

Gays, lesbians urge censure of Mayor Naugle

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BY STEVE ROTHHAUS

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"Since a coalition of 17 state and national [lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender] rights organizations first made a similar request in letters sent to the City Commission of Fort Lauderdale and the Broward County Commission on Aug. 2, the mayor's offensive actions have only escalated. Just last week, for example, he joined with conservative clergy at a press conference to denounce sex between men as physically and morally risky," wrote Task Force Executive Director Matt Foreman to Vice Mayor Carlton B. Moore and Commissioners Cindi Hutchinson, Charlotte E. Rodstrom and Christine Teel.

"This is the latest in Mayor Naugle's growing string of assaults on LGBT people -- and he shows no signs of letting up," Foreman wrote. "The mayor apparently enjoys playing the provocateur. He refuses to let it die, as it should."

Local gay activists will ask at Tuesday's City Commission meeting that Naugle be reprimanded. "I would love a censure, but a resolution would be more realistic and just as strong," said Waymon Hudson, president and co-founder of Fight OUT Loud.

The mayor expects the commission will agree to the gay activists' request.

'Now the commission is faced with `do they risk disappointing me or risk the temper tantrums of the radical homosexual community,'"