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LETTER TO COMMISSION
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TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: *Jorge M. Gonzalez*
Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: February 16, 2010

SUBJECT: Off-Duty Police Service and Voluntary Overtime

This Letter to the City Commission (LTC) is to provide an update on the status of the Off-Duty/Voluntary Overtime work stoppage by Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) members of the Miami Beach Police Department.

This labor intervention was a result of contract negotiations between the City and the FOP and was initiated on Thursday, January 28, 2010 by the membership of the FOP. This coincided with the City's preparations for several high profile events, including Pro Bowl and Super Bowl activities, as well as the ING Marathon, the Festival of the Arts, and the Jewelers International Showcase at the Miami Beach Convention Center. To meet this challenge, our Police Department implemented a contingency plan that redirected and deployed Miami Beach Police personnel on regular duty or forced overtime to ensure that public safety, officer safety, and homeland security were not compromised. In addition, during Super Bowl week, the Florida Highway Patrol assisted the Miami Beach Police Department with the staffing of several high profile venues, such as the Pepsi Smash Concert Series on the beach. The Miami Dade Police Department also provided on-duty resources to the Miami Beach Police Department to assist with visibility and security in the Entertainment District.

On Friday, February 12, 2010, the FOP Executive Board, after thorough consultation with the FOP membership, decided to resume off-duty and voluntary overtime assignments. As a result, Chief Noriega reinstated off-duty employment for City Major/Special Events (Yacht Show, Boat Show, Wine and Food) and previous permanent off-duty jobs (such as Joe's Stone Crab, Mango's, Wet Willies, Publix, CVS, etc.). Effective Tuesday, February 16, 2010, all off-duty employment resumed normal operations.

Please also know that the City's negotiation team met with the FOP negotiation team on February 11, 2010. The FOP president is out of town this week and asked that we schedule our next contract negotiation session for the week of March 1, 2010.

As always, if you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

JMG/CN/RAM/tr