

RESOLUTION 2025-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, CENSURING COUNCILMEMBERS MORFIN AND PRIETO DUVAL FOR ACTION RELATED TO THE TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2025

WHEREAS, public officials hold a position of public trust, and are expected to adhere to standards that conform to the responsibilities related to their public offices; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Toppenish should be able to depend upon the members of the City Council to perform the duties involved in Council membership representing the City; and

WHEREAS, although the verbal exchanges between Councilmembers can on occasion be passionate and vociferous, as was certainly the case at the City Council meeting on February 3, 2025, which in and of itself was disruptive of the ability of the City Council to address the matters coming before the City Council, what was more problematic than that was the fact that Councilmembers Morfin and Prieto Duval walked out of an executive session while the City Council meeting was still in session; and

WHEREAS, the departure of Councilmembers Morfin and Prieto Duval took from the City Council its quorum and thereby deprived the City Council of being able to continue with the City Council meeting and move forward with necessary action related to the matters before the City Council and specifically the purpose of the executive session, which, in turn, put the City Council and the City in the position of not being able to meet requirements legally imposed on the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. Councilmember Morfin is hereby censured for acting in a manner contrary to his duties as a member of the City Council of Toppenish, Washington, and in a manner that disabled the City Council from taking necessary action for and on behalf of the City.

2. Councilmember Prieto Duval is hereby censured for acting in a manner contrary to her duties as a member of the City Council of Toppenish, Washington, and in a manner that disabled the City Council from taking necessary action for and on behalf of the City.

3. Notice of this Resolution of Censure shall be posted for a period of 90 days on the public notice bulletin board.

4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and signatures hereto.

PASSED by the Toppenish City Council at its regular meeting held on February 24, 2025.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, Mayor

ATTEST:

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DANIEL B. HEID, City Attorney