

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

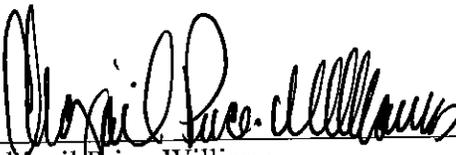
**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** December 1, 2015

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution supporting the Wallet Card, a tool which helps facilitate better communication between persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder ("ASD") and law enforcement officers and first responders; and directing the Mayor: (1) to coordinate with the Coral Gables Police Department to provide training to Miami-Dade County police officers on the use of the Wallet Card; and (2) to take steps to create a partnership with the Disability Independence Group, the Coral Gables Police Department, and the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities to provide support for the use of the Wallet Card in Miami-Dade County

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.

  
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Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/smm



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** December 1, 2015

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

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
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor'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)(16)  
12-1-15

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

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WALLET CARD, A TOOL WHICH HELPS FACILITATE BETTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PERSONS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (“ASD”) AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS; AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE: (1) TO COORDINATE WITH THE CORAL GABLES POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY POLICE OFFICERS ON THE USE OF THE WALLET CARD; AND (2) TO TAKE STEPS TO CREATE A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DISABILITY INDEPENDENCE GROUP, THE CORAL GABLES POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI-NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE USE OF THE WALLET CARD IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institutes of Health, the term autism spectrum disorder (“ASD”) refers to a range of complex neurodevelopment disorders that are characterized by social impairments, communication difficulties, and restricted, repetitive, and stereotyped patterns of behavior; and

**WHEREAS**, autistic disorder, sometimes called autism or classical ASD, is the most severe form of ASD, while milder forms include Asperger syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder, and pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified; and

**WHEREAS**, although ASD varies significantly in character and severity, it occurs in all ethnic and socioeconomic groups and affects every age group; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with ASD and other cognitive impairments often face difficulties communicating with others, including first responders and law enforcement personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wallet Card is a free personalized identification card for teenagers and adults who have ASD or intellectual disabilities designed to help them communicate with law enforcement officers and first responders about their disability and the challenges they face; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wallet Card was created through a collaboration among the Disability Independence Group, the Coral Gables Police Department, and the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wallet Card contains information such as the card holder's diagnosis, some of the challenges the person faces, and the person's emergency contact information; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wallet Card is available to all persons who have been diagnosed with ASD or an intellectual disability, regardless of where they reside; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wallet Card can be requested online at [www.justdigit.org/wallet-cards](http://www.justdigit.org/wallet-cards); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables Police Department has been providing training to police departments throughout the state on the use of the Wallet Card in an effort to help improve communication between law enforcement and persons with ASD and other intellectual disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of the Wallet Card throughout Miami-Dade County could have a substantial positive impact on the safety of our residents; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board wishes to express its support of the Wallet Card and desires to promote its use throughout Miami-Dade County,

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

**Section 1.** Approves and incorporates the foregoing recitals in this Resolution.

**Section 2.** Supports the use of the Wallet Card throughout Miami-Dade County and expresses its desire to promote heightened communication between persons with ASD and other intellectual disabilities and first responders and law enforcement.

**Section 3.** Directs the Mayor or Mayor's designee: (1) to coordinate with the Coral Gables Police Department to provide training to Miami-Dade County police officers on the use of the Wallet Card; and (2) to take steps to create a partnership with the Disability Independence Group, the Coral Gables Police Department, and the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities to provide support for the use of the Wallet Card in Miami-Dade County.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. 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:

Jean Monestime, Chairman	
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	Xavier L. Suarez
Juan C. Zapata	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2015. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.

MP *for*

Annery Pulgar Alfonso