



Barbara J. Jordan

Miami-Dade County Commissioner

Barbara J. Jordan Sworn In as District One's Commissioner

After being re-elected for a second term on August 26, 2008, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan took the official Oath of Office at an Installation Ceremony on November 18, 2008 at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County. With her husband and grandson by her side, the commissioner was sworn in by her brother, Florida City Mayor Otis T. Wallace to serve another four years as District One's representative.

Acknowledging rough economic times, Commissioner Jordan addressed her colleagues and Miami-Dade residents: “As we face the current challenges that are before us, I am committed to finding solutions that not only address the immediate needs of our county, but solutions that provide long-term results as well.”

The commissioner expressed her firm dedication to assisting families impacted

by the housing crisis, overseeing district infrastructure improvements, supporting programs that prevent youth and gang violence, working with school representatives to address the needs of students, expanding Miami-Dade's Fire Academy program, boosting economic and job opportunities in her district, redeveloping Opa-locka Airport, and supporting futuristic and accessible public transportation.

“Can we do all this?” asked Commissioner Jordan. “I respond with a resounding ‘Yes, we can!’”

Later, the commissioner was appointed by newly-elected Commission Chairman Dennis C. Moss as the Chair of the Transit, Infrastructure and Roads Committee, which oversees our transportation systems from a local and regional perspective and the County's capital and infrastructure program. She was also made Vice Chair of

the Housing and Community Development Committee, and became a member of the Budget, Planning and Sustainability, and Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committees.



Commissioner Jordan (center), joined by her husband Eddie Jordan (far right) and grandson Jeremiah (second from right), is sworn in by her brother, Florida City Mayor Otis T. Wallace.

Local Shooting Prompts Call for Stricter Gun Control

Tragedy struck Miami-Dade County when two teens were killed in a mass shooting in Liberty City on January 23, 2009. Brandon Mills, 16, and Derrick Gloster, 18, were among of crowd of about 50 people outside of an apartment complex when an unknown gunman opened fire on the group with an assault weapon. In addition to the deaths of the two boys, several other bystanders were injured in the shooting.

For the third year in a row, Commissioner Jordan authored legislation urging the U.S. Congress to reinstate the federal ban on

assault weapons that expired in 2004. The item was passed by the Board of County Commissioners on February 17, as well as another item urging Congress and the State Legislature to pass legislation requiring all gun sales, regardless of venue or type, to be registered with law enforcement within 14 days of purchase, in addition to any other existing restrictive requirements. “It is sad when we have people out there who are committing crimes and have weapons that are more powerful than our own police department's,” said Commissioner Jordan at a January 29 press conference. “Our

police department doesn't stand a chance if these weapons remain on the street.”

Commissioner Jordan has remained a firm advocate of renewing the ban, and of quelling gang and youth violence in Miami-Dade County. She is an organizer of the Anti-Gang Violence Summit in Miami, and created the Violence Intervention Project to help youth from at-risk communities understand that there are alternatives to violence.

Aside from her promise to ask for the weapons ban, the commissioner donated \$7,000 to Crime Stoppers' reward for any information that would lead to a suspect's arrest. “Our community has been wounded by the deaths of these two young men. And we cannot heal until we stand up and say, ‘No more!’” said Commissioner Jordan.





Commissioner's Message

Greetings to my District One constituents! The start of the year has proven to be about adversity and hope. On one side of the coin, South Florida has been hit hard by the economic downturn. Unemployment, budget cuts, and the housing slump have made it more difficult for many residents to get by. I have heard from so many constituents in my district looking for any assistance to make it through this crisis.

Yet, 2009 already promises big changes for County residents and our nation. I was fortunate enough to witness history first-hand by attending the inauguration of our 44th President, Barack Obama.

Standing in the cold at the National Mall, more than a million strong gathered – of all classes, all backgrounds, all education levels – saying “Excuse me!” and “Thank you” as they maneuvered through the crowd, with a cordiality lost on us during the election campaigns.

As I watched the inauguration, I felt anticipation that we as Americans were about to embark on something totally new and unfamiliar, about to witness the dawn of a new day in our country. It was nothing less than inspiring. This is the feeling I intend to bring to the citizens of Miami-Dade County.

With a new year brings a fresh slate. As your representative, I will continue to fight for policies that promote job creation, affordable housing, accessible mass transit, and an overall better quality of life. We will get through this recession. In the words of our newest president, YES WE CAN!

