


**Date:** April 16, 2025  
**To:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners  
**From:** Daniella Levine Cava   
Mayor  
**Subject:** Leave Donations to Assist Earthquake Relief Efforts in Taiwan - Directive No. 240658

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This Report is in response to Resolution R-337-24, sponsored by then Vice Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on April 16, 2024, directing me to allow County employees to contribute monetary value of accrued holiday and annual leave time to the County's Emergency Disaster Relief Fund for use towards humanitarian relief efforts in Taiwan, as a result of the devastating impact of an earthquake. The resolution further directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to contact the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (**TECO**) located in Coral Gables, Florida, to help identify Taiwan's humanitarian needs, to consider any guidance or recommendations provided by TECO, to select one or more appropriate recipient organization(s), and to effectuate a donation to the selected organization(s) on behalf of the employees of Miami-Dade County to be used exclusively to support earthquake relief efforts in Taiwan.

#### **Background on Taiwan Earthquake**

On April 3, 2024, at approximately 8am, a 7.4 magnitude earthquake struck the Taiwan city of Hualien. The effects of this earthquake resulted in the death of at least 16 individuals and over 1,100 injured. This was labelled as the strongest earthquake in Taiwan in 25 years; however, the disaster was further compounded by the multiple aftershocks, landslides and rock falling, adding to the destruction and damages to the region. It was reported that there were over 2,400 cases of structural damages nationwide, a combination of commercial and residential buildings and roadway infrastructure to include roads and tunnels.

#### **Recommendation**

Per this Resolution, I was directed to work with **TECO** to identify an organization as the recipient of the proceeds from the employee donations. We worked with TECO to ensure the recipient identified met the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service, which took a number of attempts in ensuring full compliance. Ultimately **Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation** (which has a service center in Miami named "Tzu Chi Miami Service Center"), was identified by **TECO** as the recipient for the proceeds, and my staff worked with them in ensuring the necessary documents were provided to allow for the distribution of the proceeds.

Therefore, in accordance with Resolution No. R-337-24, I recommend the following employee contributions of earned annual and holiday leave time for the purpose listed above and based on the net amount Miami-Dade County employees donated, be given to the aforementioned recipient.

- **\$8,618.13**

I would like to recognize and thank our County employees who generously donated their personal leave to the Relief Funds and made these donations possible.

Pursuant to Rule 5.06(J) of the Board Rules of Procedure, this report will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda. Should you require any information regarding these donations, please contact Raymond Hall, Director, People and Internal Operations Department, at 305-375-1113.

c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney  
Gerald K. Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney  
Jess M. McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff  
Raymond Hall, Director, People and Internal Operations Department  
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