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

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 5(B)

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

**DATE:** October 6, 2015

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution codesignating NW 175th Street from NW 27th Avenue to NW 37th Avenue as "Officer Thelma Harris Way"; urging the City of Miami Gardens to join in this codesignation

Resolution No. R-809-15

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/lmp

# MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: October 6, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 5(B)

**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 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. 5(B)
10-6-15

RESOLUTION NO. R-809-15

RESOLUTION CODESIGNATING NW 175TH STREET FROM NW 27TH AVENUE TO NW 37TH AVENUE AS "OFFICER THELMA HARRIS WAY"; URGING THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS TO JOIN IN THIS CODESIGNATION

**WHEREAS**, Thelma Gaitor Freeman Harris, the first black female police officer in Florida and a 20-year veteran with the Miami-Dade Police Department, died on July 4, 2015 at the age of 88; and

**WHEREAS**, Harris earned an associate of arts in police science and criminology from Miami-Dade Community College, a bachelor's in continuing studies at the University of Miami, and a master's of science in human resources from Biscayne College, now known as St. Thomas University; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 1962, Harris became the first black female police officer in Florida by joining the Miami-Dade Police Department, and she served with the department for 20 years before retiring in 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to her frequent undercover work with the department, Harris worked as a police-school liaison officer for junior high schools in the North District and Hialeah to help improve the image of police officers and their careers; and

**WHEREAS**, outside of policing, Harris was a pioneer member of Mount Hermon AME Church for 58 years, where she sang in the choir; and

**WHEREAS**, Harris was also a soprano soloist with the Miami Oratorio Society and served as vice president of the United Women Missionary; and

**WHEREAS,** this Board would like to honor the memory of Officer Thelma Harris by codesignating NW 175th Street from NW 27th Avenue to NW 37th Avenue as "Officer Thelma Harris Way"; and

**WHEREAS,** NW 175th Street from NW 27th Avenue to NW 37th Avenue is a County road located in the City of Miami Gardens; and

**WHEREAS,** this proposed codesignation is located in County Commission District 1,

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

**Section 1.** Having considered this matter at a public hearing, codesignates NW 175th Street from NW 27th Avenue to NW 37th Avenue as "Officer Thelma Harris Way".

**Section 2.** Urges the City of Miami Gardens to join in this codesignation.

**Section 3.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Miami Gardens City Council, the Miami Gardens City Manager, the United States Postal Service, the Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Public Works and Waste Management Department, the Development Services Division of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, the Miami Gardens Police Department and the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. It was offered by Commissioner **Barbara J. Jordan**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of October, 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: Christopher Agrippa
Deputy Clerk

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

Michael J. Mastrucci