

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2025(COTW), *First
Reading*

By All City Councilmembers

A Resolution calling for an investigation into matters concerning the Mayor of Cleveland Heights based on new information received by Council on the morning of June 13, 2025; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Heights City Council passed a Resolution of Loss of Confidence in the Mayor on June 2, 2025, expressing serious concerns about the Mayor's conduct and ability to lead; and

WHEREAS, recent surveillance video has shown Mayor Kahlil Seren entering and exiting the City Law Department on April 3 and April 5, 2025; and

WHEREAS, news stories released the morning of Friday, June 13, 2025, reported allegations that Mayor Seren left a laptop computer in a hidden location within the law department conference room on April 3, 2025, and retrieved it on April 5, 2025—one day after Andrea Heim was questioned in a pending legal matter involving the Mayor's wife; and

WHEREAS, this sequence of events, if true, raises serious questions regarding potential misconduct and the appearance of improper or unlawful interference in relation to an ongoing legal matter; and

WHEREAS, Council believes that this matter warrants immediate and independent scrutiny to determine whether any unlawful, unethical, or inappropriate actions were taken by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, public trust in government must be preserved, and that trust requires that all public officials be held to the highest standards of integrity and transparency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. City Council hereby calls for the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to reconsider its prior decision not to pursue the matter and for a full and independent investigation into the allegations and events described above, to be conducted by the Ohio Attorney General, the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, or the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

SECTION 2. While this investigation is pending, the Mayor should refrain from making any personnel decisions, especially considering any personnel decision will likely be perceived as retaliatory in nature or connected to the events in question.

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2025(COTW)

SECTION 3. In the interest of preserving the integrity and effective functioning of city government, and for the overall good of the community, City Council respectfully urges Mayor Kahlil Seren to give serious and immediate consideration to resigning from office in order to prevent further disruption and harm to the City and its residents as he addresses the allegations brought against him.

SECTION 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 5. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights, or by posting the full text of this Resolution on the City of Cleveland Heights website.

SECTION 6. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to respond swiftly and transparently to serious allegations involving the City's chief executive. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



TONY CUDA
President of Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2025(COTW)

PASSED: June 13, 2025

Presented to Mayor: 06/17/2025 Effective date: 06/24/2025*

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor

*Effective date per Article IV, Section 5 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights