

Memorandum



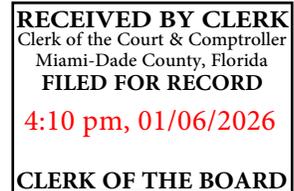
Date: January 6, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

Subject: Mayoral Appointments - Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Interim Director of Libraries



As we begin 2026 and turn our focus to preparation for the upcoming budget and planning cycle, I want to share a few important organizational updates. The year ahead is expected to be both critical and challenging from a fiscal and operational standpoint. In anticipation of these conditions, I am making strategic personnel changes aimed at strengthening leadership capacity, continuity, and collaboration. These changes are intended to position the County for the future while maintaining stability during a demanding planning year.

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under Section 2.02(C) of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Mr. Raymond Baker as Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Ms. Lydia Lopez as Interim Director of the Miami-Dade Library System effective January 19, 2026. The interim appointment will remain in effect for a period not to exceed six months as we conduct a search for a permanent director. The permanent appointment will be presented at a future Board of County Commissioners meeting, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

Mr. Baker is a seasoned administrator who has served at the director level since 2017 and brings deep institutional knowledge, steady leadership, and a strong track record of results. He is widely respected as an excellent leader, communicator and collaborator, qualities that will be essential as we work across departments and navigate complex fiscal decisions in the months ahead.

As Director of the Miami-Dade Public Library System (MDPLS), Mr. Baker oversees one of the nation's largest library systems, managing a \$113 million budget, 50 locations, and more than 800 employees serving approximately 2.7 million residents. Under his leadership, the department expanded access to library services and has earned numerous awards, including more than 250 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards since 2017 and the 2024 Florida Library Association Library of the Year Award, reflecting national and statewide recognition for effective county programs.

Before being appointed to Director of the Miami-Dade Public Library System, Mr. Baker served in various positions in different County departments including the Office of Management and Budget, the former Internal Services Department, the County Executive Offices, and the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department where he began his career with Miami-Dade County over thirty-two years ago. Mr. Baker holds a Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of South Florida and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Miami. A copy of his resume is attached.

Lydia Lopez, has served as an Assistant Director in the Miami-Dade Library System since October 2022 and prior to that as a Manager of Library and Legislative and Municipal Affairs. Ms. Lopez has also worked in the County Executive Offices supporting the Library, Cultural Affairs as well as various other

County departments. Ms. Lopez holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Florida International University and a Bachelor's degree in Art History also from Florida International University. A copy of her resume is attached.

With the appointment of a new Budget Director, David Clodfelter will transition to serve as Strategic Advisor, a role in which he will report directly to Dr. Carladenise Edwards, Chief Administrative Officer, and will be integral to advancing several critical initiatives that span across all departments. Mr. Clodfelter will lead high-impact projects focused on reimagining our current processes with the goal of achieving operational savings and strengthening how programs across the County are managed. This work will include a comprehensive review of how services and projects are planned, funded, billed, and reimbursed. Mr. Clodfelter's efforts in this new role will be invaluable in ensuring that our resources are aligned with the County's strategic priorities, and that programs are managed effectively and consistently.

I am confident that these personnel changes will strengthen our ability to plan for the future of County government and adapt thoughtfully to the changing demands we will continue to face. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Baker, Ms. Lopez, and Mr. Clodfelter on their respective appointments and thanking them for their continued commitment to public service.

Attachments

- c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
- Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
- Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
- Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
- Department Directors
- Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
- Basia Pruna, Director, Clerk of the Board
- Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

Raymond W. Baker

101 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida, 33130

Phone: 305-375-5026, E-mail: ray.baker@miamidade.gov

EDUCATION:

University of South Florida, **Master of Arts in Library & Information Science**, Tampa, Florida

University of Miami, **Master of Business Administration**, Miami, Florida

Florida State University, **Bachelor of Science**, Tallahassee, Florida

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2017 – Present

Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade Public Library System– Director

