



Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

May 9, 2024



Welcome



Richard Kuper, Esq.
Executive Director

OFFICERS

President
Hon. Rodney Harris
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens
First Vice President
Hon. Karyn Cunningham
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay
Second Vice President
Hon. Omar C. Nickerson, Ph. D.
Mayor, Village of El Portal
Secretary
Hon. Fortuna Smukler
Commissioner,
City of North Miami Beach
Treasurer
Hon. Joseph Corradino
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hon. Rachel S. Friedland
Commissioner Aventura
Hon. Seth E. Salver
Vice Mayor, Bal Harbour Village
Hon. Robert Yaffe
Councilman, Bay Harbor Islands
Hon. Jonathan Groth
Mayor, Biscayne Park
Hon. Kirk Menendez
Commissioner, Coral Gables
Hon. Tim Meerbott
Mayor, Cutler Bay
Hon. Christi Fraga
Mayor, Doral
Hon. Luis Pirela
Vice Mayor, El Portal
Hon. Walter Thompson
Commissioner, Florida City
Hon. Kenneth Bernstein
Vice Mayor, Golden Beach
Hon. Bryan Calvo
Councilman, Hialeah
Hon. Yiozet De La Cruz
Mayor, Hialeah Gardens
Hon. Steve Losner
Mayor, Homestead
Hon. Bernard Klepach
Mayor, Indian Creek
Hon. Jose I. Rasco
Mayor, Key Biscayne
Hon. Edgar Ayala
Vice Mayor, Medley
T.B.A
Miami
Hon. Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Chairman, Miami-Dade County
Hon. Maria Teresa Rojas
Chair,
Miami-Dade County School Board
Hon. Alex Fernandez
Commissioner, Miami Beach
Hon. Robert Stephens
Councilman, Miami Gardens
Hon. Ray Garcia
Councilman, Miami Lakes
Hon. George Burch
Mayor, Miami Shores
Hon. Victor Vazquez
Councilman, Miami Springs
Hon. Rachel Streitfeld
Commissioner, North Bay Village
Hon. Kassandra Timothe
Councilwoman, North Miami
Hon. Jay Chernoff
Commissioner, North Miami Beach
Hon. John H. Taylor, Jr.
Mayor, Opa-Locka
Hon. Leanne Tellam
Vice Mayor, Palmetto Bay
T.B.A
Pinecrest
Hon. Javier Fernandez
Mayor, South Miami
Hon. Jerry Joseph
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach
T.B.A
Surfside
Hon. Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Mayor, Sweetwater
Hon. Richard Block
Councilman, Virginia Gardens
Hon. Eric Diaz-Padron
Mayor, West Miami

Immediate Past President

Hon. Juan Carlos Bermudez
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County

Past Presidents

Hon. Joseph Corradino
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest
Hon. Keon Hardemon
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
Hon. Oliver Gilbert, III
Chairman, Miami-Dade County
Hon. Francis X. Suarez
Mayor, Miami
Hon. Isaac Salver
Councilman, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
Hon. Jay Chernoff
Commissioner, City of North Miami Beach

Board of Director's Meeting

May 9, 2024
Coral Gables Country Club
997 N Greenway Dr.
Coral Gables, FL 33134

6:30 p.m. Reception - 7:30 p.m. Meeting



WELCOMING REMARKS

*President Rodney Harris,
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

1. INVOCATION:

*Board Member Walter Thompson,
Commissioner, City of Florida City*

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

*President Rodney Harris,
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

3. MINUTES: April 4, 2024

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Monthly Disbursement

5. PRESIDENT RECOGNITIONS:

*President Rodney Harris,
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

- **President's Distinguished Board Member Awards:**
 - *Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Miami-Dade County*
 - *Councilman Robert Stephens, III, City of Miami Gardens*
- **President's Associate Member Awards:**
 - *Yolanda Cash Jackson, Becker & Poliakoff*
 - *Jose K. Fuentes, Becker & Poliakoff*
 - *Myles Pistorius, Miami Dolphins*
- **President's Municipal Service Award:**
 - *Attorney Susan Trevarthen, Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman*
- **President's Community Service Award:**
 - *Former Councilwoman Vivian Casals-Munoz, City of Hialeah*
- **President's Public Service Award:**
 - *Monty Trainer, President, Coconut Grove Arts Festival*

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

Richard Kuper, Esq.

