

Date: March 13, 2013

Memorandum



To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez".

Subject: Texting 911

On February 5, 2013, the Board of County Commissioner (BCC) adopted Resolution R-98-13 directing the Mayor to prepare a report on the feasibility of utilizing texting as a means for contacting 911.

Next Generation 911 (NG911) is moving communication from a circuit switch telephone system to a digital platform, which allows for the receipt of multimedia message. NG911 is an Internet Protocol (IP) based system, comprised of managed Emergency Services IP networks, applications, and databases that replicate traditional E911 features and functions and provide multimedia data capabilities for Public Safety Answering Points. These data capabilities include sending and receiving of text messages, photos, and videos as part of an emergency response system. In our current 911 network, text messages cannot be received.

On February 22, 2012, as part of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Congress enacted the Next Generation 911 Advancement Act of 2012. This act requires the Federal Communications Commission to issue a report detailing recommendations for the statutory and legal framework for NG911 services. As this framework continues to develop, it is recommended that we closely monitor and understand the capabilities for NG911 services before it is deployed to the cellular users in Miami-Dade County. Additionally it is recommended that we work with our cellular carriers to educate users on using their cellular devices as a method to reach 911.

We will continue to follow the development of this technology and inform this Board of its progress.

c: Genaro "Chip" Iglesias, Deputy Mayor
J.D. Patterson, Jr., Director, Miami-Dade Police Department