

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 7(A)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 7, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Ordinance relating to the
“Special Ambassador” program;
amending article LXIXA of
chapter 2 of the Code; amending
provisions relating to
appointment of special
ambassadors; appointing
Romero Britto as Special
Ambassador in the field of art

Ordinance No. 23-7

This item was amended at the 1-11-23 Chairman's Council of Policy Committee to: Require that background research be conducted on individuals nominated to serve as a Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County and a report detailing such research be placed on the commission agenda. Thus, additional language has been added to Sec. 2-957 to require that: the Commission Auditor complete background research on any individual nominated to serve as a Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County; the Commission Auditor prepare a report detailing the findings of said research; and the Clerk of the Board place the Commission Auditor's report on the commission agenda as a supplement to the related agenda item.

The accompanying ordinance was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Marleine Bastien.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw

Memorandum



Date: February 7, 2023

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava 
Mayor

Subject: Fiscal Impact Statement for Ordinance Relating to the "Special Ambassador"
Program and the Appointment of Romero Britto as Special Ambassador in the
Field of Art- File No. 222567

The revisions to the County Code and the appointment of Romero Britto as Special Ambassador in the Field of Art will not require additional staff or financial support and is not anticipated to have a negative fiscal impact to the County. The Special Ambassador program and appointments made in accordance with the program are honorary with "the purpose of promoting increased interchange of ideas, goodwill, cooperation, and understanding on behalf of the citizens of Miami-Dade County." The ordinance specifies that Romero Britto has a track record for donating "his time, art, and resources to countless charities."



Morris Copeland
Chief Community Services Officer

Memorandum



Date: February 7, 2023

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: Social Equity Statement for Ordinance Relating to the "Special Ambassador" Program and the Appointment of Romero Britto as Special Ambassador in the Field of Art - File No. 222567

The Special Ambassador Program is intended to promote "increased interchange of ideas, goodwill, cooperation, and understanding on behalf of the citizens of Miami-Dade County." The ordinance enables the Board to nominate additional individuals qualified to serve concurrently as special ambassadors in fields such as arts, culture, film, theater, science or education as may be necessary to ensure the diverse interchange of ideas, and the promotion of goodwill, cooperation, and understanding that are the objectives of the Special Ambassador Program. The appointment of Romero Britto will create a positive impact given his accomplishments in the visual arts, his track record for promoting the vibrant arts scene in Miami-Dade County, and his reputation as an activist for charitable causes.



Morris Copeland
Chief Community Services Officer



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 7, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 7(A)

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. 7(A)
2-7-23

ORDINANCE NO. 23-7

ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE “SPECIAL AMBASSADOR” PROGRAM; AMENDING ARTICLE LXIXA OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING PROVISIONS RELATING TO APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL AMBASSADORS; APPOINTING ROMERO BRITTO AS SPECIAL AMBASSADOR IN THE FIELD OF ART; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN AND EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the “Special Ambassador” program was created in 2014 by this Board for the purpose of promoting increased interchange of ideas, goodwill, cooperation, and understanding on behalf of the citizens of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, this Board decided that the Special Ambassador appointed should have national or international stature and shall provide symbolic representation on behalf of the County at various events, functions, meetings, gatherings and social occasions; and

WHEREAS, Emilio Estefan was appointed and confirmed as the County’s inaugural Special Ambassador in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Romero Britto is one of the most well-known and well respected artists to call Miami-Dade County home; and

WHEREAS, Romero Britto was born in Brazil, in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Britto lived and grew up in a large family of eight siblings; and

WHEREAS, his innate creativity allowed Britto to fill his life with images of a bigger and more beautiful world beyond his own at an early age; and

WHEREAS, from a young age, Britto painted what he saw and what he imagined on surfaces such as newspapers, cardboard or any scraps that he could find; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 14, Britto formally revealed his art to the public for the first time in an exhibition held by the Organization of American States; and

WHEREAS, Britto's artistic nature eventually led him to seek experiences outside Brazil, where he was exposed to and influenced by the works of artists such as Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Britto immigrated to the United States, settling in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Britto's work for the Absolut Art Ad Campaign in 1989 catapulted his work into the limelight; and