7. ASSOCIATE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

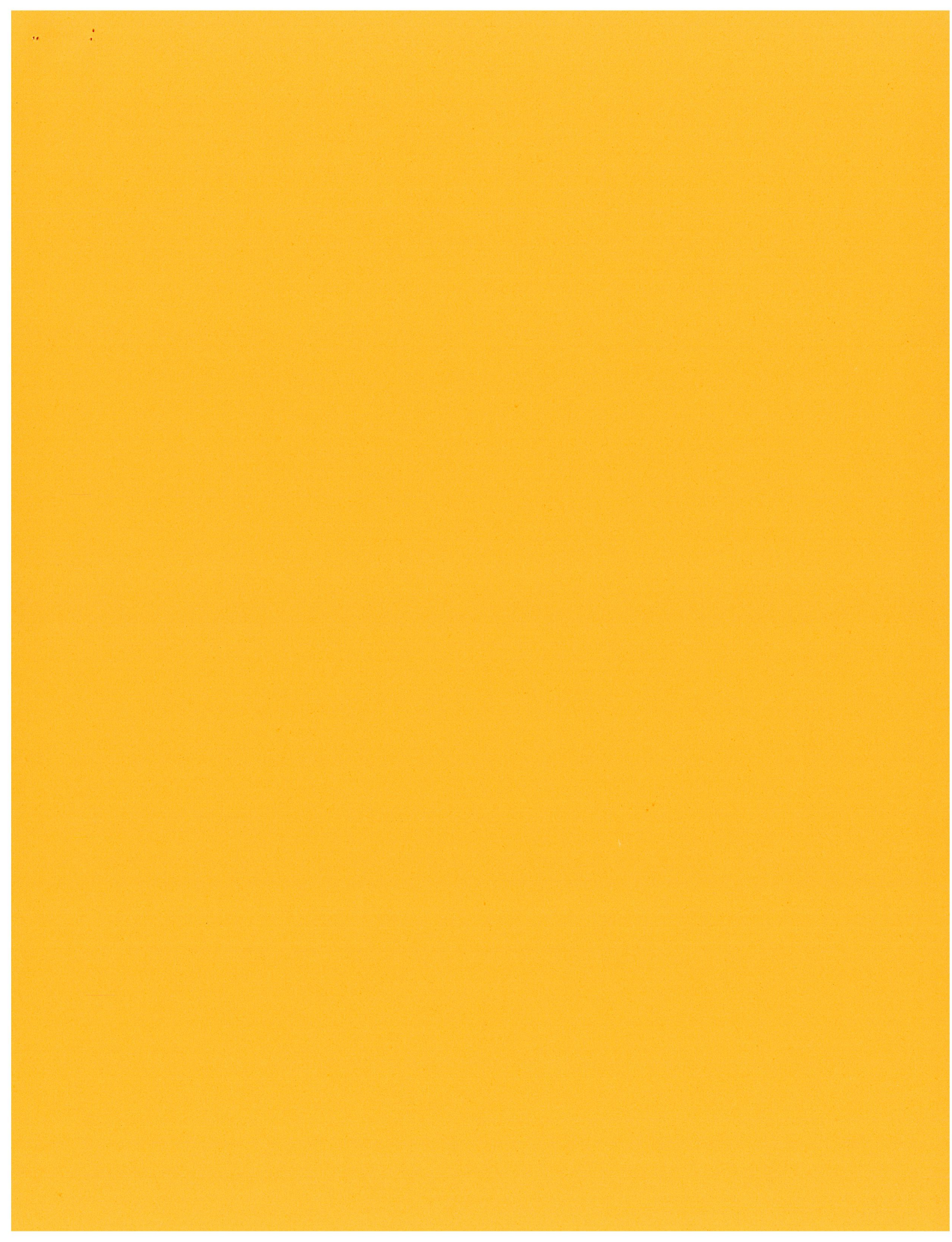
*Mr. George Joseph,
President & CEO,
Dade County Federal Credit Union*

*Ms. Annie Wilkinson,
Executive Vice President,
Dade County Federal Credit Union*

