MIAMIBRAGI	DATE ISSUED: DECEMBER 2016 DATE UPDATED:	Page: 1 Of: 4	SEQUENCE NUMBER: HR.16.03
CITYWIDE PROCEDURE			
	SUBJECT: PAID PARENTAL LEAVE		
	ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE		
	RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:		
	HUMAN RESOURCE	S	

#### PURPOSE:

It is the intent of the City of Miami Beach to create and maintain a work culture that supports employees in their effort to balance their work responsibilities with the demands of personal and family life. This is a valuable benefit to our employees, as well as their families. The Paid Parental Leave Policy supports these goals and values by allowing parents additional flexibility and paid time to bond with their new child, adjust to their new family situation, and balance their professional obligations.

This Administrative Procedure is being established pursuant to Ordinance No. 1335, the Classified Employees' Leave Ordinance, amending the provisions in Section 12 and Section 16, entitled "Other Leaves with Compensation", and Ordinance No. 1613, the Unclassified Employees' Leave Ordinance, amending the provisions in Section 10, entitled "Other Leaves with Compensation", as approved by the Mayor and City Commission on October 19, 2016.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

## Eligible Employee:

City of Miami Beach employees who are the legal parent of a newborn, newly adopted child, or a newly placed foster child. Employees must be employed for one year of continuous service with the City immediately preceding the commencement date of Paid Parental Leave, worked at least 1,250 hours or more during that 12-month period, and had not taken 12 weeks of FMLA leave within the same calendar year.

Classified employees governed by union contracts are eligible contingent upon the collective bargaining and approval by the unions.

#### Family and Medical Leave Act or FMLA:

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. §2611 et. seq. FMLA is a labor law that entitles eligible employees to take unpaid, job-protected leave for specified family and medical reasons.

#### Parent:

An eligible City of Miami Beach employee who is a legal parent of a newborn, newly adopted child, or a newly placed foster child. A legal parent is one whose name appears on the child's birth certificate, a legal document establishing maternity or paternity, or a legal document establishing foster placement or adoption.

#### Paid Parental Leave:

Six weeks of leave for the purpose of caring for the newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child/children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as same-sex couples, in the event of a natural birth by any method, adoption, surrogacy, stillbirths, or foster care placement in the Eligible Employee's home.

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**HUMAN RESOURCES** 

#### **Primary Caregiver:**

A Primary Caregiver is defined as someone who has primary responsibility for the care of a child through birth, adoption, or foster-care placement.

#### Unum:

Unum Life Insurance Company is responsible for managing the FMLA leave of all City employees.

PROVISION (pursuant to amended Ordinance No. 1335 and Ordinance No. 1613)

Eligible Employees, after one year of continuous service with the City, will be entitled to Paid Parental Leave up to six weeks in duration, and may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the child/children in the employee's home. The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement, regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

During the leave period, the employee shall be paid 100 percent of his or her base wages for the first two weeks, 75 percent of his or her base wages for the following two weeks, and 50 percent of base wages for the remaining two weeks. Employees shall be eligible to use any accrued leave in order to receive compensation up to 100 percent of base pay during the weeks reimbursed at the rates of 75 percent and 50 percent.

This leave shall occur concurrently with, count against, and not be added to periods of unpaid or job protected leave for which the employee may also be eligible, including Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"), and/or any other unpaid leave offered by the City due to childbirth, adoption, or foster care placement.

The number of Paid Parental Leave periods an employee may take is unlimited over the duration of his or her employment with the City, but employees are only eligible for one six-week paid leave regardless of the number of children per birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

If both parents are City employees, each employee is entitled up to a six-week leave period, and they may take their leave period concurrently, subsequently, or in any other combination.

#### **PROCEDURE**

#### Notice:

An Eligible Employee shall initially notify their supervisor of the need for Paid Parental Leave and the timing, duration, and schedule of the Paid Parental Leave. If the need for Paid Parental Leave is foreseeable, an Eligible Employee must give his or her supervisor at least 30 calendar days advance notice of the need for leave, if practicable. If the need for Paid Parental Leave is not foreseeable, an Eligible Employee must give notice of the need for leave to their supervisor as soon as practicable.

