



# DISTRICT 3 TODAY

## Commissioner Keon Hardemon



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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This year has started with great enthusiasm. We continue to build on the growth and strategies set in 2023 with a steadfast commitment to progress and a clear vision for our community's future. We are determined to continue advancing our mission for a district that is stronger and more prosperous for everyone.

This edition of District 3 Today will inform you about the progress we have made. I am pleased to announce the Joseph Caleb Auditorium is currently undergoing a \$15 million renovation, Arthur Lee McDuffie was honored with a new historical marker, and an additional 21,000 pounds of garbage and debris was cleared in Brownsville.

As we reflect on our journey, it's evident that progress isn't just about tangible developments - it's about the intangible bonds we forge, the lives we touch, and the shared aspirations that drive us forward. Together, we continue to shape a community that is dynamic, compassionate, and poised for even greater achievements in the years to come.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keon".

Keon Hardemon, Esq.  
Miami-Dade County Commissioner



### **OVER 21,000 POUNDS OF GARBAGE AND DEBRIS REMOVED IN BROWNSVILLE**

The Clean Community Initiative is part of a continued effort to keep our community safe and clean. On February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Office of Commissioner Keon Hardemon partnered with multiple county departments to remove 21,000 pounds of garbage and debris from four encampments between SR 112 and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery on NW 41<sup>st</sup> Street.



## **JOSEPH CALEB AUDITORIUM SCHEDULED FOR A \$15 MILLION EXPANSION AND RENOVATION**

A \$15 million renovation is set to bring significant improvements to the Joseph Caleb Auditorium in Brownsville.

The planned renovations will primarily focus on upgrading the loading dock and service entrance in the back-of-house, which will improve access for backstage users. The auditorium hall and theater area will be upgraded to provide better ADA accessibility, increase the number of restroom facilities, and provide new rigging, lighting and sound systems. A new courtyard will be built to create an intimate outdoor performance space and a new welcoming lounge will be created. Finally, a new digital marquee will be installed on the corner of NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and NW 54<sup>th</sup> Street to welcome visitors to the community center.

The renovation is anticipated to be completed by the 2026-2027 season, coinciding with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Joseph Caleb Auditorium.



## **COMMISSIONER KEON HARDEMON ALLOCATES UP TO \$2 MILLION TOWARDS BLOCK 55 AT SAWYER'S WALK**

Commissioner Keon Hardemon passed a resolution allocating up to \$2 million in grant funding to Block 55 LLC. The funds will be used to cover additional project costs related to the Sawyer's Walk project. MSC Cruises will establish its North American headquarters inside Block 55, creating about 250 new jobs in Overtown.

## JACKSON SOUL FOOD OPENS THIRD RESTAURANT INSIDE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Jackson Soul Food has brought its legendary family recipes to Miami International Airport with the opening of its third restaurant, located just beyond security inside the airport's central terminal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level departure area near Gate E2.

Commissioner Keon Hardemon celebrated the opening of the new location at a ribbon cutting ceremony alongside Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Shirlene Ingraham, and other dignitaries.



## STREET CLOSURE PILOT PROJECT ON NE 111<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND NE 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

A road closure has been placed as part of a pilot project that aims to reduce the number of accidents on NE 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NE 111<sup>th</sup> Street. The closure was implemented after travelers were seen making illegal turns, which constantly caused accidents in the intersection.

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL PRESENTATION

In honor of Women's History Month, Commissioner Keon Hardemon commemorated five remarkable women at a special presentation inside the Stephen P. Clark Government Center.

Congratulations Ms. Lena Mae Hixon Collier, Annie Neasman, Esther Lubin, Kathryn Mikesell, and Kiara Morales-Vélez on your invaluable contributions to our community that will continue to shape the future of generations to come.





## ARTHUR LEE MCDUFFIE HONORED WITH A NEW STATE HISTORICAL MARKER

Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, the McDuffie Family, and other dignitaries commemorated the life of Arthur Lee McDuffie at a marker unveiling ceremony on the corner of N. Miami Ave. and NW 38<sup>th</sup> St. The long-awaited marker tells the story of the former U.S. Marine's tragic death at the hands of several white police officers and the impact it had in our community.



The McDuffie Family



## BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT: WORLD FAMOUS THEO'S SEAFOOD AND PASTA

Theo's Seafood and Pasta is a well-known restaurant that started as a modest food truck in Liberty City. The eatery currently features a robust menu that includes a variety of pastas, hibachi rice options, mahi-mahi burgers, and more. Located at 2230 NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Theo's is open Mon. – Thurs. from 11 AM to 10 PM, Fri. – Sat. from 11 AM to 12 AM, and Sun. from 12 PM to 10 PM.

