

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 017-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: January 16, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge", written over the printed name.

Subject: **700 BLOCK OF MICHIGAN AVENUE**

This Letter to the Commission is to provide information regarding a crime related issue raised by a citizen residing at 747 Michigan Avenue.

The neighborhood between 6th and 8th streets between Meridian Ave and Michigan Avenues has been targeted by the undercover detectives of the Strategic Investigations Unit and Uniform Patrol Officers from the midnight and afternoon shifts to reduce the drug activity and address quality of life issues. During the time period from September 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003 the Police Department handled 695 incidents in this area. This resulted in 137 crime/incident/miscellaneous reports, 14 Florida crash reports, and 115 arrest affidavits.

The crime fighting initiatives in this area include:

- The Crime Suppression Team working the area for narcotics, prostitution and gang related activity.
- Proactive Patrol assignments during the shift overlap targeting quality of life issues.
- The Neighborhood Resource Officer is contacting the apartment managers and business owners to conduct security surveys and provide crime prevention information. Requests were sent to other City Departments to assist with tree trimming and provide enhanced lighting for this extremely dark area.
- Undercover narcotics detectives from SIU will continue their operations targeting drug dealers and users. (30 arrests were made between Sept. and Dec. 2003)

The combined efforts of the Patrol and Strategic Investigations Unit initiatives will continue to produce positive results and improve the quality of life for residents in this area.

JMG\DVD\tr

Dear Commissioner:

I live in Unit 202 of 747 Michigan avenue. I have noticed that since December 15, 2003 some kids that look like gang members are hanging out in front of 737 michigan avenue. They always double park a car in the streets and hang out (like 4 or 5). It seems like they are visiting someone in 737 Michigan avenue. Anyway, besides loitering and double parking a car in the middle of the street, they make this corner of Miami Beach feel unsafe. Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated. Since this corner of miami beach has always felt safe since I bought my unit in the summer of 2001. Thank you.

Roberto Matus