

Memorandum



Date: December 23, 2013

To: Joel Hoffman, Executive Director
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Approval of Fee Waiver for the January 13, 2014
United States Department of State

On January 13, 2014, the United States Department of State will be hosting a dinner reception at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens for the Diplomatic Corps attending the Experience America Miami Welcome Dinner. Approximately 150 guests are expected.

Experience America brings the art of diplomacy to cities and neighborhoods – big and small – across America and is designed to showcase life outside our nation's capital to foreign ambassadors posted in Washington, D.C. Experience America visits build relationships, encourage business investment and trade, provide a forum for dialogue, and create opportunities for the Diplomatic Corps to connect with business, community, academic and cultural leaders around the country.

This program has taken the Diplomatic Corps to Alaska; Atlanta, Georgia; Austin, Texas; Arkansas; Chicago, Illinois; New Orleans, Louisiana; Los Angeles, California, and Wyoming. The United States Department of State fosters mutually beneficial relationships for the cities and states visited, and the countries of ambassadors who join these trips.

As you know, Ordinance 08-127, grants me the authority to administratively waive or reduce the rental fees for the use of Vizcaya. Staff has reviewed this request and advises that the United States Department of State meets the criteria necessary to waive or reduce the rental fees for the use of Vizcaya. As such, I am recommending a waiver of rental fees for the event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my Chief of Staff, Genaro "Chip" Iglesias at 305-375-5311.

c: Genaro "Chip" Iglesias, Deputy Mayor/Chief of Staff
Lisa M. Martinez, Senior Advisor