

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)


TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 16, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to codesignate
that portion of State Road
968/Southwest 1st Street from
Southwest 17th Avenue to
Southwest 19th Avenue as
“Charles Dascal Way”

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/wm

MDC001



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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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 present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) ____) 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)(9)
12-16-25

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
CODESIGNATE THAT PORTION OF STATE ROAD
968/SOUTHWEST 1ST STREET FROM SOUTHWEST 17TH
AVENUE TO SOUTHWEST 19TH AVENUE AS “CHARLES
DASCAL WAY”

WHEREAS, Charles Dascal was born in Havana, Cuba, on February 16, 1932; and

WHEREAS, Dascal immigrated to the United States with his wife, Fanny Nieman Dascal,
and their family in 1961; and

WHEREAS, upon arriving in the United States, Dascal, his wife, their young daughter,
and his parents moved into a duplex in Little Havana; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, Dascal—who had an affinity for technology—went into
the business of selling Japanese-made stereo components; and

WHEREAS, in a short time, Dascal became one of the most prominent Cuban-American
entrepreneurs in Miami; and

WHEREAS, Dascal’s company, DYN Electronics, was highly profitable, and the success
enabled Dascal to found Continental National Bank in 1972; and

WHEREAS, originally operating out of a trailer at 1801 Southwest 1st Street, Continental
National Bank was reportedly the country’s first Cuban-American owned bank, catering to exiles
such as Dascal that were seeking opportunity in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Continental National Bank succeeded and eventually grew to a size of seven
bank locations, becoming a significant financial institution in the area; and

WHEREAS, despite his success, Dascal’s vision for the bank never wavered, remaining
steadfast in his mission to enable immigrants to build a solid foundation in America; and

WHEREAS, Dascal never moved the bank to Coral Gables or Brickell, where the traditional money centers were; and

WHEREAS, because the bank was part of the exile community from its inception, Dascal was committed to staying in Little Havana to help other migrants; and

WHEREAS, Dascal subsequently ventured into the automotive industry; and

WHEREAS, with the same attitude that propelled him from one business success to another, Dascal “cold called” Henry Ford II during the 1974 Christmas holidays, announced himself as the chairman of Continental National Bank, and asked Ford to make Dascal a franchisee; and

WHEREAS, as a result of that call, Dascal obtained the rights to a Ford franchise and subsequently founded Midway Ford, reportedly becoming the first Cuban American to obtain a Ford franchise in the United States; and

WHEREAS, that same year, Time magazine named Dascal one of 200 “Faces from the Future”, foreshadowing the later successes of Charles Dascal; and

WHEREAS, Dascal went on to preside over a sizeable automotive business portfolio, owning not just Midway Ford, but also South Motors Automotive Group and Vista BMW, with a total of eleven showrooms in all; and

WHEREAS, Dascal was also a quietly generous philanthropist, supporting countless local charities including the Jackson Memorial Foundation, St. Jude Children’s Hospital, and Miami Children’s Hospital; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Dascal chaired the Florida International University Foundation board in the 1990s, and he supported the Epilepsy Foundation of South Florida, La Liga Contra el Cancer, various arts organizations, and the Humane Society of Greater Miami; and

WHEREAS, despite his business triumphs and philanthropic efforts, Dascal was a family man whose children and grandchildren were his proudest successes; and

WHEREAS, Dascal passed away on July 29, 2013, leaving behind his wife of almost 59 years as well as their children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, that portion of State Road 968/Southwest 1st Street from Southwest 17th Avenue to Southwest 19th Avenue is a state road located in the City of Miami; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to honor Charles Dascal's legacy and contributions to the South Florida community by urging the Florida Legislature to codesignate that portion of State Road 968/Southwest 1st Street from Southwest 17th Avenue to Southwest 19th Avenue as "Charles Dascal Way",

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to codesignate that portion of State Road 968/Southwest 1st Street from Southwest 17th Avenue to Southwest 19th Avenue as "Charles Dascal Way".

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, the Florida House Speaker, and the Chair and remaining members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2026 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Vicki L. Lopez. 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:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman | |
| Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman | |
| Marleine Bastien | Juan Carlos Bermudez |
| Sen. René García | Oliver G. Gilbert, III |
| Roberto J. Gonzalez | Keon Hardemon |
| Danielle Cohen Higgins | Vicki L. Lopez |
| Natalie Milian Orbis | Raquel A. Regalado |
| Micky Steinberg | |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of December, 2025. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Christian J. Fernandez-Andes