

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO CONDUCT AN ADDITIONAL FOCUSED WATERWAY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW OF THE SAFETY OF THE GOVERNMENT CUT JETTIES FOLLOWING THREE RECENT FATALITIES OCCURRING APPROXIMATELY 31 MONTHS FOLLOWING THREE FATALITIES IN SEPTEMBER 2016, ALL OF WHICH INVOLVED BOATS COLLIDING WITH THE NORTH ROCK JETTY AT GOVERNMENT CUT.

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2016, a fatal boating accident involving Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez, and two other occupants of an open console boat, occurred at the north side of the north jetty at the Government Cut inlet; and

WHEREAS, following this horrible accident, and in a letter dated October 10, 2016, Miami Beach City Manager requested that the United States Coast Guard initiate a comprehensive safety review of the South Pointe jetty in order to improve its visibility and the channel's safety; and

WHEREAS, while the Coast Guard conducted a Miami Main Channel Focused Waterway Analysis and Management System review following the Fernandez boating accident, the Coast Guard's conclusions in its June 29, 2017 Summary of Findings were that current buoys and ranges marking the Miami Main Channel are sufficient and that adding additional aids to navigation for the jetties would not conform to navigation standards and could possibly confuse mariners due to existing lighted buoys; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2019, little more than 2½ years following the boating accident that claimed the lives of Jose Fernandez and boating companions Eduardo Rivero and Emilio Macias, another boating accident, again occurring at the north jetty at Government Cut, has resulted in three additional fatalities and the serious injury of a fourth passenger; and

WHEREAS, six fatalities and a seventh seriously injured boating accident victim within less than three years in the same north jetty vicinity is cause for a renewed review and analysis by the United States Coast Guard regarding the navigational safety of Government Cut and its jetties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby urge the United States Coast Guard to conduct an additional Focused Waterway Analysis and Management System review of the safety of the Government Cut jetties following three recent fatalities, occurring approximately 31

months following three fatalities in September 2016, all of which involved boats colliding with the north rock jetty at Government Cut.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of April, 2019.


ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Dan Gelber)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

4-23-19

Date