## CITYWIDE PROCEDURE

DATE ISSUED:
DECEMBER 2016
DATE UPDATED:

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SUBJECT: PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:

**HUMAN RESOURCES** 

#### Medical Documentation:

An Eligible Employee is required to furnish appropriate medical documentation for the birth of a child to the Unum administrator. Since Paid Parental Leave runs concurrently with FMLA, medical certification requirements for FMLA govern.

Adoption or Foster Care Placement Documentation:

An Eligible Employee will be required to furnish appropriate adoption or foster care placement documentation, such as a letter from an adoption agency or from the attorney, in cases of private adoption, or legal documentation regarding the placement of foster child/children in your home.

## Application Process:

An Eligible Employee shall follow up the request for Paid Parental Leave in writing on an appropriate leave request form. If the Eligible Employee is requesting intermittent Paid Parental Leave, the Eligible Employee's supervisor must approve the request.

- Notify your supervisor/manager of your request for absence from work.
- Call the toll-free number at 877-217-5495 to initiate a request for leave.
- Be prepared to provide the following information when you make your leave request:
  - o Name of the company where you work City of Miami Beach
  - o Your name and employee ID number
  - o Complete address and phone number
  - Date of birth
  - Occupation (or job title)
  - o Supervisor's name and phone number
  - o Purpose of your leave request Paid Parental Leave

FOR JIM SUHER

- Your last day worked and your first day absent from work due to your leave request
- The date you expect to return to work (if you know), or the actual date if you have already returned to work at the time you call

#### Attachments:

Ordinance 1335 – Classified Leave Ordinance, Sections 12 and 16 (amended October 19, 2016) Ordinance 1613 – Unclassified Leave Ordinance, Section 10 (amended October 19, 2016)

Prepared by

Director, Human Resources

Reviewed by:

Internal Auditor

CITYWIDE PROCEDURE

DATE ISSUED: DECEMBER 2016 DATE UPDATED: Page: 4 Of: 4 SEQUENCE NUMBER: HR.16.03

SUBJECT: PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:

**HUMAN RESOURCES** 

Assistant City Manager

Approved by:

City Manager

#### ORDINANCE NO.

2016-4048

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1335. THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' LEAVE ORDINANCE. BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 12. ENTITLED "OTHER LEAVES WITH COMPENSATION," TO PROVIDE FOR PAID PARENTAL LEAVE: AND. BY **AMENDING** THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 16. ENTITLED "COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTINGENCY." TO PROVIDE PAID PARENTAL LEAVE BENEFITS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND UNION APPROVAL FOR EMPOYEES IN CLASSIFICATIONS GOVERNED BY UNION CONTRACTS: PROVIDING REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA:

## **SECTION 1.**

That Section 12 of Classified Leave Ordinance No. 1335, as amended, shall be amended to read as follows:

#### 12. Other leaves with compensation.

- a) With the approval of the city council, other leaves of absence with pay may be granted by the city manager in addition to regularly allowed leave when such is recommended by the appointing officer for the purpose of promoting efficiency or other good causes.
- b) All employees, after six months of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to use one day of bereavement leave upon the death of a member of their immediate family effective with the first pay period in 1975. Bereavement leave will increase to two days effective with the first pay period in 1976. Detailed administrative regulations defining immediate family and procedures for using bereavement leave will be issued prior to January 1, 1975. (Ord. No. 74-2016, § 12, 12-11-1974)

c) All employees, after one year of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to up to six weeks of paid parental leave for the purpose of caring for his or her newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child or children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as to same-sex couples, in the event of a natural birth by any method, adoption, surrogacy, stillbirths, or foster care placement in the employee's home.

