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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 
DATE: February 8, 2010
SUBJECT: Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA)

This Letter to the City Commission is to announce that on February 3, 2010 at the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (CFA) Convention in Hutchinson Island, Florida, the Miami Beach Police Department officially met the vigorous requirements reviewed during an on-site assessment and was approved for re-accredited status.

The Miami Beach Police Department was first accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) in October 2001 and has maintained their state level CFA accreditation status in subsequent re-accreditation inspections in combination with national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

The CFA Re-Accreditation process consists of an on-site review of the previous three years worth of documentation and involves compliance with up to eighty-eight standards of compliance. In order to conduct the review, CFA sends a team of three assessors to our department and reviews not only the paperwork demonstrating compliance with these standards but also interviews numerous department employees at all levels as well as inspecting the various divisions and sections within the department to ensure the paperwork matches the practice.

The on-site assessment took place on November 5, 2009 and was conducted by assessors from the Boca Raton Police Department, the Ponce Inlet Police Department and the Palmetto Police Department.

As part of the CFA Re-Accreditation process, the Chief and his Accreditation Team were required to attend a hearing before a committee of CFA Commissioners. The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. is comprised of four Sheriffs, four Chiefs of Police, and one representative each from the Association of Counties, the League of Cities, the State Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association, the Judiciary, and the Inspectors General.

At the hearing, the Department's on-site assessment report was reviewed and discussed with multiple questions about the agency presented. The Chief and his team responded to all inquiries in a professional and positive manner which reaffirmed the CFA assessment team's definitive approval for the Department's status for CFA Re-Accreditation. One of the assessors who conducted the on-site review was present at the commission hearing and commented that this was the finest agency she had ever reviewed in all of her time as a CFA assessor. She noted to the commissioners the professionalism and enthusiasm of the

officers and supervisors she came in contact with. She also relayed the story of one of our officers saving the life of a suicidal woman while she was doing a ride along with that officer. The commissioners were very impressed.

The report indicated that the Miami Beach Police Department was in compliance with all applicable standards and that there were no issues or problems identified by the assessors. The report also recognized several officers for exceptional performance during the agency tour and interview process.

Please join me in congratulating the Miami Beach Police Department on this tremendous accomplishment.

JMG:CN:tr