WHEREAS, Britto's unique fusion of Pop Art and Cubism has been commissioned by the Super Bowl, the Olympics, the World Cup, and Disney; and

WHEREAS, Britto's art hangs in galleries and museums around the world, and he has had more of his artwork licensed than any other artist in history; and

WHEREAS, Britto's art has been shown in countless galleries and museums nationwide, including the Carrousel du Louvre in Paris, France, Today Art Museum in Beijing, China, and the Florida Museum of Hispanic and Latin American Art in Miami; and

WHEREAS, Britto's public sculptures are featured throughout the world, including Florida, Germany, Washington D.C., and New York; and

WHEREAS, Britto is an activist for charitable organizations worldwide and has donated his time, art, and resources to countless charities; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to honor Britto for his significant accomplishments and contributions to the Miami-Dade community,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,**

Section 1. Article LXIXA of chapter 2 of the Code of Miami-Dade County is hereby amended to read as follows:¹

**ART. LXIXA.
SPECIAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

* * *

Sec. 2-957 Organization, appointment, term and qualifications.

~~[[The Miami-Dade County Economic Development Committee, or its successor, shall]]~~ >>Any Commissioner, by resolution, may<< nominate to the Board of County Commissioners those individuals worthy of serving as ~~[[the]]~~ >>a<< Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County. >>The Commission Auditor shall complete background research on any individual nominated to serve as a Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County and prepare a report detailing the findings of said research. The Clerk of the Board shall place the Commission Auditor's report on the commission agenda as a supplement to the related agenda item.<<²

Sec. 2-957.1 Special Ambassador qualifications.

The >>Board of County Commissioners<< ~~[[Miami-Dade County Economic Development Committee, or its successor,]]~~ shall have the power and duty to recommend criteria and qualifications of persons worthy of serving as the Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County, and to consider and ~~[[nominate to the Board of County Commissioners]]~~ >>confirm upon affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those commissioners present at a Commission meeting<< those individuals worthy of the title of Special Ambassador. The selection criteria shall include, but not be limited to consideration of the national or international stature of the nominee, the nominee's ability to serve as an ambassador-at-large

¹ Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

² Committee amendments are indicated as follows: Words double stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] are deleted, words double underlined and/or >>double arrowed<< are added.

on behalf of Miami-Dade County, the nominee's commitment to the interchange of ideas, and the nominee's ability to promote goodwill, cooperation, and understanding on behalf of the citizens of Miami-Dade County. >>Such nominees shall have outstanding capabilities in fields such as arts, culture, film, theater, science or education.<<

Sec. 2-957.2 Appointment of Special Ambassador

~~[[The Miami-Dade County Economic Development Committee, or its successor, shall provide its nominations to the Board of County Commissioners no later than six (6) months prior to the expiration of the term of the presently serving Special Ambassador. The Board of County Commissioners shall appoint one (1) Special Ambassador per term, except that legal spouses may serve jointly as Special Ambassadors during a single term provided that both spouses independently meet the criteria to serve as Special Ambassadors.]]~~
>>The Board of County Commissioners shall confirm nominated individuals upon affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those commissioners present at a Commission meeting. The Board of County Commissioners may appoint as many individuals to serve concurrently as Special Ambassadors of Miami-Dade County that it determines in its discretion are worthy of such designation. The appointees shall represent a variety of fields and areas of expertise, including, but not limited to, arts, culture, film, theater, science and education.<<

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Section 2. Notwithstanding Article LXIXA of chapter 2 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Romero Britto is hereby appointed as a Special Ambassador of Miami-Dade County in the field of art, with a term to begin upon the effective date of this ordinance and expiring on December 31, 2025.

Section 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such invalidity.

Section 4. It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of section 1 this ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section,” “article,” or other appropriate word.

Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of enactment unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED:

February 7, 2023

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency:

Prepared by:

Christopher C. Kokoruda



Co-Prime Sponsors: Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz
Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa
Co-Sponsor: Commissioner Marleine Bastien