



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING

#25-0503

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: May 6, 2025

TITLE: City Attorney Recruitment Update – (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

The purpose of this item is to provide the Mayor and Commissioners with updates regarding the City Attorney recruitment process, provide the City Attorney Search Committee's recommendation on candidates to be interviewed by the Commission, and to discuss the Commission's process for interviewing.

The City Attorney Search Committee (the "Committee") has been actively engaged in the recruitment process for the City Attorney position. City staff originally posted the position utilizing the same language previously used in the last City Attorney recruitment. After the Committee's first meeting, the posting was updated with the Committee's recommendations and the posting was extended by two weeks.

To ensure a broad and diverse applicant pool, the City used various modes of advertisement to promote the job posting, including online job boards, professional networks, and legal publications. A total of fifty-two (52) applications were received. Staff screened the applications for minimum qualifications, and those meeting the criteria were forwarded to the City Attorney Search Committee for further review.

The Committee identified a total of fourteen (14) candidates to move forward in the recruitment process. City staff performed background checks on the candidates to include criminal background screening, employment and education verification, and a news and social media search.

A total of thirteen (13) candidates were interviewed virtually by the Committee and of the thirteen (13), seven (7) were selected to have in-person interviews with the Committee on April 30, 2025. These candidates were asked to provide a written commitment to accept the position, if offered, assuming a satisfactory contract is approved. Prior to the in-person interviews, the Committee conducted reference checks on the candidates. From this group of seven (7), three (3) candidates withdrew from the process and the Committee interviewed four (4) candidates as listed below:

- Aleksandr Boksner
- James Saunders
- Jared Silver

- D'Wayne Spence

The Committee recommends the following three (3) candidates for further consideration by the Commission:

1. Aleksandr Boksner
2. James Saunders
3. D'Wayne Spence

Please note the above candidates are listed alphabetically by last name and not in any ranked order.

Staff recommends that the Commission conduct interviews with finalists at the May 20, 2025, Conference Meeting or at a special meeting just prior to the Conference Meeting, depending on the number of finalists selected to be interviewed.

Upon direction from the Commission, staff will coordinate interviews accordingly.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- Business Growth and Support Focus Area, Goal 6: Build a diverse and attractive economy

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are United*.

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Implementation Element
- Goal 1: Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan shall accomplish City's *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan* regarding the City's future growth and the six Cylinders of Excellence and shall be the City's primary policy document to guide all of its activities and development.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Aleksandr Boksner Application and Resume

Exhibit 2 – James Saunders Application and Resume

Exhibit 3 – D'Wayne Spence Application and Resume

Prepared by: Nisa McFarlane, Administrative Supervisor – Human Resources

Department Director: Jerome Post, Director of Human Resources