

## Supplemental to Item C4 AD

### Emails

**C4 AD      REFERRAL TO FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE - DUE  
PROCESS FRAMEWORK FOR BUSINESS CLOSURES RELATED TO LOCAL  
BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT VIOLATIONS.**

**Applicable Area: Citywide**

**Office of Commissioner Alex Fernandez**

**Commissioner Alex Fernandez**

**Addendum added on 6/24/2025**

**Supplement added on 6/24/2025**

## Granado, Rafael

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**From:** Fernandez, Alex  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 6:27 PM  
**To:** Granado, Rafael; Alonso, Sydney; Petrella, Kara  
**Subject:** Fw: Shut down Business on Alton Road

Ralf  
Pls add as supplement to C4AD.

Alex Fernandez, Commissioner  
City of Miami Beach

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Carlos De Varona <carlos@caobakerycafe.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 3:30 PM  
**To:** Tony Cao <tony@caobakerycafe.com>  
**Cc:** Fernandez, Alex <Alex@miamibeachfl.gov>; Yvette Cao <yvette@caobakerycafe.com>; Matteo-Salinas, Monica <MonicaSalinas@miamibeachfl.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Shut down Business on Alton Road

[You don't often get email from carlos@caobakerycafe.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

[ THIS MESSAGE COMES FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL - USE CAUTION WHEN REPLYING AND OPENING LINKS OR ATTACHMENTS ]

Good afternoon Alex,

What do we tell our employees who live in Miami Beach and now will be without a job with no advance notice.

We were not shot down For health issues or concerns, no life safety issue. And without a warning and according to code enforcement, the previous employee did not do his job and now he had to enforce. He made us tell our customer they had to leave after they finished their coffee in the middle of the day

We understand city fees and taxes must be paid and this was not intentional as we paid but just 13 days late and the late fees were not paid. And yes we never received our funds back to notify us that it was not accepted and of course we never received next years BTR so it was not paid and so on. Yes, an over sight on our part and their should be consequences(fees fines etc) but shut down?? What we don't understand is the approach to enforce these fees.

Apologies for the frustration shown in this email.

Carlos de Varona

> On May 1, 2024, at 3:19 PM, Tony Cao <tony@caobakerycafe.com> wrote:  
>

> Good afternoon Alex, this is Tony Cao from CAO Baker Cafe on 1420 Alton Rd.

· We have 15 locations in South Florida and our Alton roll locations was our first. Yesterday we were shut down without notice or warning. Apparently we overlooked a late fee for the renewal of our business tax receipt in 2022. We paid for the renewal and never received, or overlooked the late fee. So we never received a notice to renew in 2023 because of that! There was no other communication or warnings. This is bad business for \$79. They shut down a business who invested over \$1.3 million and supports employees and the city here on the beach. This can take us months to go through the process as if we are opening a new business from scratch and will be devastating to our store and employees! Supposedly they shut down other businesses as well. I'm just writing to you and other commissioners to make sure you're aware of this situation that's happening in your city. In over 20 years of owning bakeries in South Florida, I've never had this problem. If there is anything you could do to help us please let me know. We will appreciate any help we can get to resolve or expedite this situation.

> Tony Cao

> 305-904-0656

> CAO Bakery & Cafe





## Granado, Rafael

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**From:** Fernandez, Alex  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 6:34 PM  
**To:** Granado, Rafael; Petrella, Kara; Alonso, Sydney  
**Subject:** Fw: Spa e Lincoln Rd appeal

Pls add as supplement to C4AD

Alex Fernandez, Commissioner  
City of Miami Beach

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Brenda Le Grange <brenda@spaesouthbeach.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 10:14:24 AM  
**To:** Fernandez, Alex <Alex@miamibeachfl.gov>  
**Subject:** Spa e Lincoln Rd appeal

You don't often get email from brenda@spaesouthbeach.com. [Learn why this is important](#)  
[ THIS MESSAGE COMES FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL - USE CAUTION WHEN REPLYING AND  
OPENING LINKS OR ATTACHMENTS ]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Brenda Le Grange <spaesobe@icloud.com>  
**Date:** October 24, 2024 at 9:58:35 AM EDT  
**To:** tanya@miamibeachfl.gov  
**Subject:** Spa e Lincoln Rd appeal

Goodmorning Alex.

This is Brenda Le Grange. Thank u for your time this morning.

I have a business at 630 Lincoln Rd Mall ~ Spa e ~ since 2003. My Landlord is Mel Schlessner. Please can u assist with this appeal process I paid close +- \$10,000 April/May of this year between fines and past due payments for BTR and Derm. MB Code Compliance actually closed my business for 64 days

My accountant went to pay the BTR which was due Sept 30 and was told I have a \$3500 fine outstanding and they would not renew my BTR !!

I do not have \$3500 - I am sure u are well aware it has been an extremely slow summer. Sincerely hope you are able to help - please.

Look forward to your early response.

Thank you

Brenda Le Grange 