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Class V Permit Application Webinar** – *May 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.*
- **Form 6 Webinar** – *May 14, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.*
- **MDCLC 70th Annual Gala:** *Saturday, June 8, 2024*
Time: 6:30 p.m. Reception / 7:30 p.m. Celebration
Location: Loews Hotel – Coral Gables

9. ADJOURNMENT





OFFICERS

President
Hon. Rodney Harris
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens
First Vice President
Hon. Karyn Cunningham
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay
Second Vice President
Hon. Omarr C. Nickerson, Ph. D
Mayor, Village of El Portal
Secretary
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Hon. Rachel Streitfeld
Commissioner, North Bay Village
Hon. Kassandra Timothe
Councilwoman, North Miami
Hon. Jay Chernoff
Acting Mayor, North Miami Beach
Hon. John H. Taylor, Jr.
Mayor, Opa-Locka
Hon. Leanne Tellam
Vice Mayor, Palmetto Bay
Hon. Joseph Corradino
Mayor, Pinecrest
Hon. Javier Fernandez
Mayor, South Miami
Hon. Jerry Joseph
Commissioner, Sunny Isles Beach
Hon. Shlomo Danzinger
Mayor, Surfside
Hon. Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Mayor, Sweetwater
Hon. Richard Block
Councilman, Virginia Gardens
Hon. Eric Diaz-Padron
Mayor, West Miami

Miami-Dade County League of Cities

2655 S Le Jeune Rd, Suite 1014
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
E-mail: mdclc@bellsouth.net
Telephone: 305-416-4155
Fax: 305-416-4157

Summarized Minutes

April 4th, 2024
Hialeah Park

MDCLC President and Mayor Rodney Harris, City of Miami Gardens commenced the meeting by expressing gratitude to all attendees for their diligent efforts and commitment to their respective cities and fostering a spirit of unity. He also extended appreciation to **Mayor Esteban Bovo**, City of Hialeah for allowing the League to hold its Board of Director's meeting in his city. **President Harris** called the meeting to order at **7:42 P.M.**

President Harris welcomed **MDCLC Past President Councilman Isaac Salver**, Town of Bay Harbor Islands to conduct the invocation and MDCLC Board Member Councilman Richard Block, Village of Virginia Gardens to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Harris asked for a motion to approve the minutes and consent the agenda. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The Florida League of Cities Deputy General Counsel, **David Cruz**, attended the evening's meeting and delivered a legislative update and presented the Home Rule Hero awards. With years of experience advocating for Florida's 400+ municipalities, **Mr. Cruz** addressed various legislative matters. He discussed the recent session where the State approved a historic budget of \$117 billion, allocating funds for initiatives like affordable housing, maritime programs, wastewater management, and the Hometown Hero Program. During the session, over 2,000 bills were filed, with 325 passing into law. The Florida League of Cities was involved in over 600 of these bills, aiming to uphold the interests of Florida's cities.

Notably, the League successfully opposed a bill concerning sovereign immunity, which sought to increase negligence claim payments by cities and government entities. Despite this victory, **Mr. Cruz** informed the attendees of a potential ongoing opposition towards this bill. The Florida League of Cities also triumphed in defeating a bill affecting local business taxes which are also vital revenue sources for our municipalities.

Mr. Cruz also mentioned the passing of a bill concerning vacation and short-term rentals, which curtails government authority in this domain. This decision remains pending the governor's signature, amidst an ongoing dispute; Realtors in Florida are advocating for a veto of the bill, whereas the hotel and lodging sector is urging the governor to approve it. **Mr. Cruz** also discussed a bill that was passed regarding the Live Local Act, emphasizing its implications for affordable housing. Moreover, he also highlighted the passing of a bill addressing unauthorized camping or sleeping, aiming to tackle homelessness by mandating designated areas with accompanying services which the states are financially responsible for. There are many bills that he could discuss but due to time limitations he is unable to this evening. However, he provided his number and email and informed the attendees that they could contact him directly with any other questions or concerns.

