

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Mayor Steven Meiner

DATE: March 19, 2025

TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE FOR A DISCUSSION REGARDING INSTALLING A MEMORIAL PLAQUE ON 41ST AND PINE TREE DRIVE TO HONOR RABBI STERN.

RECOMMENDATION

I would like to refer the above-referenced item to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee for a discussion and recommendation to commemorate the late Rabbi Tibor Stern with a memorial plaque in an appropriate place on 41st Street and Pine Tree Drive, in accordance with requirements of Section 82-504 of the City Code.

Rabbi Tibor H. Stern was a distinguished Torah scholar, spiritual leader, and prolific author whose influence extended across communities in the United States and beyond. His rabbinic career began with leadership roles at Congregation Kerem Israel in Kansas City, Missouri, and Beth Israel in Oakland, California.

In 1955, Rabbi Stern arrived in Miami Beach, where he served as the spiritual leader of Beth Jacob Congregation until 1964. He then became the Rabbi of the Jacob C. Cohen Community Synagogue, a position he held from 1964 to 1990. Later, he continued his leadership as the Rabbi of Congregation Chevra Shas of Tower 41.

A visionary in strengthening Jewish life in Miami Beach, Rabbi Stern played a pivotal role in establishing the Miami Beach eruv in 1982 and served as chairman of the Miami Beach Eruv Council. Additionally, he chaired the Rabbinic Building Commission during the reconstruction of the Daughters of Israel mikvah.

Beyond his local impact, Rabbi Stern was a respected leader in the broader Orthodox Jewish community. He served as vice president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the U.S. and Canada and was a member of the Executive of the Rabbinical Council of America.

A dedicated philanthropist, Rabbi Stern was actively involved with numerous charitable organizations, particularly the Bikur Cholim hospital in Israel. His intellectual contributions were vast, authoring over 35 volumes of scholarly works and Torah publications that continue to be revered worldwide.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?

(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

If applicable, the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on:

See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

Middle Beach

**Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item,
pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?**

No

**Is this item related to a G.O. Bond
Project?**

No

**Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481,
includes a principal engaged in lobbying?** No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Office of Mayor Steven Meiner

Sponsor(s)

Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Ref: PSNQLC - Installing a Memorial Plaque in Honor of Rabbi Stern. (Meiner)

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)