



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(C)2

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

DATE: July 21, 2026

FROM: Honorable Juan Fernandez-Barquin
Clerk of the Court and Comptroller

SUBJECT: Appointment to the Miami-Dade
County Educational Facilities
Authority

Basia Pruna, Director
Clerk of the Board

Pursuant to Section 2-254 of the County Code, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) appoints all members of the Miami-Dade County Educational Facilities Authority (Authority).

Accordingly, the Authority recommends the Board consider the appointment of Theresa G. Therilus to the fill an existing vacancy.

Enclosed for your review is the recommendation and resume of the nominee.

Attachment

THERESA G. THERILUS

EXECUTIVE LEADER

Results-oriented executive leader, experienced Board Member, Effective communicator with attention to accuracy. Demonstrated excellence in resolving complex and controversial issues with creative solutions. Collaborative approach to problem solving. Attorney licensed to practice in State of Florida, State of California and the United States Supreme Court.

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

Juris Doctorate- Florida Bar License, California Bar License

Executive Editor, Harvard Blackletter Law Journal

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

Bachelor of Business Administration with honors

Major: Economics and Legal Studies

BOARD EXPERIENCE

Board Member, Cliff Avril Family Foundation 2018- Present

General Counsel, Cliff Avril Family Foundation, 2016-2018

Former Board Member, Operation for Humanitarian Concerns, Inc., 2008-2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of North Miami, North Miami, FL

August 2025-Present

City Manager

Plan and direct the day to day operations of the City of North Miami, providing services to over 62,000 residents and responsible for the overall \$190 million budget and approximately 500 employees. Significant departments include Community Planning and Development. Public Works, Parks and Recreation along with 15 additional departments

Miami Dade County, Miami, FL

February 2023-July 2025

Deputy Director, People and Internal Operations Department

Senior Executive responsible for day to day departmental operations which include County's fleet operations, human resources, project management and facilities management.

Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Board of County Commission

Plan and direct day to day operations of administrative offices reporting to the Chairman of the Board of County Commission.

City of North Miami, North Miami, FL

July 2020- Feb 2023

City Manager

Plan and direct the day to day operations of the City of North Miami, providing services to over 62,000 residents and responsible for the overall \$190 million budget and approximately 500 employees. Significant departments include Community Planning and Development. Public Works, Parks and Recreation along with 15 additional departments; Financial turnaround from \$14 million general fund deficit to over \$3 million surplus.

County of Santa Clara, San Jose, CA

June 2018-June 2020

Procurement Department

Interim Director of Procurement

Plans, directs and coordinates the activities involved in the purchase of goods and services for all County departments in excess of \$2 billion; managed acquisition and transition of two hospitals to the County hospital system; created surgical robotic program with acquisition of the hospital system's first surgical robots; negotiated over \$60 million dollars in savings through contracting program; negotiate contracts for three County-owned hospitals and negotiated the County's first general purchasing organization (GPO) contract.

Deputy Director of Procurement

Plan, organize and manage the activities and approximate 100-member staff of the centralized purchasing functions of the County in excess of **\$2 billion spend**; provide executive management oversight of the procurement functions for medical and healthcare, IT, facilities, institutional, and decentralized purchasing units.

Miami Dade County, Miami, FL

March 2013- June 2018

Internal Services Department

Assistant Director, Capital Projects, Real Estate, Facilities and Maintenance, ADA Compliance

Senior executive responsible for management and supervision of four operational divisions with a staff complement of 300 employees and **budgetary oversight for \$160 million** and **a multi-year capital budget of \$330 million**; Responsible for management oversight of over 60 County facilities encompassing more than six million square feet of space to support operations and infrastructure; Manage County's ADA Division which oversees Countywide compliance with ADA; Direct transactions to sell or lease County-owned property for re-development, including securing public approvals; Responsible for all leasing, asset management and real estate transactions for Miami-Dade County; negotiated 80 acre land deal with State and local developer; oversaw the construction and development of the new state of the art 70,000 square foot animal shelter; public private partnership team for Courthouse project; **Oversaw the General Obligations Bond capital construction program.**

Office of the Mayor

Legal Advisor/Assistant to the Deputy Mayor

Senior executive team member responsible for management and supervision of department directors within Deputy Mayor's portfolio which included Aviation Department, Seaport, Water and Sewer Department and Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources; Served as the lead negotiator with companies bringing innovative technology to the for-hire vehicle industry (Uber and Lyft); Counseled and advised Deputy Mayor as to legislative matters related to all departments within purview; Served as the Mayor's office liaison to the Board of County Commissioners; Implemented all policies and procedures related to personnel, budget, and strategic policy initiatives for these departments; led the reorganization of development services process cutting review times by forty-five days.

Regulatory and Economic Resources Department

Legal Advisor

Advised department on legal matters relating to Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources divisions including economic development, environmental resource management, planning and zoning, for-hire transportation, and consumer protection; Reviewed contracts and drafted ordinances and policy memos relating to department operations and general matters; Drafted and proposed legislation involving a major reform to for-hire vehicle regulation in Miami-Dade County; Presented before the Board of County Commissioners and its committees; Drafted contracts and negotiated inter-local agreements between municipalities and the County related to departmental duties; Represented the department in administrative hearings.

Florida Attorney General's Office Ft. Lauderdale, FL

October 2011- March 2013

Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection and Economic Crimes Division

Civil investigation and prosecution of businesses who engage in unfair and deceptive trade practices related to financial and business practices including violations of FTC regulations; Role of lead trial counsel on

cases involving internet and consumer privacy violations, cyber fraud, mortgage fraud, as well as deceptive and unfair trade practices;

Therilus Law Firm, Coral Gables, FL

June 2006-October 2011

Principal Attorney, Commercial, Construction and Criminal Litigation and Sports law

Led complex business litigation, construction litigation and contract disputes in mediation, arbitration and through trial; Secured million dollar settlements arising from condominium association catastrophic property damage claims; Representation of subcontractors and general contractors in contract negotiations; Managed evidentiary hearings and substantive motions in civil proceedings; Negotiated in excess 50 million dollars in endorsement contracts; Managed all aspects of professional athlete and artist marketing and branding including appearances for charitable and corporate events; Represented professional athletes and artists in contract negotiations

Tew Cardenas LLP, Miami, FL

August 2004- May 2006

Litigation Associate

Instrumental in dismissal of \$10 million payment bond claim against local public-school district; Successfully defended shareholder derivative lawsuit leading to dismissal against client; First chair role in landlord/tenant trials on behalf of major commercial real estate developer; Represented condo associations, developers and suppliers in construction defect, payment bond and lien litigation; Represented clients in over 30 NASD arbitration claims.

RECOGNITIONS/AWARDS

- 2022 Public Administrator of the Year, South Florida American Society of Public Administrators
- 2022 Outstanding Lawyer (Non-Traditional role), National Bar Association
- 2022 Leadership Award, Haitian Lawyers Association
- 2021 Finance in Government Award, South Florida Business and Wealth Magazine
- 2019 Fellow, National Institute of Government Purchasing Leadership Institute
- 2018 Haitian American Chamber of Commerce Top 20 under 40 Professionals (Government/Sports)
- 2017 Brickell Magazine's Top 20 Under 40 Professional
- 2016 National Association of Counties Achievement Award (Online Auction of Surplus Real Estate, Facilities Management Program and Utilities Billing Management program)
- 2014 Legal Analyst, CNBC "Power Money"

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Co-President, Harvard Black Alumni Society
Strategic Planning Chair, Dade County Chapter of the Links Inc.
International City/County Management Association
Chair- Youth Football Committee, Orange Bowl Committee

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Public Procurement Officer (CPPO)
Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP)
Certified NFLPA Agent
Executive Leadership Certificate, Stanford University