



**KATHERINE FERNANDEZ
RUNDLE**

STATE ATTORNEY

**ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Statement From State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle
Regarding City of Miami Police Officer Daniel Ubeda**

Miami (October 22, 2020) “As a community of immigrants, we know that democracy cannot function, let alone thrive, absent vigorous public participation. I have always believed that there should never be any type of barrier, hindrance, or intimidation discouraging an eligible voter from participating in our election process.

On Tuesday, a City of Miami police officer wore a mask supporting a particular candidate to a local voting site. While I respect the Officer’s First Amendment right to express his opinion and support any candidate he wishes, I agree with Chief Colina’s statement calling his actions unacceptable. Wearing one’s police uniform at a voting site while expressing a political opinion may be construed as an official attempt to send a distinct message to potential voters. This should not occur in Miami-Dade County. Accordingly, I have asked my staff to look into this matter.

I want to remind our community that I have activated our Voter Protection Task Force to ensure that everyone has a fair and equal chance to cast their votes. Our investigators and civilian employees are available throughout the early voting period at the designated locations during voting hours. I encourage anyone who suspects improper or irregular activity to speak to them or call our Voter Protection Hotline at 305-547-3300.

As always, we stand ready to do whatever we reasonably can to protect the integrity of our elections, the voters, and their ballots.”

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