



## OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY

### PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **State Attorney Aronberg Addresses Miami-Dade County's Efforts on Amendment Four's Restoration of Voting Rights**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – Palm Beach County State Attorney Dave Aronberg praised Miami-Dade County State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle and her working group for their efforts to develop a workable solution to the implementation of Amendment 4, which restored voting rights to most former felons, which was impacted by recently enacted SB 7066 (codified in Section 98.0751 of the Florida Statutes). State Attorney Fernandez Rundle today announced a "Collaborative Proposal for Miami-Dade County" that redefines Miami-Dade County's sentencing orders to separate fines, court costs and fees from the remainder of the defendant's sentence for voting purposes only.

State Attorney Aronberg, who supported the passage of Amendment 4, has hosted three meetings since June in the State Attorney's Office with local stakeholders, including Palm Beach County Mayor Mack Bernard and representatives from local court administration, the Public Defender's Office, the Palm Beach County's Criminal Defense Bar, the Palm Beach County Clerk and Comptroller's Office, Palm Beach County Legal Aid, Palm Beach County Re-entry Staff, and the League of Women Voters, to discuss the implementation of the new Constitutional Amendment in light of Section 98.0751. The next meeting, which is set to include Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Wendy Sartory Link, will take place August 6, 2019, to discuss the Miami-Dade proposal and the feasibility of such a model in Palm Beach County.

"I've had multiple conversations with State Attorney Fernandez Rundle about her office's proposal," said State Attorney Aronberg. Noting that Florida voters passed the measure to restore voting rights last November with nearly two-thirds of the vote, Aronberg said that he is "encouraged by Miami-Dade's approach to this issue and am optimistic that we can develop something similar in Palm Beach County that fulfills the promise of Amendment 4."

State Attorney Aronberg said that he has also spoken with Chief Judge Krista Marx and Clerk and Comptroller Sharon Bock, who have reviewed the Miami-Dade County plan. “Chief Judge Marx and Clerk and Comptroller Bock both support the goals of Amendment 4 and will be instrumental in developing Palm Beach County’s process to ensure that the maximum number of affected citizens regain their rights to vote,” said Aronberg.

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