



Michael Phillips
State Ombudsman

**MEETING MINUTES
BROWARD COUNCIL
BROWARD DISTRICT
5/10/2022**

IN-PERSON MEETING/8333 W. McNabb Road, Suite 231. Tamarac, FL 33321]

OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES			
Ann Garfinkel	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ifthekar Rafiq	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Cole, Staff	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Freyre, Staff	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Don Henry	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Terressea Smith	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Paul Wilson	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shazad Kashar	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blanca Merchan	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Cavoto, in training	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Fred Narayanan	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ronna Brown	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharlene Hennis	Present <input type="checkbox"/>		Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Click here to enter text.	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Click here to enter text.	Present <input type="checkbox"/>

GUEST(S)
none

OPEN SESSION

- Called to order at 1:45 PM Quorum Established: Yes No
- Open Session Statement Minutes Approved: Yes No **(2/8/2022)**

UPDATES/REPORTS

- **Council Chair:** Shazad Kashar opened the meeting by reading the Open Statement and Roll Call for attendance. Based on attendance there are majority to vote February Minutes.
 - Review and Approval of the February 2022 Council Meeting Minutes by majority of 8 votes.
- **District Ombudsman Manager:** Gloria Freyre shared the following updates with the Council:
 - Covid current situation in Broward County was discussed based on positivity rate climbing in the community. Volunteer ombudsmen voiced their own experience about returning to the field. Facilities in the County has started to report covid outbreaks again and number of positive cases are climbing. Facilities are starting to test residents and staff on weekly basis.
 - Gloria Freyre informed the council that a new State Ombudsman Terri Cantrell, and Deputy LTC Ombudsman Lori Berndt have been appointed effective May 23rd.
 - The Council was informed that we have a newly certified volunteer John Cavoto as of April 29th.



FLORIDA OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

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- o State Council representative Shazad Kashar shared with the Council that the next meeting is going to be in-person at the Embassy Suites in Orlando on Jun 9th-10th. He requested any feedback or question from the rest of the participants to be presented at the State meeting. Ann Garfinkel, volunteer, asked how is the annual budget allocated among the different areas of the Ombudsman Program. Paul Wilson, volunteer, also asked if the local councils could apply for private grants to help with the expenses.
- o Kashar also explained the efforts of the Retention and Recruitment committee as well as the initiatives to promote recruiting more volunteers. Some copies of the new flyers were distributed among the volunteers to be distributed in their communities.
- o Ann Garfinkel suggested to contact National Public Radio and Television stations to promote the Ombudsman Program as it was done in the past with great results.
- o Ifthekar Rafiq volunteer, suggested to set tables at local churches and mosques to recruit volunteers.
- o Ronna Brown suggested to attend events like the health fairs in the community to promote the Ombudsman Program.

TRAINING:

New presentation of the LTCOP short film and slides that could be used for local presentations of the Program mission. Copies of the slides were distributed and link to the short video was sent to the council via email.

Invitation to make public comments: No comments.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 14th at 1:45PM.

ADJOURNMENT

- Open Session adjourned at 3:04 pm