANCE**

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December 23, 2010

DADE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ROOM 244  
73 West Flagler Street  
Miami, FL 33131

Honorable Dennis C. Moss  
Chair, Board of County Commissioners  
111 NW First Street, Suite 320  
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Mr. Chairman:

**RE: CERTIFICATION OF PETITIONS FOR RECALL OF  
COMMISSIONER NATACHA SEIJAS**

Pursuant to my duties under Article 8.02 of the Miami-Dade County Charter, I herewith submit the attached formal CERTIFICATION of the results of the Petitions submitted by Vanessa Brito (Miami Voice) on December 6, 2010, seeking the recall of Commissioner Natacha Seijas. As per the Charter prescribed timetable, December 23, 2010, therefore starts the clock running for appropriate action to be determined by the Board of County Commissioners.

I will also post this certification with its statistical tabulations on the home page of the Clerk of Courts (COC) website ([www.miami-dadeclerk.com](http://www.miami-dadeclerk.com)) along with a description of the process we utilized to canvass this unprecedented submission.

Respectfully,

  
Harvey Ruvin, Clerk

December 23, 2010

**CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS OF CANVASS OF PETITIONS TO RECALL  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSIONER NATACHA SEIJAS  
SUBMITTED BY VANESSA BRITO (MIAMI VOICE)**

Article 8, Section 8.02(3) of the Miami-Dade County Charter designates the Clerk of the Circuit Court as the party vested with the ministerial responsibility of canvassing and certifying the results regarding petitions for the recall of any member of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Miami-Dade County Charter and Section 12-23 of the Miami-Dade County Code specify the requirements for the Form of the Petition; the Disqualification of Forms; and the Disqualification of Signatures.

A total of 4,694 petition forms were submitted to the Clerk on December 6, 2010. They were reviewed as submitted "on their face" as outlined below.

First, applying Section 12-23(3), which states that the Clerk "shall disqualify" all petition forms that violate any of the grounds (A-E) stated therein, 56 forms containing 56 signatures were so disqualified.<sup>1</sup>

Second, applying 12-23(4), signatures on the remaining 4,638 petition forms were canvassed, utilizing the Elections Department's Database of registered electors with the following results:

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Not Registered	24
Duplicate Signature	30
Registered after Signed	1
Bad Signature	66
Signature not Dated	1
Removed Ineligible	9
Wrong District	136

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<sup>1</sup> The specific grounds for the disqualification of these petition forms is so noted on the Clerk's Audit Logs used during the disqualification of forms process. Disqualified forms based on notary, circulator and/or form error are identified as Invalid Circulator in the Elections Department's database. Some forms contained multiple bases for disqualification.

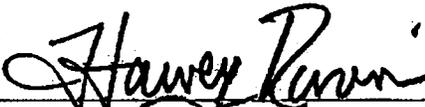
December 23, 2010

After the results were tabulated using the Elections Department's database, the 66 questionable signatures identified as bad/illegible were further reviewed by handwriting expert, Dianne Flores, who verified and recommended acceptance of 2 additional signatures.<sup>2</sup>

The total number of signatures required to validate the petition is 3,591 as certified by the Supervisor of Elections on October 25, 2010. Upon conclusion of the canvassing of signatures, the total number of valid signatures of registered electors is 4,373.

State of Florida                    )  
  ) ss:  
County of Miami-Dade            )

I, HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida, hereby certify the above results of the Canvassing of the Petition for Recall above cited to be true and accurate.

  
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HARVEY RUVIN  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

**Attachments**

cc:

Hon. Dennis C. Moss, Chairman and Members  
of the Board of County Commissioners  
Hon. Carlos Alvarez, Mayor  
Hon. Chief Judge Joel Brown  
George Burgess, County Manager  
Robert Cuevas, County Attorney  
Lester Sola, Supervisor of Elections

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<sup>2</sup> The signatures verified by Ms. Flores were added manually because the Elections Department database could not be adjusted to reflect the additional signatures.