SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE



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ORDER OF DETERMINATION

DATE THE DECISION ISSUED

January 27, 2009

PETER WITT v. TAXI COMMISSION (08053)

FACTS OF THE CASE

Peter Witt frequently attends the Taxi Commission Meeting and has from time to time filed complaints against the Taxi Commission for alleged violations of the meeting laws as stated in the Sunshine Ordinance. Recently, Peter Witt filed a complaint against the Taxi Commission for its failure to attach his 150-word statement to the minutes of a commission meeting. The case was numbered (08047) and was heard on October 28, 2008. The Task Force found a violation of 67.16 and at a November 12, 2008, Compliance and Amendments Committee Meeting, the CAC and Jordanna Thigpen, Executive Director of the Taxi Commission worked out an arrangement whereby citizens' public comment statements of 150 words or less would be incorporated into the minutes. Subsequent to this CAC meeting, Peter Witt filed a complaint regarding this same issue and other issues. Peter Witt complained that the Taxi Commission failed to correct the minutes for meetings held on April 10, 2007 and October 14, 2008, failed to grant requests for information, and knowingly failed to disseminate or retain public correspondence from the public.

COMPLAINT FILED

On November 19, 2008, Peter Witt filed a complaint against the Taxi Commission alleging violations of the Sunshine Ordinance.

HEARING ON THE COMPLAINT

On January 27, 2009, Complainant Peter Witt appeared before the Task Force and presented his claim. Respondent Agency was not present.

The issue in the case is whether the Agency violated Sections 67.15, 67.16 and 67.21 of the Ordinance.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the testimony and evidence presented the Task Force finds that Mr. Peter Witt needs to provide additional evidence in support of his complaint that the Commission has continued to fail to include public comment statements of 150 words or less in its minutes.

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DECISION AND ORDER OF DETERMINATION

A motion to continue the case failed for lack of a majority. No further action was taken.

The Motion to Continue failed on the following vote: Ayes: Knee, Cauthen, Johnson, Chan, Goldman, Noes: Craven, Konebber, Chu Excused: Washburn, Williams

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Kristin Murphy Chu, Chair Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

c: Ernie Llorente, Deputy City Attorney Rosa Sanchez, Deputy City Attorney Peter Witt, Complaint Jordanna Thigpen, Taxi Commission Executive Director