



# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 9(F)(1)(A)

**TO:** Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D. and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** January 20, 2004

**FROM:** George M. Burgess  
County Manager

**SUBJECT:** Resolution Authorizing a Sister Cities Agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Leeds, United Kingdom.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board authorize a Sister Cities affiliation between Miami-Dade County and the City of Leeds, Yorkshire, United Kingdom.

## BACKGROUND

The Miami-Dade County Coordinating Council at its regular meeting of October 23, 2003 unanimously voted to recommend to this Board the affiliation agreement between Miami-Dade County and the City of Leeds, Yorkshire, in the United Kingdom. The Council made this recommendation after listening to a very comprehensive presentation from the British Vice Council General in Miami, Mr. John Wright, who expressed on behalf of the City of Leeds its desire to formally establish a Sister Cities affiliation with our community.

The City of Leeds is one of the most important communities in the United Kingdom. It is geographically located in the center of Great Britain with a population of approximately seven hundred and fifty thousand people; however, over two million people live within thirty minutes of the City center. Like Miami-Dade County, Leeds is an international city with an international airport that has access to worldwide destinations including European capital cities, and Leeds is also a major river port. The city has rapidly become a trade center for the United Kingdom with an ambitious redevelopment program. Its population like ours is very diverse. In our estimation, Leeds meets the requirements of Resolution Number R-416-95 for creating a Sister Cities affiliation with Miami-Dade County.

I am attaching a letter from the Honorable Keith Wakenfield, Leader of the City Council of Leeds expressing his interest in developing close commercial and civic ties with Miami-Dade County. Therefore, it would be in the best interest of Miami-Dade to establish this relationship with this major city in the United Kingdom.

Attachment

Assistant County Manager



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Hon. Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** January 20, 2004

**FROM:** Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 9(F)(1)(A)

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 9 (F) (1) (A)  
1-20-04

**RESOLUTION NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SISTER CITIES  
AFFILIATION BETWEEN MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
AND THE CITY OF LEEDS, YORKSHIRE, UNITED  
KINGDOM**

**WHEREAS**, representatives of Miami-Dade County and the City of Leeds, U.K. have expressed a desire to establish a Sister City affiliation between the two governments; and

**WHEREAS**, both Miami-Dade County and the City of Leeds are regional hubs for international trade and both communities share business interest in biotechnology and financial services, and therefore meet the guidelines established in Resolution No. R-416-95: and

**WHEREAS**, both Miami-Dade County the City of Leeds shall agree to cooperate in order to expand trade, commerce and cultural opportunities between them; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board wishes to establish a Sister City affiliation between Miami-Dade County, Florida and the City of Leeds, U.K.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:**

Section 1. This Board, on behalf of the citizens of Miami-Dade County, Florida hereby establishes a Sister City affiliation with the government of the City of Leeds, U.K.

Section 2. A private citizen shall be appointed to the Sister Cities Program Coordinating Council to carry out the objectives of fostering enhanced economic and social relations between the two governments and their people .

Section 3. The Miami-Dade Sister Cities Program shall assist in coordinating projects to increase and promote trade, commerce and cultural ties between the two communities.

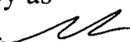
The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson	
Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Betty T. Ferguson	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Jimmy L. Morales
Dennis C. Moss	Dorin D. Rolle
Natacha Seijas	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of January, 2004. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.   
Stephen Stieglitz

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. R-416-95

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR THE  
"SISTER CITY" PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in order to enhance the stature of being a sister to Dade County, it is important that certain criteria be established prior to a foreign community becoming a sister city,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that it is the policy of Board that prior to a foreign location's becoming a sister city to Dade County that city would have to meet at least one of the following criteria:

(a) the proposed sister city is the capital of its country or

(b) the proposed sister city has the approximate population of Dade County, or

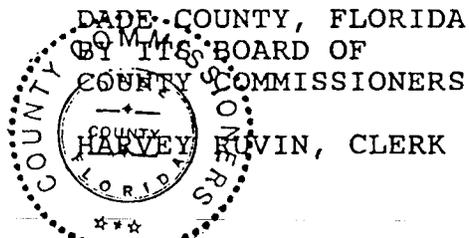
(c) the sister city would have to have some other quality in common with Dade County such as being a major international seaport or a community heavily involved in international trade or a community which bases its economy significantly on tourism.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Maurice Ferre, Chairman Arthur E. Teele, Jr., and Commissioner Javier D. Souto and was offered by Commissioner

Natacha S. Millan who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arthur E. Teele, Jr. and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

James Burke	aye	Miguel Diaz de la Portilla	absent
Betty T. Ferguson	aye	Maurice A. Ferre	absent
Bruce Kaplan	aye	Gwen Margolis	aye
Natacha S. Millan	aye	Dennis C. Moss	aye
Alexander Penelas	aye	Pedro Reboredo	aye
Katy Sorenson	aye	Javier D. Souto	absent
Arthur E. Teele, Jr.	aye		

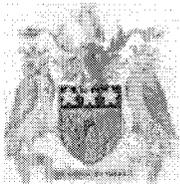
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of April, 1995.



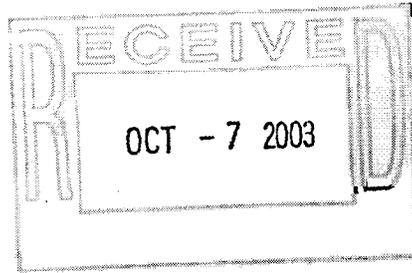
By: KAY SULLIVAN  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency. 

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**LEEDS**  
CITY COUNCIL



**Councillor Keith Wakefield**

Leader of the Council  
Labour Group Leader

Civic Hall  
LEEDS  
LS1 1UR

West Riding of Yorkshire

Telephone: (0113) 2474444  
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Our Ref: KW/AK2/DP/CE3

19<sup>th</sup> September 2003

+ **CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr John Wright  
Vice Consul  
British Consulate Miami  
Bricknell Bay Officer Tower  
1001 Bricknell Bay Drive  
Suite 2800

+ Miami  
Florida 33131  
United States of America

Dear Mr Wright

I understand from the Head of international relations, Adrian Strain, that discussions this morning concerning the possibility of a closer relationship with the Miami-Dade local authority in Florida, went very well.

My purpose in writing is to ask that you on behalf of Leeds City Council to offer our very warm greetings to the Mayor of Miami-Dade, Mr Alex Penelas, and transmit to him our strong interest in developing closer commercial and civic ties.

We are aware that Miami-Dade is a pivotal regional capital in the United States, serving as it does in commercial terms as gateway to Latin-America. The diverse economic profile of the Miami-Dade region matches well with the diverse economy of Leeds and Yorkshire.

You might also wish to convey to the authorities in Miami-Dade, Leeds' aspirations as a regional capital to develop strong strategic partnerships in key world regions. Leeds and Miami-Dade we would hope might be one such strategic partnership.

Yours sincerely

**Councillor Keith Wakefield**  
**Leader of the Council**

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