

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# **400-2016**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: September 27, 2016

SUBJECT: **Miami Beach Police Department to Present Sexual Assault Best Practices in Egypt as Part of U.S. State Department Delegation**

This Letter to Commission is prepared to advise the Mayor and Commission that two members of the Miami Beach Police Department will travel to Cairo, Egypt, as part of a delegation sponsored by the U.S. State Department and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. This trip is the culmination of a two-year grant project designed to highlight best practices in sexual assault response, investigation and adjudication, with a victim-centered focus.

This State Department initiative is designed to assist the Egyptian criminal justice system in implementing modern Western law enforcement techniques regarding sexual assault investigation and the proper treatment of victims. The core group of U.S. presenters will include representatives from law enforcement, nurse/medical professionals, the prosecution and victim advocates.

The Miami Beach Police Department has twice hosted groups of Egyptian officials for the purpose of showcasing our sexual assault protocols. These trainings took place in September of 2015 and again in February of 2016. In addition to training with a third group in Cairo, the U.S. delegation will have the opportunity to learn how the two previous visits have led to new initiatives in Egypt.

This is an exciting opportunity and an exceptional honor for the Miami Beach Police Department to be selected to participate in this international delegation. We look forward to showcasing our skills in the area of investigation and in demonstrating the importance of collaboration with other key stakeholders. The MBPD participants will be Chief of Staff Wendy Rich-Goldschmidt and a senior detective and expert in sexual assault investigations, Det. Bert Gutierrez. Both of these officials have been key participants in and designers of the earlier programs delivered to the Egyptian delegates who traveled to the United States for training.

The dates of the visit in Cairo are October 28-November 4th. All logistics and expenses for travel and accommodations are the responsibility of the IACP.


JLM/DJO/wrg