Mr. Cruz then announced the following winners of the Home Rule Hero Awards:

- **Manager Jorge Gonzalez**, Bal Harbour Village
- **Vice Mayor Joshua Fuller**, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
- **Council Member Isaac Salver**, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
- **Council Member Robert Yaffe**, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
- **Mayor Rodney Harris**, City of Miami Gardens
- **Vice Mayor Fortuna Smukler**, City of North Miami Beach
- **Commissioner Jeniffer Viscarra**, City of Sunny Isles Beach

President Harris proceeded to invite **Mayor Bovo**, City of Hialeah to the podium. **Mayor Bovo** expressed gratitude to all the attendees for being in his city and highlighted the ongoing development the municipality is undergoing such as the significant investment from residents in both the northern and southern parts of Hialeah. Additionally, he addressed challenges such as homelessness, rising rent prices, and the impact of insurance on the rental market that the City of Hialeah is experiencing. **Mayor Bovo** urged fellow city leaders to collaborate in addressing these issues and emphasized the importance of considering the long-term well-being of their cities.

President Harris then presented the nominees for the 2024-2025 MDCLC Executive Board who were chosen by the nominating committee and were presented to the Board for ratification:

- *President **Karyn Cunningham**
Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay*
- *First Vice President **Omarr C. Nickerson, Ph.D.**,
Mayor, Village of El Portal*
- *Second Vice President **Fortuna Smukler**
Vice Mayor, City of North Miami Beach*
- *Secretary **Joseph M. Corradino**
Mayor, Village of Pinecrest*
- *Treasurer **Walter P. Thompson**
Commissioner, City of Florida City*
- *Immediate Past President **Rodney Harris**
Mayor, City of Miami Gardens*

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **President Harris** congratulated the new Executive Board and reminded the attendees of the 70th Annual Gala Celebration that will be held on Saturday, June 8th, 2024.

President Harris welcomed Miami-Dade County Commissioner **Rene Garcia** to the podium. Despite his 20-year involvement in state legislation in Tallahassee, **Commissioner Garcia** has consistently acknowledged the significance of local governance. He expressed gratitude to everyone for their daily efforts in representing their cities and amplifying people's voices.

Mr. Kuper proceeded to introduce MDCLC Past President and Miami-Dade County **Commissioner Juan Carlos “JC” Bermudez** to the podium. **Commissioner Bermudez** expressed gratitude for the opportunity to now represent the city he grew up in at the county level. He also thanked **Commissioner Garcia** for his dedication to city matters and thanked **Mr. Kuper** for consistently advocating for and aiding municipal interests.

Mr. Kuper then introduced **Manager Rafael Casals** from the Town of Cutler Bay to address the concerns regarding the impervious ordinance and shed light on its specific implications for our municipalities. **Manager Casals** referred to the files he distributed to the attendees, which contained the PowerPoint presentation. He highlighted that the League had

developed a committee, which initially convened in November to engage with the County and review the ordinance. Over this period, the County has collaborated with each municipality to adjust the ordinance. **Manager Casals** informed the audience that the committee expects to meet again later this month and encouraged everyone to review the materials provided.

Executive Director Richard Kuper thanked to the 2023-2024 Executive Board for a successful year. He also mentioned the League's fortune in having such devoted Associate Members who provide crucial financial support and contribute to event attendance. Because of their involvement, the League can organize annual events such as the Gala, holiday toy drives, back to school drive with Miami-Dade County Public Schools System, turkey drives, and a scholarship in partnership with Miami-Dade College. **Mr. Kuper** also reminded everyone of the upcoming 70th Annual Gala Celebration which will be hosted on June 8th, 2024, at the Loews Hotel in Coral Gables. **Mr. Kuper** then proceeded to recognize the following members:

The Executive Board Members Present:

President Rodney Harris
First Vice President Karyn Cunningham
Secretary Fortuna Smukler
Immediate Past President JC Bermudez

Past President:

Past President – Eduardo “Eddy” Gonzalez
Past President – Luis Gonzalez
MDCLC & FLC Past President Isaac Salver
Past President - Jay Chernoff

Board Members:

Councilman Robert Yaffe – Bay Harbor Islands
Commissioner Walter Thompson – Florida City
Vice Mayor Edgar Ayala - Medley
Councilman Robert Stephens – Miami Gardens
Councilman Ray Garcia – Miami Lakes
Commissioner Jay Chernoff – North Miami Beach
Vice Mayor Leanne Tellam – Palmetto Bay
Mayor Javier Fernandez – South Miami
Commissioner Jerry Joseph – Sunny Isles Beach
Councilman Richard Block – Virginia Gardens

