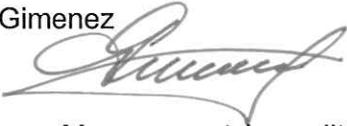


Memorandum



Date: April 20, 2012

To: Honorable Chairman Joe Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Emergency Management Accreditation

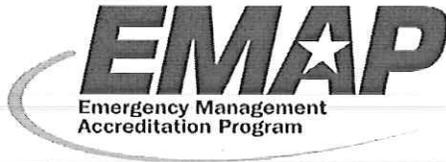
Over the past 50 years, emergency management in Miami-Dade has evolved from a narrowly focused civil defense organization, to an all-hazards operation with robust capabilities. Through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the disaster efforts of police, fire-rescue, public health, public works, transportation, environmental response professionals, private sector partners and non-governmental organizations are coordinated. One of the most powerful tools we have in mitigating the impacts of disasters is strong emergency management and the commitment of emergency management professionals focused on comprehensive, progressive, and inclusive all-hazards preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

This month, Miami-Dade OEM was one of six local and three state emergency management programs to achieve national emergency management accreditation. Emergency management accreditation represents a significant achievement. It is a means of demonstrating through program assessment, documentation and onsite assessment by an independent peer review team that a program meets national standards. Achieving accreditation demonstrates OEM's commitment to public safety and the welfare of the residents of Miami-Dade County.

I would like to recognize the leadership and staff of OEM who work so hard in keeping the residents of this community informed, safe and prepared during all emergency events. I congratulate them in receiving this significant accreditation.

Attachment

- c: William "Shorty" Bryson, Fire Chief, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department
- Curt Sommerhoff, Assistant Director, Office of Emergency Management
- Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
- Office of Emergency Management Staff



P.O. Box 11910
Lexington, KY 40578-1910
www.emaponline.org

EMAP Commission

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Projects Specialist
Christine Jacobs,
Projects Coordinator

April 13, 2012

Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez
Office of the Mayor
Stephen P. Clark Center
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

Mayor Gimenez:

On behalf of the EMAP Commission, I am pleased to inform you that Miami-Dade County's emergency management program has been granted full accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. Upon recommendation by the Program Review Committee, the EMAP Commission voted on Miami-Dade County's accreditation at its meeting today.

Emergency management accreditation represents a significant achievement. Miami-Dade County is commended for the work accomplished to achieve compliance with national standards. To achieve accreditation, your program, which includes many agencies and individuals within the jurisdiction, took steps to document compliance with sixty-three national standards and a peer-review on-site assessment by a team of EMAP trained assessors.

Accreditation recognizes the ability of local government to bring together personnel, resources, and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to a disaster of any type. These capabilities form the foundation of the nation's disaster response system. We applaud the Miami-Dade County's leadership and congratulate you on your commitment to achieve accreditation. More importantly, we recognize the dedication to the safety and security of the Miami-Dade County's residents that it represents.

Attached for your use as you desire is a news release regarding the Miami-Dade County's achievement. In the coming weeks, EMAP will provide a plaque recognizing the Miami-Dade County's accredited status. If I or the EMAP staff can be of assistance or provide more information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Jerome Hatfield
EMAP Commission Chairperson

Cc: Curtis Sommerhoff, Director, Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management