



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

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2016 Memorial Weekend Summary of Interviews

(MIAMI, FL) – The Miami-Dade County Office of Community Advocacy's Goodwill Ambassador Kathryn Perez Interview with City of Miami Beach Officer Martineau.

On Saturday, May 28, 2016, I had the opportunity to interview Officer Martineau on his opinion regarding Miami-Dade County's GWA program. My questions to him were as follows:

- 1.) What were his thoughts whether positive or negative on the GWA program and how he is overseeing the events surrounding the Memorial Weekend?
- 2.) How has his interaction whether positive or negative with the Goodwill Ambassadors been?
- 3.) What does he think about the employees volunteering their time as Goodwill Ambassadors?

"Well, this program is phenomenal, I have been doing this since 2000 and got the idea from Dade County. A collaboration between himself and Detective Mitchel took over the program about 9 nine years ago and since then together they have been trying to make the program bigger and better. The whole idea of this program is to create a buffer between the police and the visitors as well as the citizens of this City. Look around the nation, police tensions and community relations are at an all-time low and there are programs like this that help bridge the gap. His opinion on the actual employees volunteering their time as Goodwill Ambassadors is that he commends them and thanks them along with saying that the City along with the County needs them. For them to take time off of their busy schedule, some from different cities, to volunteer on a holiday weekend and help maintain nice peace and safety they are highly appreciated. The City of Miami Beach is outmanned on this job, for them to come out here and sacrifice their families and their time to come out and help us is commendable."