- Plans and directs the provision of library services and programs to the public for a library system with a \$113 million budget, 800 full and part-time employees, 50 library locations, and a service area that includes approximately 2.7 million residents.
- Provides strategic direction to ensure the effective delivery of library services, including oversight of the activities of 50 library locations, digital learning and creative labs, mobile and remote library service operations, acquisition and selection of materials and content in print and digital formats, and evaluation of innovative hardware and software platforms and subscription products to improve library access for the public.
- Furthers the mission and leadership role of the Library through involvement in state and national library associations, working groups, and committees that serve to share knowledge and expertise throughout the library profession and that serve to advocate for library legislative and appropriations issues.
- Directs support operations, including the capital improvement program, facility maintenance, real estate and development initiatives, human resources, budget and accounting, and procurement activities.
- Directs marketing and communications efforts and development of programming and outreach activities to increase awareness of the library and to provide a broad range of activities to meet the needs of a diverse population.
- Provides staff support to the Library Advisory Board and the Friends of the Miami-Dade Public Library, and ensures effective communication with nonprofit stakeholders, and County, municipal, and other elected leaders and Offices regarding library services.
- Maintains effective relations with the State Library to ensure proper oversight and utilization of grant programs such as State Aid to Libraries, the Public Library Construction program, and the Library Services and Technology Act program; also works closely with nonprofit agencies and other public and private sector entities to create programmatic and funding opportunities that benefit the public.

2015 – 2017

Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade Public Library System – Assistant Director

- In conjunction with the Library Director, assisted in the planning and implementation of the delivery of library services.
- Directed specialized library public service operations including digital and creative learning labs and mobile library service operations, including the bookmobile and Technobus operations.
- Directed, in conjunction with the County's Information Technology (IT) Department, the Library's Information Technology strategy for library technology initiatives, including maximizing computer, Wi-Fi, and internet access for our customers, as well as evaluation of industry trends that facilitate ease of use and access to library resources.
- Directed the Library's capital improvement program, including renovation of existing facilities, design and construction of new facilities, capital projects to improve facility structures and systems, and ongoing building maintenance and repair.

- Managed library real estate and development initiatives, including management of existing leases, the planning and design of new and replacement libraries, as well as oversight of various municipal proposals and partnerships involving development or redevelopment of existing and future library locations.
- Managed departmental fiscal operations, including the operating and capital budget, as well as all financial, accounting, and procurement activities.
- Lead marketing, public affairs, graphic design, and social media efforts, including oversight of branding and public outreach initiatives.
- Managed grant opportunities and initiatives with nonprofit agencies such as the Friends of the Library and other public and private sector entities seeking partnership opportunities with the Library, including management of the annual State Aid to Libraries and Public Library Construction Grant processes.

2011 - 2014

Miami-Dade County, Internal Services Department, Director's Office – Chief of Policy, Legislation & Business Services

- Managed the ISD Policy and Legislative Section, requiring extensive operational, procedural, and legislative knowledge in countywide services such as procurement, real estate, fleet management, small business development, and construction and design; managed all legislative items related to these areas.
- Managed various countywide business services units, including countywide Print & Mail Services, Business Supplies operations/logistics, Capital Inventory Management, and County Surplus Auction operations.
- Transitioned the County's surplus auction process for capital and real estate assets from paper-based auctions to online auction sales.
- Managed ISD public information activities, responding to media requests, developing press releases, and launched the first social media account for ISD.
- Assisted the Director in the oversight of the ISD Fleet Management Division, which included over 250 employees, 19 fleet repair facilities, and 29 fueling facilities.

2009 – 2011

- Miami-Dade County, Office of Capital Improvements - Special Development Project Coordinator** Served on the project management team for the successful implementation and completion of the construction phase of the new Miami Marlins ballpark project; effectively working with the ballpark Contractors, County Executive Office, the City of Miami, and the Marlins organization to ensure fiscal and contractual requirements were adhered to by all parties.
- Managed the County's purchase of over \$100 million of construction materials for the ballpark through the County's Sales Tax Exemption Program, resulting in approximately \$6 million in project savings throughout the term of the contract.
 - Provided weekly updates on the ballpark status to the County Executive Office and interacted regularly with County Communications staff in responding to media requests and developing proposed responses.

2007 – 2009

Miami-Dade County, Executive Office – Assistant to the County Manager

- Provided professional and administrative support to the County Manager and Assistant County Manager on policy and legislative issues related to management of the day-to-day operations of Miami-Dade County Government.
- Worked directly with an Assistant County Manager, assisting with the oversight of various operational areas, including Cultural Affairs, Libraries, Information Technology, and Business Development departments.
- Served as the County Manager's designee to the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Trust.
- Served as Project Manager for the ballpark negotiation team, working extensively with various County departments, the County Attorney's Office, the Miami Marlins, and the City of Miami in the coordination and development of the initial phases of the ballpark project.

- Major duties included review and analysis of legislative and policy issues with County staff, implementation of County Commission directives and policies, and resolution of all manner of issues raised by internal and external stakeholders.
- Worked closely with assigned Departments in developing goals, objectives, and performance measures to further the County's strategic planning process.

