MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

TO:	Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	October 23, 2012
FROM:	R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution strongly condemning the United States Environmental Protection Agency for using images of Ernesto "Che" Guevara in an e-mail recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls

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MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 23, 2012

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

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. 11(A)(22)
10-23-12

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR USING IMAGES OF ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA IN AN E-MAIL RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, in September, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sent out an internal e-mail with images of Ernesto "Che" Guevara in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, the e-mail included a picture of a man riding in a donkey-pulled cart in front of a mural depicting Guevara and the phrase "Hasta La Victoria Siempre" or "On to Victory Always"; and

WHEREAS, Guevara played a pivotal role in Fidel Castro's seizing of power in Cuba, and used his position in the Castro regime to send countless innocent people to their deaths before firing squads; and

WHEREAS, Guevara administered and personally supervised the execution of countless political prisoners without trial or due process; and

WHEREAS, Guevara guided the Castro regime towards aligning with the Soviet Union, espoused strong Anti-American sentiments, was an enemy of freedom and a merciless executioner; and

WHEREAS, Guevara was generally considered to be a racist and a number of racist sentiments are expressed in Guevara's writings; and

WHEREAS, Guevara was quoted as saying that "if Christ himself stood in my way, I, like Neitzsche, would not hesitate to squish him like a worm"; and

WHEREAS, Guevara also played a key role in bringing Soviet nuclear weapons to Cuba leading up to the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis and stated that his causes would have been worth the possibility of "millions of atomic war victims" in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it was highly inappropriate for the United States Environmental Protection Agency to have used images of Guevara to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month,

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

Section 1. Strongly condemns the United States Environmental Protection Agency for using images of Ernesto "Che" Guevara in an e-mail recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to send certified copies of this resolution to the Florida Congressional Delegation and the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The Co-Prime Sponsors of the foregoing resolution are Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz. It 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:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 23rd day of October, 2012. 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.

Jess M. McCarty