Barbara J. Jordan
Miami-Dade County Commission
District One

New Chittohatchee Park features History & Recreation in One Location



Commissioner Jordan (center), Parks Director Jack Kardys (to commissioner's right) and other officials at the ribbon-cutting for Chittohatchee Park.

Miami-Dade County's newest park has a little more than fun and games in store for residents. Commissioner Jordan joined a group of about 100 attendees for the official opening of Chittohatchee Park at Honey Hill (Cetto Hvcce) at 1880 NW 199 Street in Miami Gardens on December 3, 2008. The unique 2.5-acre site contains a prehistoric and historic Native American archaeological

site on its own grounds. Roughly 5,000 years of human prehistory and history encompass the area, including habitation by the Tequesta Indians and their ancestors. Archaeological discoveries have indicated the group once lived on the land around 3000 BC.

“As a public servant and a resident of Miami Gardens, I am grateful to be given this rare opportunity to safeguard thousands of years of history in our own backyard,” said Commissioner Jordan. “I encourage residents to take advantage of Chittohatchee Park's educational resources and beauty and to bring their children and grandchildren to the park so they can learn about those who were here before us.”

The discovery of the archeological site was made in 1975 during a survey conducted by the State of Florida Department of Archives, History, and Records Management. Formerly known as the Dolphin Center STD Archaeological Zone, Chittohatchee Park is a project Commissioner Jordan has pushed for development since 2005. “Chittohatchee” is translated from the Muskogee “Cetto Hvcce,” meaning “Snake Creek.” The Seminole Tribe of Florida, whose history includes a settlement on the site, was involved in the site naming and a special Native American incantation was held for the blessing of the land.

Residents can request tours and school field trips of the site by appointment only to maintain the integrity of the archaeological site and safeguard its artifacts. Call Miami-Dade Parks at 305-375-4958 for scheduling.



Carib Tribal Indian Queen Catherine “Hummingbird” Ramirez blesses the new park during the official opening.

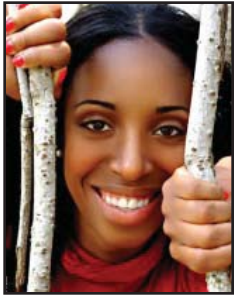


Commissioner Jordan dances up a storm at her 2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival at Acadia Park on September 27, 2008.

Where Are They Now? Former Student Interns Becoming Successes in Business World

Commissioner Jordan's annual Summer Youth Internship Initiative (SYII) has continued to be a source of invaluable job opportunities for students in District One. SYII celebrated its fourth consecutive year in 2008, helping high school and college students get their feet wet in the business world. Local businesses employ the students as interns, and the interns are able to develop knowledge that assists them in employment preparation and honing professional skills for the job market.

Often times, students who excel in their respective internships are offered an opportunity to return to the businesses as permanent employees. The following students have displayed an exemplary ability to excel in their work environments:



Rochelle Boreland, SYII 2006

Age: 20

School: University of Miami

Major: Political Science

Current Employer: Miami-Dade County/
Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan's Office

Experience: "Since beginning my position with Commissioner Jordan after graduating high school, I've grown both mentally and professionally. I have been

given tasks that challenged me to think outside of the box. The skills I've learned can easily be applied to many of the political science courses at school.

As a Junior Commission Aide, I've worked on a variety of constituent cases and helped in organizing holiday toy and food drives. The most rewarding part of my job is being able to see the impact of my service in the lives of our residents.

After two and a half years in the office, I can honestly say that I am as excited as I was when I first started. The Summer Youth Internship Initiative has allowed me to step outside of the box and become more in tune with my creativity. The internship opportunity is in many ways better than programs offered through my university. I will remain forever grateful for the opportunity."



Lavetta Gray, SYII 2008

Age: 22

School: Florida Memorial University

Major: Management Information Systems

Current Employer: Dolphin Stadium

Experience: "My experience at the Dolphin Stadium has been an incredible one; all of the staff members have been helpful and welcoming from my transition as an intern to an employee.

I'm currently employed part-time as a project support assistant for the Information Technology Department. I mainly work on the POS [point-of-sale] side.

The SYII internship is very meaningful to me. It has allowed me to experience many things. I feel that team building activities helped prepare each of us for the actual internship because we were able to come out of our comfort zone and work with people we may have not known to accomplish a common goal. I am very grateful to Commissioner Jordan, Rochelle, and Shareeke for selecting me as an SYII intern as well as all the businesses that accommodate us interns."



