

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

TO: Honorable Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 19, 2020

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
reappointment of Rabbi Solomon
Schiff to the Miami-Dade County
Homeless Trust Board of
Trustees; waiving by a two-thirds
vote of its full membership the
term limit restriction of section
2-752(c) of the Code

Resolution No. R-1216-20

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor
Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.

GBK/lmp



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Vice Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☒ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ☒, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)
11-19-20

RESOLUTION NO. R-1216-20

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF
RABBI SOLOMON SCHIFF TO THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
HOMELESS TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES; WAIVING BY A
TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF ITS FULL MEMBERSHIP THE
TERM LIMIT RESTRICTION OF SECTION 2-752(C) OF THE
CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Rabbi Solomon Schiff’s dedication, service and commitment have significantly contributed to Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Solomon Schiff has served with distinction as a member of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust (“Homeless Trust”) since 1994; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Solomon Schiff is Rabbi Emeritus of both the Greater Miami Jewish Federation’s Community Chaplaincy Service and the Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami and an original member of the delegation that helped advocate for, and secure, the Food and Beverage Tax which supports and funds the Homeless Trust; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Solomon Schiff also serves as the Vice Chairman of the Homeless Trust and its Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Solomon Schiff is an appointment to the Homeless Trust board of trustees by the Greater Miami Religious Leaders Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Miami Religious Leaders Coalition fully supports the reappointment of Rabbi Solomon Schiff to the Homeless Trust; and

WHEREAS, the many accomplishments of Rabbi Solomon Schiff are detailed more fully in his curriculum vitae attached hereto as Exhibit 1; and

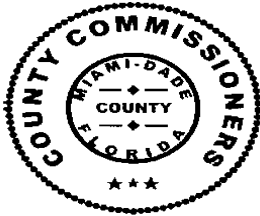
WHEREAS, pursuant to section 2-752(c) of the Miami-Dade County Code, the Board by a two-thirds vote of its full membership is authorized to waive the established term limits for members of the Homeless Trust board of trustees,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board, pursuant to Section 2-752(c) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, waives the established term limits by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of its full membership, thereby approving the reappointment of Rabbi Solomon Schiff to the Homeless Trust Board of Trustees.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. It was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman	aye	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Sen. René García	aye
Oliver G. Gilbert, III	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Eileen Higgins	aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye	Kionne L. McGhee	aye
Jean Monestime	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	District 8 - Vacant	vacant

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of November, 2020. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Melissa Adames**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Shannon Summerset-Williams

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Shannon", written over a horizontal line.

RABBI SOLOMON SCHIFF

VITAE



Rabbi Solomon Schiff was the Director of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation's Community Chaplaincy Service since 1966. He also served as the Executive Vice President of the Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami since 1964 - the longest serving Executive of any Board of Rabbis. He has served the Rabbinical Association as Secretary, Vice President and President. He was honored for his Bar-Mitzvah year as Executive Vice President in 1977 and presented with life tenure. He has served as a Congregational Rabbi for many years. He has taught and lectured on a variety of Judaic subjects.

Rabbi Schiff has led three interfaith missions to Israel, which brought Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy leaders to the Holy Land. He recently received the **Papal Medal from Pope Benedict XVI** for his outstanding service on behalf of interfaith relations. He is a founding member of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation Holocaust

Memorial Board and has serves as its Chair. He recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Brooklyn College, where he received his undergraduate degree in 1951. He is a founding member of the Dade County Homeless Trust, where he currently serves as Vice Chair. He is President of the Interfaith Workers Justice, which works to get fair treatment for workers. In a recently published book, *Rabbis, The Many Faces of Judaism*, Rabbi Schiff is included among the 100 leading rabbis throughout the world. He recently received the Legion of Honor Award which was previously presented to Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Reagan and Carter, and Nelson Mandela.

He is Past Chairman of the Board of License of the Central Agency for Jewish Education. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the national Rabbinic Cabinet of the Jewish Federations of North America (formerly United Jewish Communities and formerly United Jewish Appeal).

He has served as President of the Florida Chaplains Association, the South Florida Chaplains Association and the National Association of Jewish Chaplains.

Rabbi Schiff was ordained by Rabbi Moshe Feinstein of the Mesifita Tifereth Jerusalem Rabbinical Seminary in New York and is a member of the Rabbinical Council of America.

