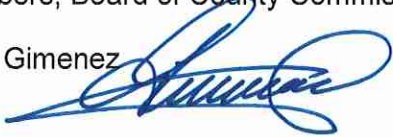


# Memorandum



**Date:** October 5, 2015

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

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor 

**Subject:** Appointment of James F. Murley as Chief Resilience Officer

---

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. James F. Murley as Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) for Miami-Dade County. Mr. Murley has spent over four decades working on public policy issues important to our state and our community. He currently holds the position of Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, where he formed the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, a collaborative regional planning activity funded by a three year, \$4.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. At the forefront of sustainability and climate change issues in this community and nationally, Mr. Murley helped author sections of the 2014 National Climate Assessment and serves on several county level Task Forces focusing on energy and climate issues. Prior to joining the South Florida Regional Planning Council, he spent over 10 years at Florida Atlantic University overseeing research on urban and environmental issues. Mr. Murley also served as Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Lawton Chiles working on comprehensive planning, economic development, energy and emergency management issues. He was the founding Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, a statewide not-for-profit focused on sound community planning and protection of natural resources. Mr. Murley is a graduate of Leadership Florida and a Fellow in the National Academy for Public Administration and has served on various state commissions including the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, Florida Communities Trust and served three years as the Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission.

While Mr. Murley's credentials are impressive, it is his proven track record as a collaborative regional planner that makes him the perfect candidate for the job of CRO. In preparation for a planned national search for the position, I tasked staff with researching the credentials of existing CROs around the nation. We found in many cases that CROs came from within organizations and had specific local experience in regional or emergency planning in their cities; others had broader state or national credentials coupled with local community links. After a review of current CRO backgrounds, it was clear that Mr. Murley was uniquely qualified, if not more qualified than other CROs nationally and internationally.

I have asked Mr. Murley to begin his transition as soon as possible so that he may assist with the work that has already begun on the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities Challenge grant application and continue the work of making recommendations to further organize our County in the direction that will be needed long term. Miami-Dade County will be working closely with our many municipal and regional partners in order for our entire region to become truly resilient. We are privileged to have attracted such a well-respected and broadly experienced candidate and I believe there is no better leader for the task that lies ahead.

Mr. Murley will begin in our new Office of Resilience on November 3, 2015 and will be supported by staff from the existing Office of Sustainability. He will report directly to Deputy Mayor Jack Osterholt, through the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER). I have asked Mr. Murley to contact your offices and meet with each of you. Thank you for your support of the creation of a CRO and for your support of the vision of a resilient Miami-Dade. Please join

me in congratulating James F. Murley for his appointment as Chief Resilience Officer for Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Murley's resume is attached for your review.

c: Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of Courts  
Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff  
Department Directors  
RER Senior Staff  
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

# JAMES F. MURLEY

Jim Murley has spent over four decades working on public policy issues important to Florida. He a leader on sustainability and climate change issues, has helped author sections of the 2014 National Climate Assessment and has been appointed to federal, state, and local task forces focusing on energy and climate issues. Mr. Murley was the founding Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, a statewide not-for-profit focused on sound community planning and protection of natural resources. He then served as Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Lawton Chiles working on comprehensive planning, economic development, energy and emergency management issues. Murley spent over 10 years with Florida Atlantic University overseeing research on urban and environmental issues. He currently holds the position of Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council. He has served on various state commissions, including the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, Florida Communities Trust and was Chairman of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission. He is a graduate of Leadership Florida and a Fellow in the National Academy for Public Administration.

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, History, Denison University, Granville, Ohio

Juris Doctor in Land Use and Environmental Law, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **South Florida Regional Planning Council Executive Director 2011-present**

Since 2011 Jim Murley has served as the Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council. In that position he formed the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, a collaborative regional planning activity funded by a three year, \$4.25 million, grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Partnership is a collaboration of the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils in cooperation with over 200 public, private, not for profit and civic organizations covering a geographic area from Key West to Vero Beach and representing a population of over 6.2 million people. The final Regional Prosperity Plan ([www.seven50report.org](http://www.seven50report.org)) identifies keys urban and natural system priorities. While at the Council Murley also oversaw



a \$200,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to produce a Local Government Guidebook for Adaptation Action Areas.