Kenny Davin, SYII 2007

Age: 21

School: Florida Memorial University

Major: Finance

Current Employer: Dade County
Federal Credit Union

Experience: "My experience with the Dade County Federal Credit Union (DCFCU) so far has been great. I interned in the training department in 2007 and

am now working as an employee in our Wal-Mart Branch in Miami Gardens.

As a part-time teller, I have enhanced my people skills, acquired knowledge about different banking regulations and procedures, and gained skills in the area of cash handling, providing excellent customer service, and helping reach branch goals. Duties include performing account transactions for credit union members (deposits, withdrawals, transfers, etc.), conducting visual audits for members inquiring about their accounts, and sharing knowledge of the great services that the credit union offers for our members.

Commissioner Jordan's SYII program opened many doors for individuals seeking internships in their fields of interest. The mandatory workshop before the internship helped prepare us interns to make a great impression on the respective organizations we interned with."



Ashley Calloway, SYII 2007

Age: 20

School: University of Miami

Major: Journalism and African Studies

Current Employer: The Miami Herald

Experience: "When I participated in the SYII Program, I interned in the Human Resources Department of Dolphin Stadium. The internship really gave me a behind-the-scenes look at the hiring

process, so now I feel I'm better prepared to make the first steps toward starting my career in future.

Currently, I am a freelance writer for The Miami Herald, North Central Neighbors section. During my internship, I was exposed to different situations and interacted with a variety of people on a daily basis. That experience has helped me improve my skills as a writer, as I often find myself in a new environment for each story."



Happy Holidays!

Commissioner Jordan made sure District One residents in need were able to celebrate a happy holiday in 2008.



The commissioner brought some holiday cheer, giving out Thanksgiving turkeys and also providing toys to little ones over Christmas.



Commissioner Jordan (left) and Funmi Giwa, District One's Commission Aide, wave to a crowd of approximately 500,000 at the annual Three Kings Day Parade in Little Havana on January 11, 2009.

More than 300 District One seniors clad in red and white attended the commissioner's 3rd Annual Valentine Hop on February 13, 2009 at the Landmark Auditorium. Guests were treated to free dinner, music, and prizes, and danced the night away to hits like "Funny Valentine" and "The Electric Slide."



Legislative Matters Important to You

Commissioner Barbara Jordan is committed to serving the residents of District One by sponsoring legislation that is in their best interest. Here are some of the items sponsored by Commissioner Jordan that are being considered or have been adopted by the Board of County Commissioners:

- **ADOPTED:** Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to develop a quality rating system to assess pre-kindergarten and other early childhood education and child care programs and provide such information online so that parents have the information necessary to make good decisions for their children.
- **ADOPTED:** Resolution directing the County Mayor to develop an implementation plan for modifying County vehicles that currently use diesel fuel to allow them to be able to use other available fuel sources such as bio-diesel or vegetable oil.
- **ADOPTED:** Resolution urging the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature to pass legislation requiring all gun sales, regardless of venue or type, to be registered with law enforcement within 14 days of purchase, requiring firearm owners to report lost or stolen firearms to law enforcement and creating a firearms registration system and database available only to law enforcement.
- **PENDING:** Resolution authorizing the conveyance of one (1) parcel of land to the City of Opa-locka for the expansion of a park and recreational area in the Magnolia Northside Neighborhood; and authorizing the County Mayor to execute a County deed for said purpose.

Upcoming BCC Events and Meetings *Meeting dates may be subject to change.

March

- 3 Board of County Commissioners, 9:30 a.m.
- 5 Board of County Commissioners and Zoning, 9:30 a.m.
- 9 Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 10 Government Operations Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Budget, Planning and Sustainability Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 11 Housing and Community Development Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Transit, Infrastructure and Roads Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 12 Airport and Seaport Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Health, Public Safety and Intergovernmental Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 17 Board of County Commissioners, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 Board of County Commissioners and Zoning, 9:30 a.m.
- 26 Metropolitan Planning Organization, 2:00 p.m.

April

- 7 Board of County Commissioners, 9:30 a.m.
- 9 Board of County Commissioners and Zoning, 9:30 a.m.
- 13 Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 14 Government Operations Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Budget, Planning and Sustainability Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 15 Housing and Community Development Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Transit, Infrastructure and Roads Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 16 Airport and Seaport Committee, 9:30 a.m.
Health, Public Safety and Intergovernmental Committee, 2:00 p.m.
- 21 Board of County Commissioners, 9:30 a.m.
- 23 Board of County Commissioners and Zoning, 9:30 a.m.
- 30 Metropolitan Planning Organization, 2:00 p.m.

District One Staff

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