Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

DATE: October 5, 2010

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

Agenda Item No. 18(A)(8)

FROM: George M. Burgess
County Manager

SUBJECT: Mortgage Fraud Task Force Grant

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Board ratifies the County Mayor and/or County Mayor's designee's action to apply for, receive, and expend federal funds in the amount of $150,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance, to support the Miami-Dade Police Department. The grant period will be effective October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2012, and does not require a local match or in-kind funds.

Scope
The grant will provide countywide services.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source
This grant will provide $150,000 in federal funds to implement the proposed project. The grant does not require a local match or in-kind funds. The funding source is the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Track Record/Monitor
The grant will be monitored by the Chief Financial Officer of the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD).

Background
Ratification of this application is necessary because there were multiple grant proposal deadlines which coincided with the agenda item submission deadline. The priority was to ensure that eligible grant applications were submitted within the required time period. The problem of mortgage fraud has been well documented at all levels, federal, state, and local.

As recently as June, 2010, the U.S. Attorney for the South District of Florida held a press conference which reported the results of Operation Stolen Dreams. This operation was coordinated by the Department of Justice's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force (FFETF), a multi-agency operation, of which the MDPD played a signification role. From March 2, 2010 to June 17, 2010, Operation Stolen Dreams resulted in the indictments of 86 individuals in South Florida for their participation in a series of mortgage fraud schemes that resulted in more than $76 million in fraudulent loans. The MDPD Mortgage Fraud investigative team was critical to this operation and its successful outcome.

These funds will allow the Miami-Dade Mortgage Fraud Task Force to continue its aggressive strategy and strong agency partnerships to effectively investigate mortgage fraud and arrest/prosecute mortgage fraud criminals. In addition, staff will educate industry professionals and the public concerning mortgage fraud in order to prevent victimization.

Alina T. Hudak
Assistant County Manager

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 5, 2010

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 18(A)(8)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"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**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **No committee review**

_____ **Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous _____) to approve**

_____ **Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 18(A)(8)
10-5-10

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE'S ACTION TO APPLY FOR, RECEIVE, AND EXPEND GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $150,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FOR THE MIAMI-DADE MORTGAGE FRAUD TASK FORCE; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR AND/OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE AND EXECUTE SUCH CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, MODIFY OR AMEND THE APPLICATION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FUNDS OR TO EXTEND THE PERFORMANCE PERIOD AS REQUIRED IF AWARDED

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, this Board has adopted Resolution No. R-784-10, authorizing the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to administer County business during the Board of County Commissioners' 2010 summer recess as provided therein; and has directed that all actions taken pursuant to such authority be submitted to this Board for ratification at its October 5, 2010 meeting,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board approves the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee's action to apply for, receive, and expend $150,000 from the United States Department, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and authorizes the County Mayor and/or County Mayor designee to receive and expend grant funds, execute such contracts, agreements, Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), and

amendments as required by grant guidelines or to further the purposes described in the funding requests following approval by the County Attorney's Office; to expend any and all monies received for the purposes described in the funding request; to apply for, receive and expend future additional funds should they become available through the grant program; to file and execute any necessary amendments to the application for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida; and to exercise and execute any amendments, modifications, renewal and extension provisions, cancellation and termination clauses of any applications, contracts, agreements, and MOUs on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

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:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of October, 2010. 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.

Ben Simon

Miami-Dade County Mortgage Fraud Task Force

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MORTGAGE FRAUD TASK FORCE
CFDA #16.753

SUBMITTED BY:
MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ABSTRACT

Miami-Dade County submits this application for $150,000 for the Mortgage Fraud Task Force. The County will enhance mortgage fraud investigations, using a trained, experienced 16 member investigative team from the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD), and multi-agency partnerships (national, state, and local). The Mortgage Fraud Task Force will increase the arrest and prosecution of mortgage fraud criminals and secure the maximum penalty under the law.

The MFTF will conduct educational presentations for private citizens and industry professionals, especially lenders and their personnel. Presentations will focus on what they need to be aware of and look for in their day-to-day business and how they can best advise their customers, the consumer.

The MFTF team includes: MDPD detectives with over 135 combined years of investigative experience in partnership with the USAO – SDFL, U.S. Secret Service, FBI,; FL AGO of Statewide Prosecution, FL Department of Law Enforcement, FL Department of Business and Professional Regulation, FL Office of Financial Regulation (OFR); and Coral Gables and Surfside Police Departments. Partnerships will include the new mortgage fraud prosecution team of the State Attorney/11th Judicial Circuit.

The MFTF investigative strategy and strong agency partnerships will effectively investigate mortgage fraud and arrest/prosecute mortgage fraud criminals.