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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(G)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 22, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Resolution naming the building that currently houses the Public Defender Office in honor of Public Defender Bennett Brummer

R-78-08

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Senator Javier D. Souto.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/bw

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 22, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(G)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"4-Day Rule" ("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**

_____ **Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation**

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

_____ **Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)**

✓ **No committee review**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 5(G)
1-22-08

RESOLUTION NO. **R-78-08**

RESOLUTION NAMING THE BUILDING THAT CURRENTLY HOUSES THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE IN HONOR OF PUBLIC DEFENDER BENNETT BRUMMER; SUSPENDING RULE 9.02 AS IT RELATES TO THIS ITEM

WHEREAS, Bennett Brummer has dedicated his life to public service, especially to providing legal services for the poor; and

WHEREAS, his service career started early, serving two years with the Peace Corps in Venezuela where he became fluent in Spanish; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Mr. Brummer joined the Dade County Public Defender's Office as an Assistant Public Defender in the Appellate Division; and

WHEREAS, over the next five years, he was promoted to Chief of the Appellate Division and later to Executive Assistant to the Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Bennett Brummer was elected Dade County's Public Defender and has served in that role ever since, having been re-elected in November 2004 to his eighth consecutive term; and

WHEREAS, as Public Defender, he is responsible for an office employing approximately 400 people, including 200 attorneys, who handle about 100,000 cases per year; and

WHEREAS, his work is recognized nationally and internationally, and various governments and defender organizations across the United States and Latin America have relied upon his expertise in court and in defender management and office technology; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties at the Public Defender's Office, Brummer has served as a part-time instructor at the University of Miami School of Law, and has been elected by his colleagues at the state level to serve three terms as president of the bi-partisan, Florida Public Defender Association; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court appointed Brummer to the Judicial Management Council and he was appointed by Governors Chiles, Graham and Askew to various state level criminal justice councils and commissions; and

WHEREAS, at the national level, he served six years on the board of directors of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association and served on an American Bar Association Task Force that wrote professional standards for criminal defense attorneys; and

WHEREAS, among numerous honors, in 2002 the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Florida and the Florida Bar's Criminal Justice Section bestowed their highest awards upon Brummer; and

WHEREAS, more recently, he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement award from the Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida, and Florida's Children First organization honored him with an award for Miami-Dade County's Outstanding Child Advocates; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Herald has described Bennett Brummer as an "intelligent, cultivated and thoughtful public servant," who "stick[s] up for those who can't stick up for themselves"; and

WHEREAS, this proposed naming of the building that currently houses the Public Defender Office for the Florida Eleventh Judicial Circuit for Public Defender Bennett Brummer is located in County Commission District 5,

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

Section 1. Finds that Miami-Dade Public Defender Bennett Brummer has made a direct, significant lifetime contribution to this community and approves the naming of the building that currently houses the Public Defender Office for the Florida Eleventh Judicial Circuit at 1320 NW 14th Street as the Bennett Brummer Building.

Section 2. Suspends Rule 9.02 of the Rules of Procedure of the County Commission, by a 2/3rds vote of the commissioners present as it relates to consideration and approval of this item.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, the United States Postal Service, and the following departments of Miami-Dade County: Fire-Rescue, General Services Administration, Police, and Public Works.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and Senator Javier D. Souto and offered by Commissioner **Sen. Javier D. Souto**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Jose "Pepe" Diaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman **absent**
Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman **absent**

Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Carlos A. Gimenez	**aye**	Sally A. Heyman	**aye**
Joe A. Martinez	**aye**	Dennis C. Moss	**aye**
Dorrin D. Rolle	**aye**	Natacha Seijas	**absent**
Katy Sorenson	**absent**	Rebeca Sosa	**absent**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**aye**		

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 22nd day of January, 2008. 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: **Kay Sullivan**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. JMM

Jess M. McCarty