

BOARD OF ETHICS HEARING PANEL  
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND DECISION

Complainant: Roberta Allotta  
Public Official: Councilwoman Plascencia  
Alleged Violation Date: January 21, 2020  
Hearing Panel Decision: Thursday, October 15, 2020  
Alleged Violations: Riverside Municipal Code Sections 2.78.060(A) Use of official title or position for personal gain prohibited and (M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited

Hearing Panel Members Present:  
Chair Foley and Members Ford, Keen, Newman, and Stahovich

Hearing Panel Member Absent:  
None

Findings and Decisions

Based upon all evidence presented and after due consideration, it was moved by Panel Member Keen and seconded by Panel Member Stahovich finding that (1) the request for a favor to have Sean Mill removed from the Arlington Business Partnership was for political gain and gave the appearance of compromised judgment for such request; and (2) Councilwoman Plascencia violated **Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(A) Use of official title or position for personal gain prohibited** as alleged in the complaint of Roberta Allotta based upon all evidence presented at the hearing and after due consideration by the Hearing Panel. The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, it was moved by Panel Member Stahovich and seconded by Panel Member Newman finding Councilwoman Plascencia violated **Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited** as alleged in the complaint of Roberta Allotta based upon all evidence presented at the hearing and after due consideration by the Hearing Panel. The motion carried unanimously.

Based upon all evidence presented and after due consideration, it was moved by Panel Member Stahovich and seconded by Panel Member Keen that the facts in support of a violation of **Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited** by Councilwoman Plascencia include (1) a pattern of violating the Sunshine Ordinance as there was adequate time to properly agendaize the item twelve days in advance for the removal of Sean Mill from the Planning Commission; (2) there was evidence of discussion on

January 5, 2020, regarding his removal; (3) the agenda item was not added until January 17, 2020; and (4) Councilwoman Plascencia made a phone call to Sean Mill demanding his resignation from the Planning Commission to avoid public embarrassment. The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, it was moved by Panel Member Stahovich and seconded by Panel Member Keen finding Councilwoman Plascencia violated **Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited** by discrimination as alleged in the complaint of Roberta Allotta based upon all evidence presented at the hearing and after due consideration by the Hearing Panel. The motion carried unanimously.

Based upon all evidence presented and after due consideration, it was moved by Panel Member Stahovich and seconded by Panel Member Keen that the facts in support of a violation of **Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.78.060(M) Violations of federal, State, or local law prohibited** by Councilwoman Plascencia by discrimination include (1) statements made by Councilwoman Plascencia at the City Council meeting of January 21, 2020, stating her commitment to changing the faces of boards and commissions; and (2) evidence and testimony by Sean Mill of statements made to him. The motion carried unanimously.

Attest:



EVA ARSEO  
Assistant City Clerk

Dated this 21st day of October, 2020.