2004 – 2007

Miami-Dade County, Dept. of Environmental Resources Management – Intergovernmental Affairs Administrator – Director's Office

- Managed and coordinated legislative activities, including review and analysis of departmental County Commission legislation and management of State legislative affairs, including State appropriation requests and coordination with the County's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, State Legislators, various governmental agencies, and statewide interest groups in the development of legislative positions and filing of amendments to proposed Bills
- Served as the Director's designee to the Miami River Commission Dredging Subcommittee, working closely with the Miami River Commission and Army Corps of Engineers towards securing Federal funding for completion of the Miami River Dredging Project, a \$75 million multi-jurisdictional civil works project.

2002 – 2003

Miami-Dade County, County Executive Office – Assistant to the County Manager

- Provided professional and administrative support to the County Manager and Assistant County Manager on policy and legislative issues related to management of the day-to-day operations of Miami-Dade County Government.
- Worked directly with the Assistant County Manager, assisting with the oversight of various operational areas including Finance, Property Appraisal, and Incorporation and Annexation actions.
- Major duties included assisting the Assistant County Manager in management of the Budget and Finance Committee and Incorporation and Annexation Subcommittee; including review and analysis of legislative and policy issues with County staff, implementation of County Commission directives and policies, and resolution of all manner of issues raised by internal and external stakeholders.
- Represented the County at various meetings with public and private interests to resolve and/or mediate issues related to the above-mentioned areas.

1999 – 2002

Miami-Dade County, Office of Management and Budget – Senior Budget Analyst (began as Budget Analyst 2)

- Worked effectively with assigned County Departments in the development, creation, implementation, and monitoring of the County's Operating and Capital Budget.
- Managed budgetary issues for a wide range of County operational areas including Libraries, Cultural Affairs, Police, Fire, Corrections, Property Appraisal, Finance, Community Based Organizations, County Commission District operating budgets, and the Ethics Commission and Inspector General.
- Duties included preparation of projections to evaluate and forecast operating revenues and expenditures, evaluation of service level changes under varying fiscal scenarios, preparation and development of numerous ad-hoc budget, policy analysis, and financial reports for the Budget Director and County Executive Office.
- Coordinated and directed budgetary and strategic initiatives with County departments, including assisting in the development of a 5-year strategic financial plan for the County.
- Provided direction to departmental financial and accounting staff on resource utilization, procurement issues, staffing and personnel, information technology initiatives, development of business plans, and development and monitoring of performance and efficiency measures.

1993 – 1999

Miami-Dade County, Dept. of Environmental Resources Management – Intergovernmental Affairs Administrator – Director’s Office

- Managed and coordinated legislative activities, including review and analysis of departmental County Commission legislation and management of State legislative affairs, including State appropriation requests and coordination with the County’s Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, State Legislators, various governmental agencies, and statewide interest groups in the development of legislative positions and filing of amendments to proposed bills.
- Assigned by the Director as the lead staff person to the Environmental Advisory Task Force, assisting this County Board in carrying out its mission of addressing County environmental issues, including pollution prevention, education and outreach, indoor air quality, and environmental issues related to County-owned and managed buildings.
- Progressively rose through DERM from entry level, regulatory positions, charged with protection of the County’s Environmental Protection Ordinance, including management and monitoring of sites and facilities in various phases of environmental assessment.

Memberships/Boards/Certifications/Awards

- Florida Library Association (FLA)
 - 2024 Library of the Year
 - Region 1 Director for FLA Board of Directors (2021-22)
 - Advocacy & Legislative Committee (Past Chairperson and Current Member)
 - FLA Boards and Foundations Task Force (Past Member)
- National Association of Counties
 - 179 NACo Achievement Awards since 2017
- Institute of Museum and Library Services
 - National Gold Medal Finalist in 2022 and 2023
- Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Panel
 - Appointed by Florida Secretary of State in March 2017 (4-year term)
- Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN)
 - Board of Directors (President, 2018-19) and Current SEFLIN Member
- Miami-Dade County, 2020 Census Task Force
- Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Member
- Florida International University, Chapmanville Leadership Development Program – May 2017

