

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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

DATE: June 4, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution expressing sympathy
and condolences to the Mursuli
family on the recent passing of
Jorge Mursuli

Resolution No. R-514-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: June 4, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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)(7)
6-4-24

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-514-24

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND
CONDOLENCES TO THE MURSULI FAMILY ON THE
RECENT PASSING OF JORGE MURSULI

WHEREAS, some of the words used to describe Jorge Mursuli are visionary, compassionate, consensus builder, great listener, intellectually curious, and sensible, all of which are indicative of why the trailblazer was successful in his community engagement and advocacy work; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1990s, Mr. Mursuli worked with Safeguarding American Values for Everyone (“SAVE”) and advocated for passage of the Miami-Dade County Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing, public accommodations, and credit and finance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli initially volunteered with SAVE, later becoming its first paid director; and

WHEREAS, such elevation exemplifies the value the organization placed in him and his advocacy work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli’s civic engagement extended far beyond his advocacy at SAVE; and

WHEREAS, for instance, Mr. Mursuli:

1. founded Democracia USA, a non-partisan civic engagement organization recognized for its Hispanic voter empowerment and leadership training programs;

2. founded the Latino Donor Collaborative, an organization that works to shape the perception of Latinos and find ways to help grow their revenue and market share by making information available to decision-makers to ensure the significant contributions of Latinos are recognized and resources are allocated accordingly; and

3. co-founded Arms with Ethics, an organization that partners with law enforcement agencies, communities, businesses, and local governments across the country to reduce the illegal flow and use of firearms; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Mr. Mursuli was a fellow in the class of 2007 at the Rockwood Leadership Institute, an organization that provides social change leaders with tools and skills to help change themselves, their communities, and the world and was a board member of the Xavier Cortada Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that uses art to educate, inspire and mobilize communities to act against climate and ecological crises; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli also held numerous leadership positions, including one at People for the American Way Foundation where he led efforts in election reform, immigration, free speech, and civic engagement and served as the Voter Registration Director for the Florida Democratic Party in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli was born Jorge Alberto Mursuli de Valle in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba and immigrated to the United States at the age of six with his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli eventually moved to South Florida when he was 16-years-old and later graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Florida where he was a member of the Florida Blue Key and the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli passed away on May 6, 2024 at the age of 63; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mursuli left an indelible mark on South Florida and, among other things, helped Miami-Dade County evolve into a more inclusive community that affords basic human rights, respect, and protections from sexual orientation discrimination to its diverse members; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes and appreciates that Miami-Dade County is a better place to live, work, and visit because of Jorge Mursuli, a fearless fighter for democracy, advocate, and champion of equality, community empowerment, and social justice, and extends condolences and sympathy to his family,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Expresses its sympathy and condolences to the Mursuli family on the recent passing of Jorge Mursuli.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the family of Jorge Mursuli.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins. It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Juan Carlos Bermudez** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	aye		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	aye		
Marleine Bastien	aye	Juan Carlos Bermudez	aye
Kevin Marino Cabrera	aye	Sen. René García	absent
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	absent	Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of June, 2024. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

LCK

Shanika A. Graves
Leigh C. Kobrinski