

## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 1, 2022

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County  
Mayor to examine the feasibility  
of developing a smartphone  
application to allow individuals  
to report suspected human  
trafficking activity to law  
enforcement and to provide a  
report

Resolution No. R-220-22

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor  
Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/jp



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

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Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)  
3-1-22

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ R-220-22

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A SMARTPHONE APPLICATION TO ALLOW INDIVIDUALS TO REPORT SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery, which involves the exploitation of persons for commercial sex or forced labor and often subjects victims to force, fraud, and coercion; and

**WHEREAS**, while many victims of human trafficking are forced to work in prostitution or the sexual entertainment industry, trafficking also occurs in forms of labor exploitation, such as domestic servitude and restaurant, janitorial, sweatshop factory, and agricultural work; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government estimates that 25 million people are currently victims of human trafficking for both sex and labor; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2011 report by the Department of Justice's Bureau of Judicial Statistics also found that nearly half of all incidents of sex trafficking in the United States involve victims under the age of 18; and

**WHEREAS**, statistics provided by the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office shows how human trafficking disproportionately affects the lives of females with approximately 96 percent of the minor victims and 92 percent of the adult victims of human trafficking in Miami-Dade County being female; and

**WHEREAS**, these actions have no place in our world, and this Board has long believed that we should do everything in our power to end this horrific practice to prevent any more innocent lives from being exploited; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals in Miami-Dade County currently have multiple ways to report suspected human trafficking activity, including various national and local hotlines such as 305-FIX-STOP; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding these multiple reporting options, there remain opportunities for law enforcement to use advances in technology to obtain better information from the public about suspected human trafficking activity; and

**WHEREAS**, for example, in December 2020 the St. Petersburg Police Department announced the creation of a smartphone application, based on recommendations from the Tampa Bay Human Trafficking Task Force, that allows individuals to anonymously submit information to law enforcement regarding human trafficking and, through the application, include any relevant photo or video clips with their tips; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board supports these goals and ideals, and it would like to do its part to help raise awareness and assist in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking,

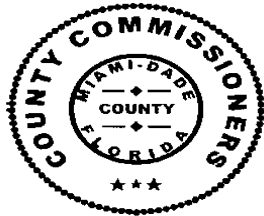
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is hereby directed to examine the feasibility of developing a smartphone application that would allow individuals in Miami-Dade County to submit anonymous information to law enforcement regarding suspected human trafficking activity and also allow individuals to include relevant photo and video clips with their anonymous tips. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall provide a feasibility report to this Board that shall include, at a minimum,

the following: (1) the feasibility of developing such an application; (2) whether any of the County’s existing smartphone applications can be updated or whether any applications developed by other entities can be licensed to provide the same capabilities, and if doing so would be the most cost effective and expeditious manner to allow individuals in Miami-Dade County to submit anonymous information to law enforcement regarding suspected human trafficking activity over a smartphone application; (3) a timeline for the development and deployment of such an application; and (4) any fiscal impact that the development and operation of such an application may have and potential funding sources, including grant funding, that could be used. Such report shall be provided to the Board within 90 days after the effective date of this resolution and be placed on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65. And, to the extent further action is required to develop a smartphone application for individuals in Miami-Dade County to submit anonymous information to law enforcement regarding suspected human trafficking activity, the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee shall also present necessary amendments to existing contracts and recommendations for any new contract awards to this Board for approval as soon as practicable.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman	<b>aye</b>
	Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	<b>absent</b>
Sen. René García	<b>absent</b>	Keon Hardemon <b>aye</b>
Sally A. Heyman	<b>aye</b>	Danielle Cohen Higgins <b>aye</b>
Eileen Higgins	<b>aye</b>	Joe A. Martinez <b>aye</b>
Kionne L. McGhee	<b>aye</b>	Jean Monestime <b>aye</b>
Raquel A. Regalado	<b>aye</b>	Rebeca Sosa <b>aye</b>
Sen. Javier D. Souto	<b>absent</b>	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2022. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Basia Pruna**  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters "MBV" in a stylized, cursive font.

Michael B. Valdes