Lydia A. Lopez

WORK EXPERIENCE

Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL

October 2022 - Present

Assistant Director

- Manages special projects, countywide initiatives, and policy development, including implementation of the County's No Wrong Door and Thrive305 initiatives; manages the Library's Thrive305 grant program that supports small business development training, worker training, educational programming and educational opportunities for residents; primary liaison for the Friends of the Library, the non-profit that provides funding and advocacy support for the Library; assists the Director in the day-to-day management of 50 library locations, 700+ employees, strategy and business plan development, and an operating budget of approximately \$100 million.
- Directs, supervises, and manages the development and implementation of the Library's marketing and communications division that is responsible for the department's marketing plan, including creation and dissemination of advertising, media engagements, press releases, social media, management of public records, as well as graphics and print materials to promote library resources, services, and programs/events to residents and community partners.
- Directs and manages library real estate, including management of leases with municipalities, other County departments, and private landlords for use as library locations. This includes coordination with County and external stakeholders on new leases, lease renewals, temporary leases, and planning and development associated with current future library locations. Works with County Attorney's Office, Real Estate (PIOD) and Risk Management to negotiate and review lease agreements to ensure they comply with County rules, regulations, and standards prior to Board of County Commissioners approval.
- Directs and supervises the Library's Special Collections division, which includes which include the Library's unique and irreplaceable historical materials, the Permanent Art Collection – that includes approximately 7,000 items, and the digital collection unit.

Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL

November 2020– October 2022

Legislative & Municipal Affairs Manager – Director's Office

- Directed, planned, and coordinated departmental agenda items and Board Directives with the Mayor's Office for submittal to the Board of County Commissioners. Reviewed and analyzed legislative items that may impact the department and reviewed with appropriate departmental staff. Met with Board members and staff and the County Attorney's Office on legislative issues.
- Developed departmental strategic goals, objectives, and performance metrics. Monitored and analyzed federal and state legislative items with interest to the Department. Coordinates with state agencies and legislative committees to obtain additional funding for the department.
- Reviewed contracts, agreements, leases and permits to ensure they are in the best interest of the County, conform with policies and objectives, and meet legal and administrative requirements.
- Served as departmental liaison with various Mayor's Office divisions: Constituent Services, Equity & Engagement, and Intergovernmental Affairs; and assists the Director with oversight and management of the Miami-Dade Public Library Advisory Board and the Friends of the Miami-Dade Public Library.

Office of the Mayor, Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL

April 2015–November 2020

Assistant to the Deputy Mayor/Senior Advisor

- Assisted the Mayor's Senior Advisor in day-to-day oversight of departmental portfolio: Department of Cultural Affairs, Miami-Dade Public Library System, and Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department.
- Collaborated and advised portfolio departments on various development agreements, organizational policy and personnel matters, budget, and strategic plans.

- Reviewed, modified, and approved/disapproved legislation and agenda items to be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for content and form. Key legislation included Arshat Operating Agreement, Vizcaya reorganization from County department to non-profit, Museum of Science CDT grant to address \$35M fundraising shortfall, and creation of numerous Special Taxing Districts and Community Development Districts.
- Facilitated and/or participated in meetings with and responded to questions from County Commissioners and Commission staff, represented County Mayor’s Office at Board of County Commission, Commission Committees and other community, interdepartmental and department meetings. Represented the Mayor’s Office at Vizcaya Trust meetings, Library Advisory meetings, as well as the Age Friendly Initiative.

University Libraries, Florida International University, Miami, FL

January 2013–April 2015

Assistant Director of Budget & Human Resource Operations

- Assisted the Dean and Associate Deans in determining the University Libraries’ short- and long-term performance objectives and metrics, as it pertained to personnel and budget matters.
- Directed the human resource functions for all the Department’s 110 FTE and 400+ part-time employees by administering the recruitment, hiring, evaluation, retention, and separation practices at the Libraries.
- Served as the Libraries’ financial officer, monitoring and facilitating all financial matters for the Department, including planning and management of the Libraries’ budgets (\$16M).

EDUCATION

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL – Master of Library and Information Science, August 2022

Florida International University, Miami, FL – Master of Public Administration, April 2015

- *Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Public Administration, April 2015*
- *Member of Pi Alpha Alpha Florida*

Florida International University, Miami, FL – Bachelor of Arts in Art History, April 2008

- *Graduated magna cum laude*
- *Member of Golden Key Honors Society*

BOARD / COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS & AWARDS

- **Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN)**
Board Member, March 2025 – present
- **Florida Library Association**
Library of the Year Award – 2024 & Excellence in Marketing and Public Relations Award - 2024
- **Library Journal**
Movers & Shakers Award: People Shaping the Future of Libraries, March 2023
- **National Association of Counties (NACo)**
Achievement Award for Community ID Program
- **Florida Library Association**
Advocacy & Legislative Committee member, March 2021–present
- **Vizcaya Museum & Gardens Trust, Inc.**
Board Member, Miami-Dade County Mayor appointee, July 2019–present
- **Advisory Board for the Master of Public Administration Program, Florida International University**
April 2016–April 2018