Alternate:

Councilman Jorge Santin – Miami Springs
Commissioner Luciano Suarez – West Miami

City of Hialeah

Mayor Esteban Bovo
Council Vice President Jackie Garcia

Clerks:

Roseann Prado – Indian Creek
Andrise Bernard – North Miami Beach
Annery Gonzalez – West Miami
Gina Inguanzo – Miami Lakes

Attorneys:

Victoria Mendez - Miami

Managers:

Jorge Gonzalez – Bal Harbour Village
Maria Lasday – Bay Harbor Islands
Rafael Casals – Cutler Bay
Mario Diaz – North Miami Beach
Deputy Manager – Ramiro Inguanzo, Bal Harbour Village

Judges:

Christopher Green – County Court
Stephanie Silver – County Court
Patricia Marino Pedraza – County Court
Carmen Cabarga – Circuit Court

Miami-Dade County:

Commissioner JC Bermudez
Senator Rene Garcia
Annabelle Urrea – Mayor’s Office
Henry Sori – Intergovernmental Affairs
Harold Foster – Senator Garcia’s office
JC Canabal – Commissioner Bermudez’ office
Samantha Laurel

Miami-Dade County Public Schools:

Tabitha Fazzino

Public Defender:

Carlos Martinez

Candidate for Sheriff:

Joe Sanchez

Candidate for U.S Representative, 27th District:

Michael Davey

Coconut Grove Arts Festival:

President Monty Trainer

Greater Miami & Beaches Hotel Association:

Chairman Curtis Crider – Executive Committee Member

New Associate Member:

Dade County Federal Credit Union

Federica Chalumeau

Jose Bernal

Associate Members:

Kevin Crowder, BusinessFlare

Alicia Alleyne, BusinessFlare

Jose Miranda, C.A.P Government, Inc.

Carlos Del Pino, C.A.P Government, Inc.

