

# Memorandum



**Date:** April 21, 2014  
**To:** Honorable Xavier L. Suarez  
Commissioner, District 7  
**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor  
**Subject:** Operation of the County's South Dade Animal Services Clinic and High Volume Spay & Neutering Services

Thank you for the opportunity to address your concerns, as noted in your memo dated March 19, 2014, regarding the subject matter. My administration is fully committed to supporting and abiding by all applicable competitive public procurement provisions and existing legislation.

In response to your specific concern that the Humane Society of Greater Miami's "bid was rejected in favor of an out-of-town bidder," please be advised that no award has been made to any organization and the County is still considering options for providing this service.

In an effort to collect information from the animal welfare industry and from prospective veterinarian providers that could aid the County in preparing and issuing a future solicitation, the County released a Request for Information (RFI) document through the Internal Services Department (ISD) on November 26, 2013, and again on December 11, 2013. The purpose of the RFI was to seek feedback and interest in the potential use of the South Dade Animal Clinic as a high-volume spay/neuter facility.

There were four responses to the RFI. All four responses were reviewed by the Animal Services Department (ASD) and ISD, with two of the respondents (The Humane Society of Greater Miami and Target Zero, Inc.) deemed as having the capacity to render the necessary services. These firms were invited to meet with the County, tour the South Dade Clinic facility, and provide viable solutions for a high volume spay/neuter clinic. Staff is currently reviewing their proposed solutions.

I assure you that all applicable competitive procurement legislation is adhered to in our solicitations. Additionally, procurement professionals in ISD work in collaboration with County departments to ensure that we provide opportunities to all qualified businesses in Miami-Dade County.

Should you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Alex Munoz, ASD Director at 305-418-7128 or Lester Sola, ISD Director at 305-375-2363, or me directly.

c: Honorable Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman  
and Members of the Board of County Commissioners  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff  
Lester Sola, Director, Internal Services Department  
Alex Muñoz, Director, Animal Services Department  
Miriam Singer, Assistant Director, Internal Services Department

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MEMORANDUM  
COMMISSIONER XAVIER L. SUAREZ

111 NW First Street, Suite 220 Miami, Florida 33128 Tel. (305) 375-5680 Fax (305) 372-6103

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TO: Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor

DATE: March 19, 2014

FROM: Xavier L. Suarez  
Commissioner, District 7

RE: Humane Society of  
Greater Miami

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I am informed that the Humane Society's bid for a high-volume spay/neuter clinic was rejected in favor of an out-of-town bidder. I am also informed that the non-local bid was \$200,000 more expensive.

I urge you to review this matter and justify what appears as a violation of our competitive bidding rules.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "XLS", written over a white background.

Xavier L. Suarez  
Commissioner  
District 7

Cc: Mrs. Milton J. Wallace  
Chairman of the Board  
Humane Society of Greater Miami

Laurie Hoffman  
Executive Director  
Humane Society of Greater Miami