



**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
17011 NE 19th Avenue, 4th Floor
North Miami Beach, Florida 33162**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 26, 2018**

**MEDIA CONTACT: NICOLE GOMEZ
(305) 948-2986
public.affairs@citynmb.com**

GOVERNOR SUSPENDS VICE MAYOR FRANTZ PIERRE FROM ELECTED OFFICE

North Miami Beach, FL – As of July 25, 2018, Governor Rick Scott has suspended Vice Mayor Frantz Pierre from office after he was charged with 11 felonies in violation of section 838.015, Florida Statutes, according to the Executive Order by the Governor.

Pursuant to Section 112.51, Florida Statutes, the suspension of an elected official by the Governor creates a temporary vacancy in the office during the suspension. Any temporary vacancy created by suspension of an official shall be filled by a temporary appointment for the period of the suspension. The temporary appointment shall be made in accordance with the City Charter, which provides that the City Commission appoint an individual to the seat until the next general election, for the remainder of the vacated term.

Mayor Beth E. Spiegel in a statement said, “We are moving forward and will continue to meet the needs of the residents, and we will continue to provide all the services the residents have come to expect from North Miami Beach.”

A special commission meeting is scheduled for August 2nd at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the process of filling the vacant seat created by Pierre’s suspension.

Questions about Pierre’s case should be made directly to Ed Griffith at the State Attorney’s Office at (305) 547-0535 or his attorney, Benedict P. Kuehne at (305) 789-5989.

###

About City of North Miami Beach

The City of North Miami Beach and its employees are dedicated to providing our citizens a full range of quality and efficient services and will work to create a better environment in which to live and work. To learn more about the City of North Miami Beach, please visit: www.citynmb.com [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 18-215

WHEREAS, Frantz Pierre (Pierre) is presently serving as City Commissioner for the City of North Miami Beach, Florida; and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2018, Pierre was arrested for: Bribery, a second-degree felony in violation of section 838.015, Florida Statutes; Unlawful compensation or reward for official behavior, a second-degree felony in violation of section 838.016 (1), Florida Statutes; Organized Scheme to Defraud, a third-degree felony in violation of section 817.034, Florida Statutes; Grand Theft, a third-degree felony in violation of section 812.014, Florida Statutes; and seven counts of Money Laundering, each a third-degree felony in violation of section 896.101, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, section 112.51(2), Florida Statutes, provides that the Governor may suspend from office any elected municipal officer who is arrested for a felony related to the duties of office; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the residents of the City of North Miami Beach, and the citizens of the State of Florida, that Pierre be immediately suspended from the public office, which he now holds, upon the grounds set forth in this executive order.

FILED
2018 JUL 25 PM 5:11
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, pursuant to section 112.51, Florida Statutes, find as follows:

- A. Frantz Pierre is, and at all times material hereto was, a City Commissioner for the City of North Miami Beach, Florida.
- B. The office of City Commissioner for the City of North Miami Beach, Florida, is within the purview of the suspension powers of the Governor, pursuant to section 112.51, Florida Statutes.
- C. The attached arrest warrant and affidavit, which is incorporated as if fully set forth in this Executive Order, alleges that Pierre committed felonies, in violation of the laws of the State of Florida.
- D. On July 25, 2018, Pierre was arrested for: Bribery, a second-degree felony in violation of section 838.015, Florida Statutes; Unlawful compensation or reward for official behavior, a second-degree felony in violation of section 838.016 (1), Florida Statutes; Organized Scheme to Defraud, a third-degree felony in violation of section 817.034, Florida Statutes; Grand Theft, a third-degree felony in violation of section 812.014, Florida Statutes; and seven counts of Money Laundering, each a third-degree felony in violation of section 896.101, Florida Statutes.

BEING FULLY ADVISED in the premises, and in accordance with the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Florida, this Executive Order is issued, effective immediately:

Section 1. Frantz Pierre is suspended from the public office, which he now holds, to wit: City Commissioner for the City of North Miami Beach, Florida.

Section 2. Pierre is prohibited from performing any official act, duty, or function of public office; from receiving any pay or allowance; and from being entitled to any of the emoluments or privileges of public office during the period of this suspension, which period shall be from today, until further Executive Order is issued, or as otherwise provided by law.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida, this 25th day of July, 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", written over a horizontal line.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Ritzman", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE