

RESOLUTION NO. R-2012-5

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF ADEQUATE HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING AND TIER I DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) DESIGNATION FOR THE MIAMI-FORT LAUDERDALE URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), through the Urban Area Security Initiative Program (“UASI”), provides homeland security grant funding to address the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat to high density urban areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism; and

**WHEREAS**, DHS through the UASI Program, distinguishes among urban areas as Tier I and Tier II, with the eleven (11) highest risk urban areas deemed Tier I, and the remaining twenty (20) deemed Tier II; and

**WHEREAS**, DHS allocates significantly more funding to Tier I Urban areas, which accounted for over eighty (80) percent of total UASI program funding for the 2011 Fiscal Year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tier I designation is based on a DHS formula that assesses risk based on factors such as threat, vulnerability, and consequence, taking into account population, borders, economic impact, and critical infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI is the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) largest Metropolitan Statistical Area (“MSA”) in the United States, with a permanent population of 5.6 million residents living throughout Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, along with millions of seasonal residents and tourist travelers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI includes over one hundred ten (110) municipalities, four (4) international airports, three (3) major convention centers, and other critical utility and water infrastructures; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI encompasses four (4) international seaports: Port Everglades, Port of Key West, Port of Miami, and Port of Palm Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Miami is the busiest passenger cruise ship port in the world and Port Everglades is the site of South Florida's primary fuel storage and distribution center that supplies nearly one-fifth (1/5) of the state's energy requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI region includes Lake Okeechobee and the Herbert Hoover Dike, which, if respectively contaminated or breached, would cause enormous disruptions in drinking water supplies and agricultural irrigation with flooding that would endanger South Florida and much of Central Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI has both national and international significance, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$252.6 billion, is home to the largest concentration of international banks in the United States, and is the future home of the Permanent Secretariat of the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI is home to the National Access Point (NAP) Center of the Americas, which is the primary internet and telecommunications distribution center for all of Central and South America; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI is of immense significance to our Nation's defense and homeland security, serving as the home to US Southern Command ("USSOUTHCOM"), Homestead Air Reserve Base, US Coast Guard operations at Air Station Miami and Station Miami Beach and the National Hurricane Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Commission of Terrorist Attacks upon the United States cites specific localities within the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI region through which some of the 9-11 terrorists are known to have traveled; and

**WHEREAS**, UASI funding is essential in providing funding for the training and coordination of communication and response for over a hundred (100) different fire, EMS, HazMat, law enforcement emergency operations, and public health agencies within the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale Urban Area is not currently designated as a Tier I high-threat, high density urban area; and

**WHEREAS**, the current UASI methodology utilized by DHS does not adequately account for airport and seaborne threats, nor the presence of thousands of passengers filling cruise ship beds; and

**WHEREAS**, despite being among the top thirteen (13) UASIs in the country, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale Urban Area sustained a forty-four (44) percent reduction in funding from \$17.1 million in FY 2010 to \$9.6 million in FY 2011, while the eleven Tier I Urban Areas sustained no reductions in funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Miami as part of the Miami-Fort Lauderdale UASI, is concerned that the Department of Homeland Security through the UASI program, will continue to dedicate insufficient resources to safeguard the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1. Mayor and City Council Recommendation.** The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, encourage the Department of Homeland Security to recognize the Miami-Fort Lauderdale Urban Area as a Tier I UASI funding recipient within the UASI program, and allocate adequate funding commensurate with its risk profile and importance to the nation.

**Section 2. Mayor and City Council Support of UASI Funding.** The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, support full funding of the UASI Program in FY 2012.

**Section 3. Directions to Clerk.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Senator Bill Nelson, Senator Marco Rubio and Congresswoman Federica Wilson.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

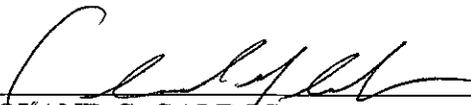
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by a 5-0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 10 day of January, 2012.

  
ANDRE D. PIERRE, ESQ.  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
MICHAEL A. ETIENNE, ESQ.  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

  
ROLAND C. GALDOS  
INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: CITY ADMINISTRATION

Moved by: Councilman Marcellus

Seconded by: Mayor Pierre

Vote:

Mayor Andre D. Pierre, Esq.	<u>X</u>	(Yes)	<u>        </u>	(No)
Vice Mayor Marie Erlande Steril	<u>X</u>	(Yes)	<u>        </u>	(No)
Councilperson Michael R. Blynn, Esq.	<u>X</u>	(Yes)	<u>        </u>	(No)
Councilperson Scott Galvin	<u>X</u>	(Yes)	<u>        </u>	(No)
Councilperson Jean R. Marcellus	<u>X</u>	(Yes)	<u>        </u>	(No)