Tony Silva, Concentra

Kiara Arevalo, Concentra

Jaime Bichara Tobar, Concentra

Rosie Cruz-Sotero, ESR, LLC

Yolanda Aguilar, ESR, LLC

Hernando Novoa, First Bank

Donna Alonso, First Bank

Elisa Robles, First Bank

Karla Fortuny, FIU

John Brunetti Jr., Hialeah Park

Vivian Casals-Muñoz, Hialeah Park

Bobby Williams, Hialeah Park

Michael Tur, Midtown Tur

Shira Kastan-Goldstein, Nicklaus Children's Hospital

Jose Infante, SFM Services

Robert Montesino, SFM Services

Israel Rosado, SFM Services

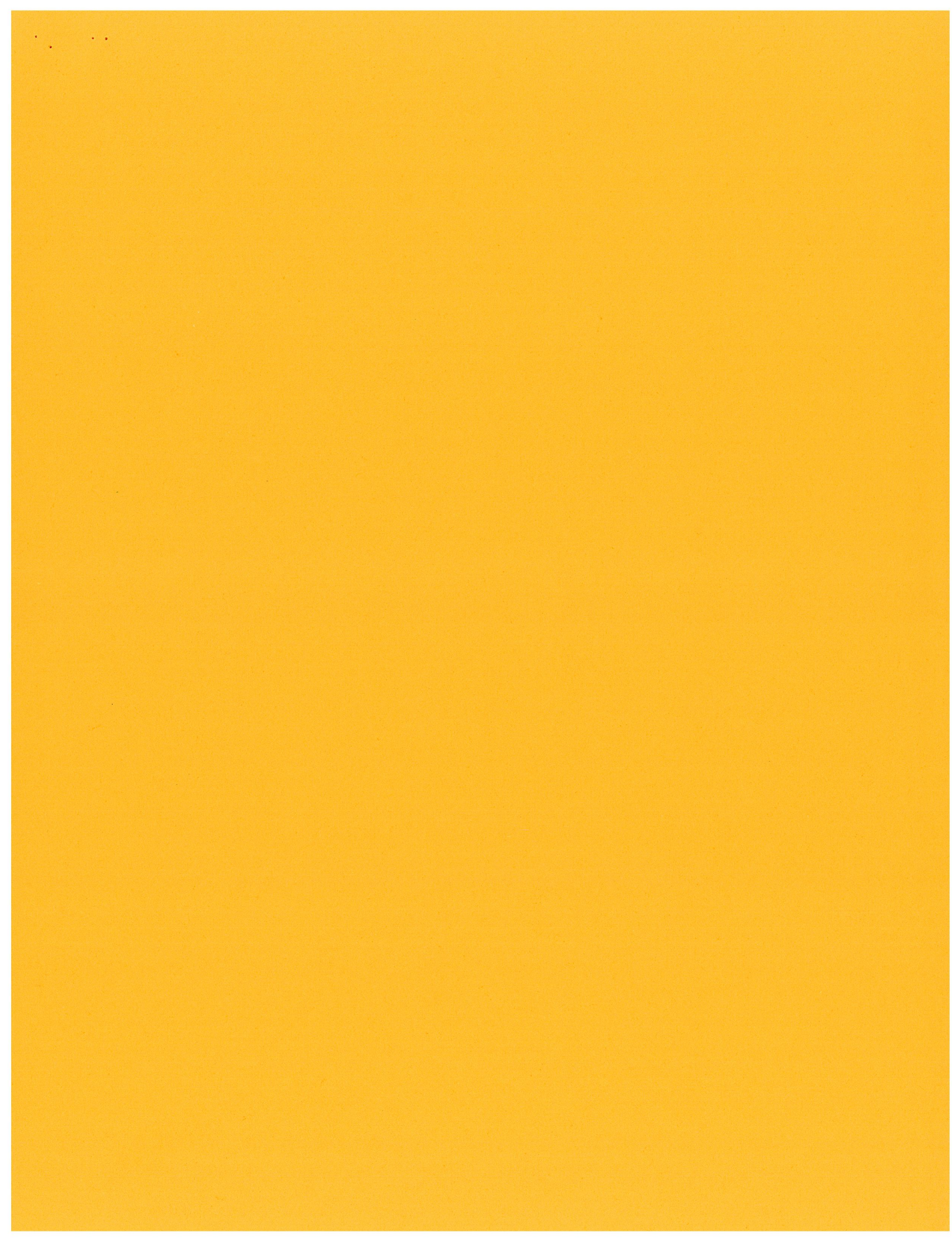
Pascale Lopez, SFM Services

Raphael Garcia, Ocean Bank

Waste Pro USA, Kenneth Rivera

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Summarized minutes



FORM 6 WEBINAR

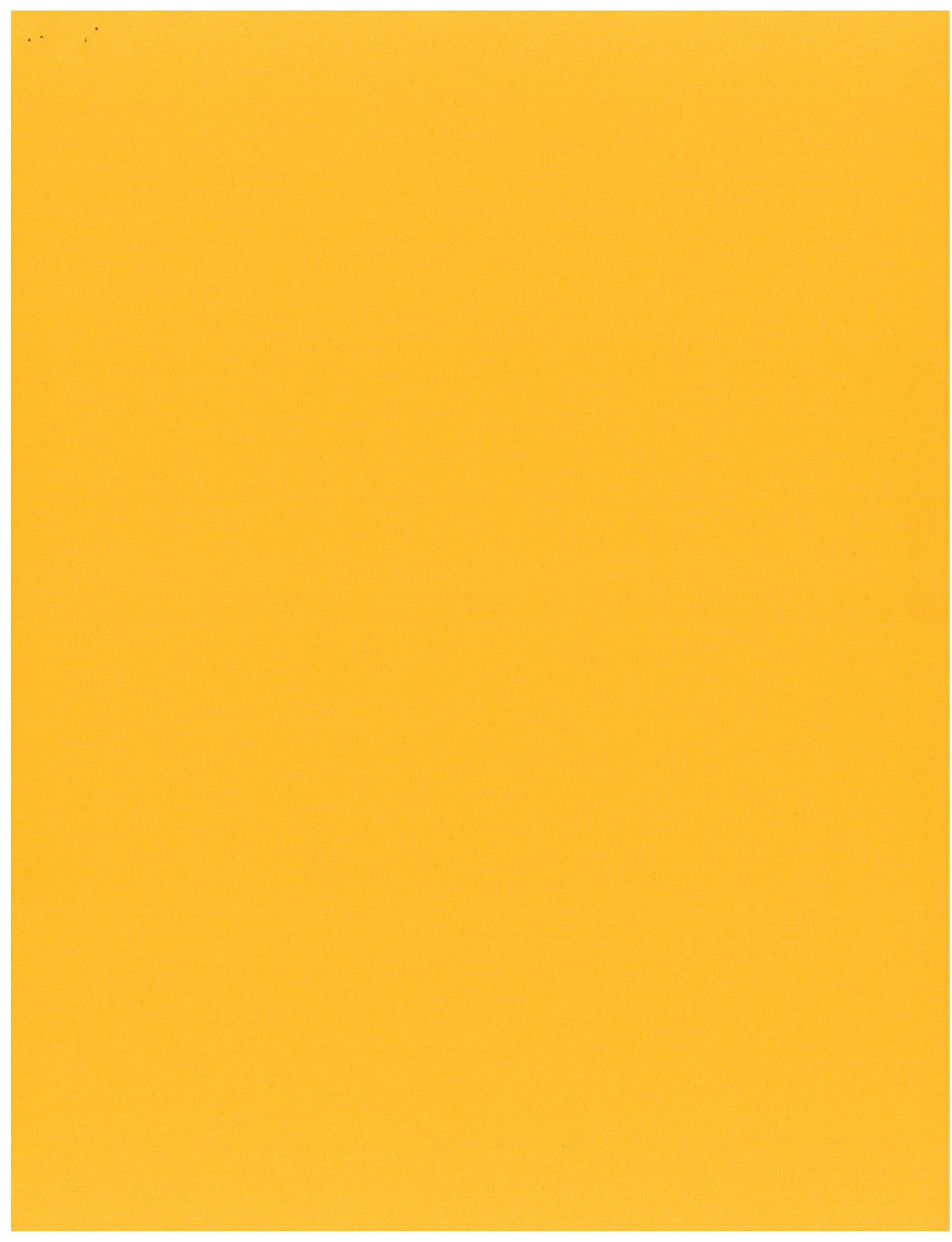


TUESDAY
MAY 14, 2024
1:00 P.M.

REGISTER TODAY



SPEAKER
ROBERT MEYERS
ATTORNEY,
WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN
COLE+BIERMAN





70TH ANNUAL GALA
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024
LOEWS HOTEL-CORAL GABLES

TITLE

\$25,000

- 20 event tickets
- Royal Table Seating
- Full page recognition in the event program
- Recognition night of the event and on website
- GOBO recognition displayed night of the event
- Award recognition night of the event
- 1 Session Sponsorship at the BPC
- 1 Exhibit Table at the BPC



PLATINUM

\$20,000

- 14 event tickets, Exclusive VIP Seating
- Full page recognition in the event program
- Recognition night of the event and on website
- GOBO recognition displayed night of the event
