

## GREGORY B. ANDERSON PRESIDENT

Council Member At-Large Group 4 Office (904) 630-1398 Fax (904) 630-2906 E-Mail: GAnderson@coj.net

## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

117 West Duval Street City Hall, Suite 425 Jacksonville, FL 32202

March 1, 2016 5:00 p.m.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable City Council Members

**FROM:** Council President Gregory B. Anderson

At-Large Group 4

**RE:** Electronic Text Communications during Meetings

Based on the Rules Committee debate, consideration of Ordinance 2015-697 as substituted and guided by the principles of equal access and transparency, our new policy will reflect the following clarifications:

- 1. **Sending or receiving text messages during meetings:** Sending or receiving text messages with a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative during a Committee or City Council meeting related to official public business on the agenda is discouraged.
- 2. **Replying to text messages during meetings:** During a Committee or City Council or meeting, Council Members shall not reply to any text message from a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative related to official public business on the agenda.
- 3. **Disclosure of text messages:** In the event a Council Member receives a text message during a Committee or City Council meeting from a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative related to official public business on the agenda, the Council Member must disclose the receipt of such communication by filing it with the Legislative Services Division within 48 hours of receipt. The communication will be placed in the permanent bill file.

GA/lk

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division

Dana Farris, Chief, legislative Services Division Rachel Welsh, Information Systems Administrators Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor Administration General Council Media Box