RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CLERK OF THE COURTS, AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, TO PROVIDE THE MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH EASILY SEARCHABLE AND READILY ACCESSIBLE, SORTABLE AND DOWNLOADABLE STATISTICAL DATA PERTAINING TO THE ARREST, PROSECUTION AND CASE DISPOSITION OF THOSE DEFENDANTS ARRESTED FOR THE COMMISSION OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, AS THE CITY PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED; AND FURTHER, DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE.

WHEREAS, all municipalities in Miami-Dade County are committed to reducing crime (including misdemeanor and quality of life offenses) and repeat offenses, and bringing social services to those that may otherwise decline, or find it difficult to obtain, such social services; and

WHEREAS, each year thousands of defendants and their associated criminal cases travel through the Miami-Dade County criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the statistical crime and prosecution data, in conjunction with the case disposition data of such cases, can be utilized as an effective tool to acquire a detailed understanding surrounding criminal conduct and the outcomes of such cases; and

WHEREAS, statistical data can also assist in identifying any challenges that may have impacted the successful prosecution and/or obtaining the appropriate outcome for those persons arrested for committing criminal offenses within the County; and

WHEREAS, statistical crime and prosecution data can further assist in identifying any tools, policies, procedures and/or resources which may be utilized to aid in the future prosecution(s) of criminal offenders; and

WHEREAS, presently, the Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Courts (the "Clerk of Courts"), which is the repository for all case disposition data and information, has an online criminal case search database which includes standard searches and advanced (paid) searches; and

WHEREAS, however, even with the advanced search features, the functionality of the Clerk of Courts database does not allow a municipality or stakeholder agency to filter and download bulk records pertinent only to their own agency, but rather, searches require that cases be manually sought out, on an individual basis, which is inefficient and time consuming; and

WHEREAS, a more comprehensive case search and download application, in which cases may be queried, sorted and downloaded, en masse, by defendant, arresting agency, offense(s) charged, judicial assignment, etc., would be a valuable data-sharing tool for all municipalities and stakeholder agencies in the County, providing much more complete, accessible and comprehensive statistical case data and information; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Information Technology Department ("Miami-Dade ITD") is the entity that provides information technology services to enable, implement, support and maintain technological solutions for the Clerk of Courts; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2022, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2022-32199, which was co-sponsored by Commissioner Steven Meiner and Commissioner Alex Fernandez, in the desire to have more searchable, complete and readily-available statistical arrest and prosecution data, which will allow for the more effective evaluation of criminal cases and help guide the future allocation of resources to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the City and County's residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, since the passage of Resolution No. 2022-32199, the Miami Beach Police Department ("Police Department") has worked with the Miami-Dade ITD, and paid for certain services, in order to obtain case disposition information and data for all felony, misdemeanor, and traffic citation violations cases initiated by the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, the data and information provided by Miami-Dade ITD to the Police Department is not all-inclusive, and also contains numerous errors and omissions; and

WHEREAS, the City still desires to receive such case disposition data and information from Miami-Dade ITD, on an automated basis, which the Police Department will use to track the criminal cases of Miami Beach Police Department arrestees as they travel through the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission believe that such case disposition data and information is not only of great importance to the City, but may also be important to other municipalities in Miami-Dade County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, hereby urge the Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Courts, and the Miami-Dade County Information Technology Department, to provide the Miami Beach Police Department with easily searchable and readily accessible, sortable and downloadable statistical data pertaining to the arrest, prosecution and case disposition of those defendants arrested for the commission of criminal offenses within the City of Miami Beach, as the City previously requested; and further, directing the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Miami-Dade County League of Cities and the Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police.

PASSED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

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Dan Gelber, Mayor

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Co-sponsored by Commissioner Steven Meiner and Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

_____   4-19-23
City Attorney   Date

MAF