- Award recognition night of the event
- 1 Exhibit Table at the BPC

GOLD

\$10,000

- 10 event tickets, VIP Seating
- Full page recognition in the event program
- Recognition night of the event and on website
- Award recognition night of the event

SILVER

\$7,500

- 8 event tickets
- Half page recognition in the event program
- Recognition night of the event and on website

BRONZE

\$5,000

- 6 event tickets
- Quarter page recognition in the event program
- Recognition night of the event and on website

70th Annual Gala

Sponsors

TITLE SPONSOR



Nicklaus
Children's
Hospital

Where Your Child Matters Most

PLATINUM SPONSORS



THE
CORRADINO
GROUP

THANK YOU

Sponsors

GOLD SPONSORS

CITY OF MIAMI
COMMISSIONER
**Manolo
Reyes**
DISTRICT 4

COMMISSIONER
JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ
MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT 12



SILVER SPONSORS

Town of Surfside
Waste Pro USA

THANK YOU

Sponsors

BRONZE SPONSORS

Bal Harbour Village
Baptist Health South Florida
Berger Singerman
C.A.P Government, Inc.
Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc.
Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Chen Moore & Associates
City of Hialeah Gardens
City of North Miami Beach
City of Sunny Isles Beach
Commissioner Kevin Cabrera
Concentra
Florida League of Cities
GEMRT CPA
Mayor Daniella Levine Cava
Senator Rene Garcia
TECO Peoples Gas
Town of Bay Harbor Islands
Town of Medley
Village of Indian Creek
Village of Pinecrest
Waste Management