The paid parental leave shall be up to six weeks in duration, and may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the child or children in the employee's home. The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

During the leave period, the employee shall be paid 100 percent of his or her base wages for the first two weeks, 75 percent of his or her base wages for the following two weeks, and 50 percent of base wages for the remaining two weeks. Employees shall be eligible to use any accrued leave in order to receive compensation up to 100 percent of base pay during the weeks reimbursed at the rates of 75 percent and 50 percent.

This leave shall occur concurrently with, count against, and not be added to periods of unpaid or job protected leave for which the employee may also be eligible, including the federally-mandated 12 weeks of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave, and/or any other unpaid leave offered by the city due to childbirth or adoption. The number of paid parental leave periods an employee may take is unlimited over the duration of his or her employment with the city, but employees are only eligible for one six-week paid leave per birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

If both parents are city employees, each employee is entitled up to a six-week leave period and they may take their parental leave period concurrently, subsequently, or in any other combination they wish.

The Director of Human Resources for the city shall have full authority to issue policies and procedures relative to paid parental leave benefits offered pursuant to this Ordinance for any purpose, including, but not limited to, notification requirements for employees requesting leave, employee eligibility, and documentation requirements for births, adoptions, and foster care placements. The city's employee leave manual shall include provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection for paid parental leave.

## 16. Collective bargaining contingency.

As to employees in classifications governed by union contracts, implementation of the measures hereby amended in sections 5, 11(c), 12(c), and this section, is contingent upon the collective bargaining and approval by the unions to the extent such approval is necessary. Should any inconsistencies exist between this chapter and the union contracts, then the language of the union contracts shall supersede. (Ord. No. 2007-3573, § 17, 10-17-2007)

## **SECTION 2.** REPEALER.

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.**

If any section, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected by such invalidity.

## **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effect on the <u>29</u> day of <u>0chber</u> , 2016.
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19 day of 0ctober, 2016.
Philip Levine, Mayor
ATTEST:
APPROVED AS TO FORM & LANGUAGE
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk
Underline denotes additions Strikethrough denotes deletions  Date  Date  Date
Double underline denotes additions at Second Reading
(Sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Genzalez)

## **COMMISSION MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

October 19, 2016

11:25 a.m. Second Reading Public Hearing

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1335, THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' LEAVE ORDINANCE, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 12, ENTITLED "OTHER LEAVES WITH COMPENSATION" TO PROVIDE FOR PAID PARENTAL LEAVE, AND, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 16, ENTITLED "COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTINGENCY," TO PROVIDE PAID PARENTAL LEAVE BENEFITS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND UNION APPROVAL FOR EMPLOYEES IN CLASSIFICATIONS GOVERNED BY UNION CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends the City Commission approve the amendment to the Classified Employees' Leave Ordinance No. 1335, Section 12 and Section 16.

#### **ANALYSIS**

**BACKGROUND** 

It has been determined through surveying of various government entities that granting of paid parental leave for its employees is becoming common. While no federal laws require us to provide paid parental leave, it is a valuable benefit to our employees as well as to their families. Additionally, implementing a paid parental leave policy is an attractive tool that is useful in recruiting talented workers.

Workers oftentimes face tension in balancing their roles as parents and workers, especially if there are adverse consequences for missing too much time from work due to the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child. The Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") provides certain employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave a year for serious health conditions, or even bonding with a new child. Employees are eligible for FMLA leave if they have worked for the City for at least 12 months, worked at least 1,250 hours or more during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement date of leave, and had not taken 12-weeks of FMLA leave within the same calendar year. A paid parental leave policy would be an added benefit to those employees (women and men) who need that continued income following the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child.

#### **ANALYSIS**

If adopted, this Ordinance will provide paid parental leave to City workers, after one year of continuous service with the City. Employees will be entitled to up to six weeks of paid parental leave for the purpose of caring for his or her newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child or children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as to same-sex couples, in the event of natural birth by any method, adoption, surrogacy, stillbirths, or foster care placement in the employee's home.

