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The Sunshine Ordinance Task Force found Library Commission chair Jewelle Gomez in violation of the Sunshine Ordinance for refusing to permit me to speak in general public comment at the June 4, 2009, meeting.

At its July 28, 2009, meeting, the Task Force took the unusual step of finding that Ms. Gomez's behavior constituted "official misconduct."

The Task Force viewed a videotape of the incident, which showed that Chair Gomez virtually lost control of her emotions as she shouted repeatedly at me in a loud and belligerent voice. She refused to permit me to explain that my comment had nothing to do with another item on the agenda, as she alleged.

It is incumbent on public officials to treat the public with politeness and respect. The Sunshine Task Force termed Chair Gomez's behavior "inexcusable."