He received his B.A. in Political Science at Brooklyn College, which honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award on October 18, 2009 and his master's degree in Counseling at the University of Miami. He received his doctorate in Pastoral Counseling at the Hebrew Theological College in Skokie, Illinois. He received his Chaplaincy training and certification by the Chaplaincy Commission of the New York Board of Rabbis. He has served as Chairman of the Hospice

Advisory Council and Chairman of the Advisory Council for the Florida Department of Corrections.

He has served as Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board (CRB), and he is Vice Chairman of the Miami Dade Homeless Trust. He is Chairman of the Interfaith Committee for Workers Justice.

Rabbi Schiff has made numerous television appearances locally and nationally, including the CBS program *60 Minutes*, CNN, and *Nightline*. He is a regular panelist on *Viewpoint*, seen on Channel 2, a PBS television program that brings clergy of different faiths together monthly to discuss issues relating to social, religious and political matters. He also has appeared in a feature article in *Time* magazine.

Rabbi Schiff has offered a prayer in the United States Senate, on three occasions, as well as in the United States House of Representatives and in the Florida Legislature.

Rabbi Schiff is a member of the Florida Governor's Commission on Aging with Dignity. He is past Chairman of the Friends of PULSE, a support group for the People United to Lead the Struggle for Equality, an African American Clergy group. He served as chairman of the Dade County Religious Leaders Coalition. He is a member of the Fair Campaign Practices Committee. He has served as Chairman of the Clergy Dialogue Group of the National Conference for Community and Justice (formerly known as The National Conference of Christians and Jews) on four different occasions and is a recipient of its Outstanding Community Leadership Award.

Rabbi Schiff serves on several Bio Ethics Committees - The Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged; Mount Sinai Medical Center; and Mount Sinai - Saint Francis Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility. He also serves on the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged Board of Directors; and on the Board of Directors of Hospice at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Miami Coalition for a Drug Free Community. He has received various awards including the Israel Redemption Award by the State of Israel; the B'nai Avraham Award by the American Jewish Committee; the Rambam Award by Amit Women. He serves as a founder of the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged and a founder at Mount Sinai Medical Center. He was the first recipient of the annual Douglas Gardens Clergy Award for Ministering to the Elderly. He is Chairman of the City of Miami Beach Disabilities Access Committee for the Handicapped. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the North American Boards of Rabbis (NABOR). He was honored for Meritorious Service by the Founders at Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged.

Rabbi Schiff serves as Chairman of two annual educational seminars: (1) The "Interface between Medicine and Religion" at Mount Sinai Medical Center, which recently held its 25th annual seminar. This brings clergy of the various faiths together to interface with medical and health care professionals to discuss issues of common concern. (2) The "Ministering to the Elderly" seminar at the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged, which recently held its 11th annual seminar. This is open to religious leaders of all faiths as well as health care professionals to discuss various subjects relating to the care of the elderly.

Rabbi Schiff was appointed by President George H. Bush to serve on the “We Will Rebuild” committee, after Hurricane Andrew in 1992. This committee was charged with the responsibility of helping to restore areas in South Florida that were severely devastated by that Hurricane. He was appointed by the late Governor Lawton Chiles to serve on a Task Force to examine the problems of the Homeless and to recommend solutions. Out of this Task Force was created a 1% sales tax on food and beverages in Dade County, which resulted in the creation of two homeless assistance centers; one in Miami and the other in Homestead. He was recently awarded the Peacemaker Award from St. Thomas University. He is the recipient of the Alvah H. Chapman Humanitarian Award and Lifetime Achievement Award from Community Partnership for Homeless, as well as the Silver Medallion Award from the Miami Coalition of Christians and Jews.

Rabbi Schiff was appointed by Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Faith Based Initiative Advisory Board. He was presented with an Achievement Award from the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged. He is the recipient of the Trailblazer’s Award by the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board. He serves as a member of the University of Florida Hillel Foundation Board, and has recently been appointed as Adjunct Professor at St. Thomas University to lecture on a variety of Judaic Subjects. He recently was invited to be one of seven faith leaders to be part of the platform party where the Dalai Lama delivered an address on “The Significance of World Religions.”

Rabbi Schiff is married to the former Shirley Miller of Chicago. They have three sons who are married: Elliot (Alisa); Jeffrey (Risa) and Steven (Jacqueline), and are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren.