

February 2, 2010

Memorandum



Date: February 1, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members
Board of County Commissioners

From: 
Carlos Alvarez
Mayor

Subject: Mayoral Appointment - Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department

CLERK OF THE BOARD
 2010 FEB - 1 AM 8:53
 CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURSES
 DADE COUNTY, FLA.
 #1

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the provisions of Section 2.02C and D of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. James K. Loftus as the Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) effective February 2, 2010. This appointment is pursuant to interviews held with the Assistant Directors of MDPD.

Mr. Loftus is a 26-year veteran of the Miami-Dade Police Department, holding various civil services ranks. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Loftus was the Assistant Director over Investigative Services overseeing major bureaus within the MDPD including Homicide, Robbery, Sexual Crimes, Narcotics, Domestic Crimes, Economic Crimes, Warrants, and the Strategic and Specialized Investigation Bureaus. In that capacity, he served as incident commander into the murder investigation of MDPD officer Jose Somohano. During his career, he has served as a supervisor in Uniform Patrol, Professional Compliance Bureau, Criminal Conspiracy Unit, and as Captain of the Homicide Bureau. In 1999, he was promoted to Major of the Homicide Bureau, and was later promoted and served as Chief of the Criminal Investigations Division.

In the 1990's, Mr. Loftus was responsible for coordinating all the logistical support for the investigative effort of the ValuJet crash and was the Incident Commander for the Fine-Air Cargo jet crash. As the Captain over the Homicide Bureau, Mr. Loftus was instrumental in the successful mass prosecution of the Kenneth Williams Organization "Boobie Boys", one of Miami-Dade's most violent criminal enterprises. His hands-on expertise in logistics attributed to a successful election in 2002 as he coordinated MDPD personnel to assist in that process, provided leadership to Super Bowl XXXIII and helped organize the Hurricane Andrew recover effort. It goes without saying that Mr. Loftus' inimitable span of experience will surely benefit the MDPD.

In addition to his law enforcement experience, Mr. Loftus has been actively involved with the Police Officer Assistance Trust (POAT), a non-profit support organization for the law enforcement community of Miami-Dade County, since its inception in 1989. He currently serves as President of the organization. To date, POAT has helped nearly 600 officers and their families providing over \$4,000,000 in assistance.

Mr. Loftus is also a member of the Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Two Hundred Club of Greater Miami. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Professional Studies from Barry University.

I am confident that Mr. Loftus will do an excellent job in leading this essential department. His interest and passion for public safety will be of great value to the MDPD. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Loftus. I have attached his resume and charge memorandum from the County Manager for your reference.

Attachment

- c: Honorable Joel Brown, Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida
- Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, State Attorney
- Honorable Pedro J. Garcia, Property Appraiser
- Honorable Carlos J. Martinez, Public Defender
- Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
- George M. Burgess, County Manager
- R. A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
- County Executive Office Staff
- Department Directors
- Dr. Eneida Roldan, President and Chief Operating Officer, Public Health Trust
- Robert Meyers, Executive Director, Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
- Christopher Mazzella, Inspector General
- Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

Memorandum



Date: February 1, 2010
To: James K. Loftus, Director
Miami-Dade Police Department
From: George M. Burgess
County Manager
Subject: FY 2009-10 Charge Memorandum – Police Department

CLERK OF THE BOARD
2010 FEB - 1 AM 05:52
CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLA

Congratulations on your appointment to Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). You have demonstrated great leadership during the interim and I am confident you will bring innovative management expertise to the Department. The MDPD is the largest local law enforcement department in the Southeastern United States with an unprecedented reputation.

As you begin your tenure as Director of the MDPD, I would like for you to focus on the following key objectives:

- Closely monitor the MDPD budget and overtime, exploring innovative ways to realign the department to realize savings
- Monitor the successful implementation of the changes to the FY2009-10 table of organization
- Continue to address crime patterns as needed across the community and ensure that MDPD continues to meet or exceed the National average clearance rates for homicide, robbery & sexual offenses.
- Effectively manage the new Strategic Policing Operations Response Team (S.P.O.R.T.) formed to address crime trends throughout Miami-Dade County.
- Implement the transition into the Lightspeed Building for 911 communications and continue to effectively manage emergency communications, answering incoming 911 calls from the public with the national standard
- Maintain an average emergency and non-emergency response time for unincorporated Miami-Dade County and with contracted cities that is consistent with national benchmark standards
- Effectively manage resources to fill basic law enforcement training classes in order to maintain staffing levels and competently trained officers
- Closely monitor and manage effectively the transition of personnel and services to and from contracted municipalities
- Ensure that Environmental and Sustainability goals are met within the departmental operations to support the County's sustainability initiatives

As Director of MDPD, I have no doubt that you will remain responsive to community concerns through positive police-citizen interaction, ensure that appropriate staffing levels for local patrol services are maintained and investigative efforts are conducted in order to address the public safety concerns of the citizens of Miami-Dade County. On behalf of our entire management team, I want to congratulate you on your appointment and wish you all the best in this endeavor.

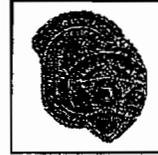
c: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Alina T. Hudak, Assistant County Manager

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- Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

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jloftus@mdpd.com



James K. Loftus

Personal Background

26-year veteran of the Miami-Dade Police Department who has held all civil service ranks. Married with two children, ages 8 and 10. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, currently residing in Miami-Dade County. Avid golfer and outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing.

Experience

2005 - Present

Assistant Director, Investigative Services

- Complete oversight of the major investigative bureaus within the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). The bureaus include Homicide, Robbery, Sexual Crimes, Narcotics, Domestic Crimes, Economic Crimes, Warrants, and the Strategic and Specialized Investigations Bureau.
- Fiscal responsibilities for the aforementioned bureaus would include the general oversight, review, and monitoring of bureau budgets.
- Media responsibilities would include news briefings on major incidents that occur as a result of police intervention from any of the bureaus under Investigative Services.
- Law Enforcement Trust Fund, Chairperson, charged with managing the fund, reviewing requests for funding to defray costs of protracted or complex investigations, technical equipment, etc., within the realm of state law, and the appropriate dissemination of monies.

2003 – 2005

Chief, Criminal Investigations Division

- Responsible for the day-to-day managerial operations of the Homicide, Robbery Sexual Crimes, and Domestic Crimes Bureaus.
- Charged with direct oversight of all major investigations.
- Responsible for staffing all hurricane shelters within Miami-Dade County in emergency situations.
- Represented the Department at community forums, exploring issues pertinent to major investigations.

1999-2003

Major, Homicide Bureau

- Accountable for all decisions made by supervisors and detectives assigned to the Homicide Bureau.
- On-scene commander of all major cases such as officers killed in the line-of-duty, police involved shootings, in-custody deaths, serial killers, organized crime contractual murders, and any deaths which required additional oversight due to concerns for the community and Miami-Dade County government.
- Apprised of and involved in all county vehicle accidents in which a death occurs, or that could possibly involve civil liability against Miami-Dade County.

- On-site coordinator for ValuJet Flight 592 Crash
- Incident Commander for the Fine-Air Cargo Jet Crash
- Assisted in organizing a successful election within Miami-Dade County utilizing MDPD personnel
- Appointed by County Manager to Selection Committee charged with hiring a new Medical Examiner
- Incident Commander for investigation into murder of MDPD Officer Jose Somohano

**Community /
Organizations**

- The 200 Club of Greater Miami, Board of Directors
- Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police, Member
- Police Officer Assistance Trust (POAT), President

I have been involved with POAT since its inception in 1989. POAT is a nonprofit organization which provides assistance to all law enforcement officers working in Miami-Dade County from local, state and federal agencies in times of hardship, personal crisis, or critical need. To date, POAT has assisted nearly 600 officers and their families, providing over \$4,000,000. in assistance.

- Conduit for a cohesive working relationship between other entities within MDPD, as well as outside of MDPD, such as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner's Office, and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office.

1997-1999

Captain, Homicide Bureau

- Coordinated all aspects of the Homicide Bureau into an efficient bureau that utilized all resources, departmental or non-departmental in an effective and productive manner.
- Actively involved in all death investigations.
- Directly supervised four lieutenants and their platoons.
- Monitored the bureau's budget for overages and short falls and implemented corrective actions.
- Attended command level briefings and expressed the concerns and wishes of the bureau to upper level command staff.
- Attended community organization functions to address the needs of the community and/or to alert the community of issues regarding their safety.
- Explored non-traditional methods of dismantling violent criminal enterprises, which resulted in the mass prosecution of one of Miami-Dade County's most violent criminal organizations – the Kenneth Williams Organization (Boobie Boys).

1994 – 1997

Lieutenant, Special Investigations Division, Executive Officer

- Coordinated all logistical support of the investigative effort of ValuJet Flight 592 Crash.
- Directed the restructuring of the Division's analytical priorities and functions.

1992 – 1994

Lieutenant, Cutler Ridge District, Community Services Unit

- Charged with reconstituting police/community cooperative initiatives (Crime Watch, Homeowner Associations, farm worker organizations) in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew.

1992

Lieutenant, Professional Compliance Bureau, Criminal Conspiracy

Served as Commander of the Criminal Conspiracy Section. Responsible for the investigation of criminal wrongdoing by police officers.

Education

1996

- B.S., Bachelor of Professional Studies – Barry University

Highlights

- Super Bowl XXXIII – NFL Commissioner Detail
- Summit of the Americas
- Hurricane Andrew Recovery Effort
- Assisted in the Re-Accreditation of MDPD to comply with CALEA's standards for law enforcement agencies