

RESOLUTION NO. 24R-10-257

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING AND ADOPTING THE FINDINGS OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY RIA CHATTERGOON REGARDING COMMISSIONER DENISE D. GRANT AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN AS A RESULT OF THOSE FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the majority of the City Commission voted to hire an independent consultant to thoroughly investigate whether certain actions taken by Commissioner Denise D. Grant, which were revealed during the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) investigation, were a violation of any city policy(s) or the city's charter by any individual; and instructed the City Attorney to retain such a consultant; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Commission's directive, the City Attorney, Angel Petti Rosenberg, Esq., engaged Ria Chattergoon, Esq., of RC Law Group, to conduct the independent investigation and advise if any violations were found; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Chattergoon reported the findings of her investigation to the City Commission at the October 28, 2024 City Commission Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lauderhill currently has a Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct for City Public Officers and Charter Officers contained in Section 2-166; and

WHEREAS, the Code provides that the City Commission is to make recommendations as to what actions, if any, are to be taken in response to the adopted findings of the investigation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, THAT:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. That the independent investigative report by Ms. Ria Chattergoon dated October 23, 2024, and the findings therein, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, are hereby accepted and adopted as the final report.

SECTION 3. That the City Commission of the City of Lauderhill hereby recommends that the following actions be taken in response to the findings contained in the report:

- a. That Commissioner Denise D. Grant shall reimburse the City of Lauderhill \$507.36 representing the vehicle mileage reimbursement issued in connection with her

January 17- 20, 2022 use of the city vehicle to "Broward Days." The payment shall be deducted by the City from any payment remaining due to Commissioner Grant.

- b. That Commissioner Denise D. Grant shall pay the City of Lauderhill \$1,125.00 representing the value of the estimated vehicle mileage in connection with her March 18-25, 2023 personal trip to Tennessee for her son`s soccer tournament. This amount was provided by Commissioner Grant when she submitted a "reimbursement" for the mileage following the FDLE investigation via check 360 dated 10/24/23. Since this instrument is stale, the check will be voided and returned to Commissioner Grant. The amount of \$1,125.00 shall be deducted by the City from any payment remaining due to Commissioner Grant.
- c. That Commissioner Denise D. Grant shall pay Kennie Hobbs, Jr., the owner of the personal Sunpass, the about of \$86.47. The City shall deduct the amount from any payment remaining due to Commissioner Grant and issue the check made payable to Kennie Hobbs, Jr. on her behalf.
- d. The investigation, and all of its contents including the Public Reprimand, shall be referred to the Florida Commission on Ethics, Office of Inspector General, or any other agency deemed appropriate.
- e. A copy of the Public Reprimand shall be entered into the official minutes of the October 28, 2024 City Commission meeting, a signed copy shall be delivered to Commissioner Denise D. Grant, a copy shall be posted electronically on the City`s website and in a place of public prominence at City Hall, published a newspaper of record and in the City Spotlight.

SECTION 4. All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

SECTION 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on first reading this _____ day of _____, 2024.

PRESIDING OFFICER

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MOTION
SECOND

M. DUNN
D. GRANT
L. MARTIN
S. MARTIN
K. THURSTON

Approved as to Form

Angel Petti Rosenberg
City Attorney