The paid parental leave shall be up to six weeks in duration, and may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth, adoption, or foster care intake of the child or children. The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

During the leave period, the employee shall be paid 100 percent of his or her base wages for the first two weeks, 75 percent of his or her base wages for the following two weeks, and 50 percent of base wages for the remaining two weeks. Employees shall be eligible to use any accrued leave in order to receive compensation up to 100 percent of base pay during the weeks reimbursed at the rates of 75 percent and 50 percent.

This leave shall occur concurrently with, count against, and not be added to periods of unpaid or job protected leave for which the employee may also be eligible, including the federally-mandated 12 weeks of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave, and/or any other unpaid leave offered by the City due to childbirth or adoption. The number of paid parental leave periods an employee may take is unlimited over the duration of his or her employment with the City, but employees are only eligible for one six-week paid leave per birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

If both parents are City employees, each employee is entitled up to a six-week leave period and they may take their parental leave period concurrently, subsequently, or in any other combination they wish.

The Director of Human Resources for the City shall have full authority to issue policies and procedures relative to paid parental leave benefits offered pursuant to this Ordinance for any purpose, including, but not limited to, notification requirements for employees requesting leave, employee eligibility, and documentation requirements for births, adoptions, and foster care placements. The City's employee leave manual shall include provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection for paid parental leave.

#### CONCLUSION

On second reading, a minor amendment to the language in Section 12 and 16 is proposed to clarify that there is only one leave period per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

The Administration recommends approving the proposed Ordinance amendment with the minor

additional proposed revision.

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

After the first reading, leave history was gathered from our FMLA administrator, Unum, and is included below to show the average number of maternity/paternity leaves for the 20-month period between January 1, 2014 and August 31, 2016:

	Average	Average
Leave Reason - Actual Claimants	<b>Duration in Days</b>	<b>Duration in Weeks</b>
Pregnancy Related Only – 3	52	7
Newborn Maternity Bonding Only – 1	30	4
Pregnancy plus Maternity Bonding - 20	77	11
Newborn Paternity Bonding – 149	21	3

Historically, leave usage is taken into account as part of the City's annual budget development process. All City employees, with the exception of Fire personnel who work a 48-hour week, are budgeted for 2,080 hours annually. Most City employees accumulate 96 hours of leave for sick and 96 hours for vacation annually (IAFF Shift employees accumulate 144 hours of vacation and 96 hours of sick annually). So whether employees work or utilize their accrued leave, the funding to pay that employee's salary is included in the budget. Additionally, there are some departments that take into account both anticipated and unanticipated leave usage that occur during the year to ensure City services are not interrupted by budgeting overtime or use of temporary staffing. Generally, during extended employee's leave work may be distributed among existing staff.

With the adoption of this Paid Parental Leave Ordinance, employees could have more accrued leave available in the future, and therefore could potentially have higher separation payments upon leaving the City. Upon implementation of this Paid Parental Leave policy, we can collect data to revisit the financial impact, if any, that this leave policy will have on the City's budget.

## **Legislative Tracking**

**Human Resources** 

#### **Sponsor**

Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Description

Ordinance

## **ORDINANCE NO.** 2016-4049

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1613, THE UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' LEAVE ORDINANCE, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 10, ENTITLED "OTHER LEAVES WITH COMPENSATION" TO PROVIDE FOR PAID PARENTAL LEAVE; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA:

## SECTION 1.

That Section 10 of Unclassified Leave Ordinance No. 1613, as amended, shall be amended to read as follows:

## 10. Other leaves with compensation.

- a) With the approval of the city council, other leaves of absence with pay may be granted by the city manager in addition to regularly allowed leave when such is recommended by the immediate superior for the purpose of promoting efficiency or other good causes.
- b) All employees, after six months of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to use one day of bereavement leave upon the death of a member of their immediate family effective with the first pay period in 1975. Bereavement leave will increase to two days effective with the first pay period in 1976. Detailed administrative regulations defining immediate family and procedures for using bereavement leave will be issued prior to January 1, 1975. (Ord. No. 74-2016, § 2, 12-11-1974)
- c) All employees, after one year of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to up to six weeks of paid parental leave for the purpose of caring for his or her newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child or children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as to same-sex couples, in

