

**MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

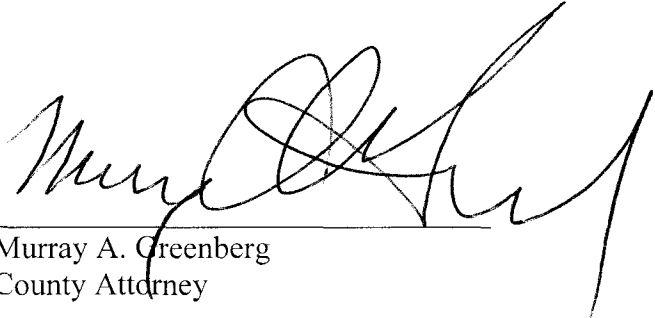
**DATE:** May 8, 2007

**FROM:** Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing County  
Manager to study feasibility  
of establishing a warning  
system to alert public of  
imminent severe weather  
conditions

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.



Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

MAG/bw



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** May 8, 2007

**FROM:** Murray A. Greenberg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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. 11(A)(12)  
5-8-07

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ESTABLISHING A WARNING SYSTEM TO ALERT THE PUBLIC OF IMMINENT SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS SUCH AS TORNADOS AND TO REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITHIN 90 DAYS

**WHEREAS**, in central Florida in the early morning hours of February 2, 2007, severe weather produced tornados that killed 19 people, making it the second-deadliest tornado event in Florida history; and

**WHEREAS**, although tornado warnings were issued by the National Weather Service shortly before the tornados touched down, few people were listening to the radio or watching television because most residents were asleep given that it was after 3:00 A.M. and few communities in the region have warning sirens; and

**WHEREAS**, after this event, a National Weather Service official was quoted as saying that the most dangerous tornado scenario is a threat for killer tornados at night; and

**WHEREAS**, at least one couple was reported to have heard their weather radio alarm sound off at 3:30A.M. and as a result were able to take protective action; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the central Florida tornados in February, on March 5, 2007, the City Council of Oviedo, Florida voted in favor of installing tornado sirens throughout the city; and

**WHEREAS**, under Chapter 252 of the Florida Statutes, political subdivisions of the State of Florida such as Miami-Dade County are authorized to undertake emergency management functions such as preparation for emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, under Chapter 252 of the Florida Statutes it is acknowledged that safeguarding the life and property of its citizens is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each political subdivision of the State of Florida such as Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, studying methods for implementing a warning system that includes but is not limited to sirens, automated home telephone calls or automated text messaging to residents that voluntarily sign up to receive them will be beneficial in giving the public enough notice to take protective actions when faced with imminent severe weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, actions that assist the public in preparing for severe weather events help prevent injury, loss of life and property and therefore promote the health, safety and welfare of Miami-Dade County,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, directs the County Manager to study the feasibility and effectiveness of establishing a warning system that alerts the public of imminent severe weather conditions such as tornados using methods such as sirens and automated phone and text messaging warnings and to report back to the Board of County Commissioners within 90 days.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz and Commissioner Dennis C. Moss and 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:

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman

Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Carlos A. Gimenez

Joe A. Martinez

Dorrin D. Rolle

Katy Sorenson

Sen. Javier D. Souto

Audrey M. Edmonson

Sally A. Heyman

Dennis C. Moss

Natacha Seijas

Rebeca Sosa

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2007 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

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

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency. \_\_\_\_\_



Eric A. Rodriguez

