

Memorandum

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To: The Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor

The Honorable Chairperson Bruno A. Barreiro Members, **B**oard of County Commissioners

From: Christopher Mazzella, Inspector General

Date: March 4, 2008

Re: Miami International Airport (MIA) Fuel Farm Investigation Concluded

The above-captioned investigation conducted by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office (SAO) concluded with the sentencing of the last remaining defendants previously charged in the 2004 news-breaking arrests. The Fuel Farm investigation targeted theft and corruption in connection with Aircraft Services International Group's (ASIG's) management agreement with the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) to run the depot facility at the airport. The investigation revealed a scheme to illegally remove jet fuel from the facility and then resell the stolen fuel. The thefts occurred from 1999 to the early part of 2003 and resulted in the loss of approximately \$4 million dollars.

In 2004, numerous individuals and five corporations were charged and sentenced with crimes stemming from the scheme to remove fuel from the facility for resale. On February 20, 2008, the last of the charged defendants were sentenced. Richard Caride (Caride), an ASIG manager, received four (4) years in state prison. Brian Schneir (Schneir), a facilities maintenance manager for ASIG, and Richard Crisafulli were each sentenced to two (2) years in state prison. Timothy Pinder was sentenced to one (1) year in state prison. Scott Anthony Crisafulli and David Earl Wilkes were each sentenced to four (4) years of community control (house arrest) followed by three (3) years of probation. Additionally, as part of their sentences, the defendants have paid \$3 million in restitution.

cc: Mr. George Burgess, County Manager

Ms. Ysela Llort, Assistant County Manager

Mr. Denis Morales, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Mr. Jose Abreu, P.E., Director Miami-Dade Aviation Department

Ms. Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit & Management Services

Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

Clerk of the Board (Copy Filed)