**Florida Atlantic University**

**1999 – 2011**

**Director, Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions**

**Assistant Dean for External Relations**

From 1999 to 2011, Murley served in various positions at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). In 2009, he was appointed Assistant Dean for External Relations for the College for Design and Social Inquiry at FAU. His responsibilities included working with the Dean, faculty and students to further their involvement in civic activities throughout the South Florida region and educating public and private leaders on the resources available at the College. In addition, he served as Senior Advisor for Energy and Climate Change with the Florida Center for Environmental Studies, College of Science. In that capacity he assisted the University's interdisciplinary initiatives in climate change adaptation and offshore renewable energy.

Murley first came to FAU in 1999 as Director of the University's Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions (CUES). With the support of the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP) the Center produced a study entitled "Florida Resilient Coasts: A Statewide Policy Framework for Adapting to Climate Change." The Center completed a sequel study entitled "Southeast Florida's Resilient Water Resources: Adaptation to Sea Level Rise and other impact from Climate Change." The Center also conducted a five year program of applied regional research with support of the John D. and Catherine T. Mac Arthur Foundation.

**Florida Department of Community Affairs**

**Secretary**

**1995 – 1998**

Murley was appointed Secretary of DCA in 1995, by Governor Lawton Chiles. As Secretary, Murley oversaw the Department's growth management functions, including the Key West and Florida Keys Areas of Critical State Concern. He directed the state emergency management operations during the landfall of four hurricanes in 1998. He also directed the Department's housing, energy and urban development programs and served on the Board of Directors for Florida Housing Finance Agency, Florida Communities Trust, the South Walton County Conservation and Development Trust, and the Conservation Land Advisory Committee.

**1000 Friends of Florida  
Executive Director  
1987 – 1995**

In 1987, Murley was asked to head a newly founded 1000 Friends of Florida, a not-for-profit public interest group that works to promote sensible planning, economic development and environmental preservation. During his tenure the organization became a significant statewide force in growth management issues and he was asked to serve on various task forces, including Governor Graham's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida.

**Florida Department of Community Affairs  
Director of Resource Planning and Management  
1983 - 1987**

Murley joined the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in 1983 as its Director of Resource Planning and Management, where he worked with local governments on housing, planning and transportation issues.

**National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration, Coastal  
Zone Management  
Regional Manager, Gulf and Islands Region; Congressional Liaison;  
Director, Coastal Programs Office  
1977 - 1983**

Jim Murley worked for the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration in coastal zone management in increasingly responsible positions. In addition to other accomplishments, he assisted the State of Florida obtain federal approval of its Coastal Zone Management Program. He worked with Congress to successfully pass significant amendments to the Coastal Zone Management Act.

**SERVICE AND RECOGNITION**

Murley is a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration. He has served on several study panels for the Academy including reviews of the National Marine Sanctuary Program and a three year study for the Environmental Protection Agency on how issues of environmental justice are addressed at the federal, state and local government levels. Recently, Murley participated on an Academy panel requested by the United States Congress to review the proposed National Climate Service in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Department of Commerce.

Murley serves on a number of organizations focused on finding solutions to climate change challenges facing Florida. He served as Vice Chair of the Miami Dade County Sea Level Rise Task Force and is a member of the Broward County Climate Change Task Force and the City of Miami Sea Level Rise Committee. In

2008 he was appointed by Governor Charlie Crist as the first Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission. The Commission was charged with implementing over \$180 million in federal economic recovery funds from the United States Department of the Energy.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Florida Ocean Alliance (FOA). FOA published a July, 2009 report, "Moving Ahead: The Next Step in Ocean Management in Florida", calling for improved management of Florida's ocean and coastal resources. In 2011, the FOA released a follow up report at their annual Florida Oceans Day entitled, "Oceans of Opportunity: Managing the Uses of Florida's Ocean Spaces." In 2001, Murley received FOA's initial Ocean Champion award presented by Jean-Michael Cousteau of the Ocean Futures Society. He also serves as Chair of the national Board of Directors of the Coastal States Stewardship Foundation (CSSF). The CSSF partners with the Coastal States Organization to provide coastal states with opportunities to engage in public private partnerships and secure nontraditional sources of funding and expertise for their endeavors.

Murley is a member of the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Six Pillars Strategic Plan Advisory Committee, Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Steering Committee for the Miami-Dade County Beacon Council's One Community One Goal program. He is a founding board member of the American Society of Adaptation Professionals. He also serves on the Urban Land Institute's national advisory committee for their Building Healthy Communities Program. He is an alumnus of Leadership Florida, Class IX and named to both the Achievement and Athletic Halls of Fame of Chagrin Falls, Ohio High School Alumni organization. Murley received a Bronze Star for Service with the United States Army while serving in Vietnam.