

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

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


DATE: June 7, 2011

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the Mayor
to identify County resources
that could be used for the
purpose of creating safe
houses for children who
have been sexually exploited

Resolution No. R-465-11

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Lynda Bell, Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner Jean Monestime, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

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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
- ☐ 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 _____

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)
6-7-11

RESOLUTION NO. R-465-11

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S
DESIGNEE TO IDENTIFY COUNTY RESOURCES THAT
COULD BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING SAFE
HOUSES FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY
EXPLOITED; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR
MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL
PARTNERS TO IDENTIFY WAYS IN WHICH MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY CAN ASSIST CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN
SEXUALLY EXPLOITED

WHEREAS, according to the Florida House of Representatives Staff Analysis of HB 145 (2011 Session) (hereinafter, "Staff Analysis"), it is estimated that about 293,000 youth in the United States are currently at risk of becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, according to this Staff Analysis, the majority of victims of commercial sexual exploitation are runaway youths who come from homes where they have been abused or abandoned and become involved in prostitution as a means of financial support, while other youths are forced into prostitution through abduction, pressure from adults or through deceptive agreements between parents and traffickers; and

WHEREAS, commercial sexual exploitation of children includes escort and massage services, private dancing, drinking and photographic clubs, major sporting and recreational events, major cultural events, conventions and tourist destinations, as per the Staff Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the average age at which youths first become involved in prostitution is 12-14 for girls and 11-13 for boys, as per the Staff Analysis; and

WHEREAS, this Board of County Commissioners desires to address this crisis and help the youth in this community who may be victims of sexual exploitation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the Mayor or Mayor's designee is directed to:

1. Identify Miami-Dade County resources that can be used to create safe houses for children who have been sexually exploited, including but not limited to:

- a. Existing victim services programs such as domestic violence shelters, youth services program, homeless programs such as homeless shelters and other County programs,
- b. Unused space, leases, buildings, lots or other property;
- c. Available grants and other funding sources for which the County could apply; and
- d. Existing contracts with community based organizations.

2. Collaborate with local, state and federal law enforcement, State of Florida Department of Children and Families, The Children's Trust and other appropriate partners such as but not limited to the Kristi House to devise a strategy for helping children who have been sexually exploited, including identification of resources.

3. The Mayor or Mayor's designee shall provide a report to the Public Safety and Health Care Administration Committee no later than thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Resolution.

4. The Mayor or Mayor's designee is authorized to negotiate and execute a lease agreement, without disclosing the location of the property unless required by law, and to provide a report to this Commission when the lease has been executed.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Lynda Bell, Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner Jean Monestime, Commissioner Rebecca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto. It was offered by Commissioner **Bruno A. Barreiro**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Audrey Edmonson** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

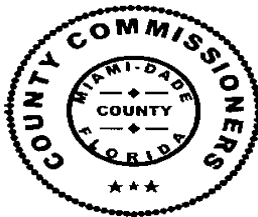
Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	aye		
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	aye		
Bruno A. Barreiro	aye	Lynda Bell	aye
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	aye	Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Barbara J. Jordan	absent
Jean Monestime	aye	Dennis C. Moss	absent
Rebeca Sosa	absent	Sen. Javier D. Souto	absent
Xavier L. Suarez	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of June, 2011. 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: **Christopher Agrippa**
Deputy Clerk



Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

ES for

Karon M. Coleman