



To: Reynaldo Bermudez

From: Craig E. Leen, City Attorney for the City of Coral Gables 

RE: Legal Opinion Regarding Ability To Remove Signs Placed In The Public Right-Of-Way

Date: June 9, 2013

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The City is permitted to remove private signs from the public right-of-way, as this is public property. This is also consistent with the mandate in section S-1909(F)(1) of the Zoning Code, which indicates that signs located on the right-of-way "shall be removed." This mandate promotes public safety by avoiding visual clutter, traffic distractions, and hurricane safety related concerns. In enforcing this provision, you should treat private signs on the public right-of-way equally regardless of content or viewpoint.

## Hernandez, Cristina

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**From:** Leen, Craig  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 09, 2013 3:35 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Cristina  
**Subject:** FW: Miami-20130609-00027.jpg  
**Attachments:** Miami-20130609-00027.jpg

Please place in the opinion folder. I was asked to provide a legal opinion as to whether the City could remove signs placed in the public right-of-way. This is my response to that question.

Craig E. Leen  
City Attorney

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Leen, Craig  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 09, 2013 3:31 PM  
**To:** Bermudez, Reynaldo  
**Cc:** Ortiz, William; Thornton Richard, Bridgette  
**Subject:** RE: Miami-20130609-00027.jpg

Officer Bermudez,

The City is permitted to remove private signs from the public right-of-way, as this is public property. This is also consistent with the mandate in section 5-1909(F)(1) of the Zoning Code, which indicates that signs located on the right-of-way "shall be removed." This mandate promotes public safety by avoiding visual clutter, traffic distractions, and hurricane safety-related concerns. In enforcing this provision, you should treat private signs on the public right-of-way equally regardless of content or viewpoint.

Craig E. Leen  
City Attorney

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bermudez, Reynaldo  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 09, 2013 3:12 PM  
**To:** Leen, Craig; Ortiz, William  
**Subject:** Miami-20130609-00027.jpg

**SICK OF CUT-THRU  
TRAFFIC?**

**GET READY**

**BECAUSE LOTS MORE  
COMING!! CONCERNED?**

**COME TO C.G. CITY HALL  
THIS TUESDAY AT 06/11 at 9AM  
AND BE HEARD!!!**