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2

2016-4048

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAM! BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1335, THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' LEAVE ORDINANCE. BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 12. ENTITLED "OTHER LEAVES WITH COMPENSATION." TO PROVIDE FOR PAID PARENTAL LEAVE: AND. BY AMENDING **PROVISIONS** IN SECTION 16, ENTITLED "COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTINGENCY," TO PROVIDE PAID PARENTAL LEAVE BENEFITS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND UNION APPROVAL FOR EMPOYEES IN CLASSIFICATIONS GOVERNED BY UNION CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA:

#### **SECTION 1.**

That Section 12 of Classified Leave Ordinance No. 1335, as amended, shall be amended to read as follows:

## 12. Other leaves with compensation.

- a) With the approval of the city council, other leaves of absence with pay may be granted by the city manager in addition to regularly allowed leave when such is recommended by the appointing officer for the purpose of promoting efficiency or other good causes.
- b) All employees, after six months of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to use one day of bereavement leave upon the death of a member of their immediate family effective with the first pay period in 1975. Bereavement leave will increase to two days effective with the first pay period in 1976. Detailed administrative regulations defining immediate family and procedures for using bereavement leave will be issued prior to January 1, 1975. (Ord. No. 74-2016, § 12, 12-11-1974)

c) All employees, after one year of continuous service with the city, will be entitled to up to six weeks of paid parental leave for the purpose of caring for his or her newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child or children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as to same-sex couples, in the event of a natural birth by any method, adoption, surrogacy, stillbirths, or foster care placement in the employee's home.

The paid parental leave shall be up to six weeks in duration, and may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of the child or children in the employee's home. The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

During the leave period, the employee shall be paid 100 percent of his or her base wages for the first two weeks, 75 percent of his or her base wages for the following two weeks, and 50 percent of base wages for the remaining two weeks. Employees shall be eligible to use any accrued leave in order to receive compensation up to 100 percent of base pay during the weeks reimbursed at the rates of 75 percent and 50 percent.

This leave shall occur concurrently with, count against, and not be added to periods of unpaid or job protected leave for which the employee may also be eligible, including the federally-mandated 12 weeks of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave, and/or any other unpaid leave offered by the city due to childbirth or adoption. The number of paid parental leave periods an employee may take is unlimited over the duration of his or her employment with the city, but employees are only eligible for one six-week paid leave per birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

If both parents are city employees, each employee is entitled up to a six-week leave period and they may take their parental leave period concurrently, subsequently, or in any other combination they wish.

The Director of Human Resources for the city shall have full authority to issue policies and procedures relative to paid parental leave benefits offered pursuant to this Ordinance for any purpose, including, but not limited to, notification requirements for employees requesting leave, employee eligibility, and documentation requirements for births, adoptions, and foster care placements. The city's employee leave manual shall include provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection for paid parental leave.

## 16. Collective bargaining contingency.

As to employees in classifications governed by union contracts, implementation of the measures hereby amended in sections 5, 11(c), 12(c), and this section, is contingent upon the collective bargaining and approval by the unions to the extent such approval is necessary. Should any inconsistencies exist between this chapter and the union contracts, then the language of the union contracts shall supersede. (Ord. No. 2007-3573, § 17, 10-17-2007)

## **SECTION 2. REPEALER.**

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION 3.** SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected by such invalidity.

## SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect on the <u>29</u> day of <u>0ctober</u> , 2016.
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19 day of October, 2016.
Philip Levine, Mayor
ATTEST:
APPROVED AS TO FORM & LANGUAGE & FOR EXECUTION
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk
Underline denotes additions Strikethrough denotes deletions  NCORP ORATED  Date
<u>Double underline</u> denotes additions at Second Reading
(Sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Genzalez)

## **COMMISSION MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

October 19, 2016

11:25 a.m. Second Reading Public Hearing

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1335, THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' LEAVE ORDINANCE, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 12, ENTITLED "OTHER LEAVES WITH COMPENSATION" TO PROVIDE FOR PAID PARENTAL LEAVE, AND, BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS IN SECTION 16, ENTITLED "COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTINGENCY," TO PROVIDE PAID PARENTAL LEAVE BENEFITS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND UNION APPROVAL FOR EMPLOYEES IN CLASSIFICATIONS GOVERNED BY UNION CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends the City Commission approve the amendment to the Classified Employees' Leave Ordinance No. 1335, Section 12 and Section 16.

#### **ANALYSIS**

#### **BACKGROUND**

It has been determined through surveying of various government entities that granting of paid parental leave for its employees is becoming common. While no federal laws require us to provide paid parental leave, it is a valuable benefit to our employees as well as to their families. Additionally, implementing a paid parental leave policy is an attractive tool that is useful in recruiting talented workers.

Workers oftentimes face tension in balancing their roles as parents and workers, especially if there are adverse consequences for missing too much time from work due to the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child. The Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") provides certain employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave a year for serious health conditions, or even bonding with a new child. Employees are eligible for FMLA leave if they have worked for the City for at least 12 months, worked at least 1,250 hours or more during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement date of leave, and had not taken 12-weeks of FMLA leave within the same calendar year. A paid parental leave policy would be an added benefit to those employees (women and men) who need that continued income following the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child.

#### **ANALYSIS**

If adopted, this Ordinance will provide paid parental leave to City workers, after one year of continuous service with the City. Employees will be entitled to up to six weeks of paid parental leave for the purpose of caring for his or her newborn, newly-adopted, or newly-placed foster child or children. This leave shall apply equally to parents regardless of gender, as well as to same-sex couples, in the event of natural birth by any method, adoption, surrogacy, stillbirths, or foster care placement in the employee's home.

The paid parental leave shall be up to six weeks in duration, and may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth, adoption, or foster care intake of the child or children. The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

During the leave period, the employee shall be paid 100 percent of his or her base wages for the first two weeks, 75 percent of his or her base wages for the following two weeks, and 50 percent of base wages for the remaining two weeks. Employees shall be eligible to use any accrued leave in order to receive compensation up to 100 percent of base pay during the weeks reimbursed at the rates of 75 percent and 50 percent.

This leave shall occur concurrently with, count against, and not be added to periods of unpaid or job protected leave for which the employee may also be eligible, including the federally-mandated 12 weeks of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave, and/or any other unpaid leave offered by the City due to childbirth or adoption. The number of paid parental leave periods an employee may take is unlimited over the duration of his or her employment with the City, but employees are only eligible for one six-week paid leave per birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

If both parents are City employees, each employee is entitled up to a six-week leave period and they may take their parental leave period concurrently, subsequently, or in any other combination they wish.

The Director of Human Resources for the City shall have full authority to issue policies and procedures relative to paid parental leave benefits offered pursuant to this Ordinance for any purpose, including, but not limited to, notification requirements for employees requesting leave, employee eligibility, and documentation requirements for births, adoptions, and foster care placements. The City's employee leave manual shall include provisions consistent with the requirements of this subsection for paid parental leave.

#### CONCLUSION

On second reading, a minor amendment to the language in Section 12 and 16 is proposed to clarify that there is only one leave period per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born, adopted by the employee, or placed in the employee's home through foster care.

The Administration recommends approving the proposed Ordinance amendment with the minor

additional proposed revision.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

After the first reading, leave history was gathered from our FMLA administrator, Unum, and is included below to show the average number of maternity/paternity leaves for the 20-month period between January 1, 2014 and August 31, 2016:

	Average	Average
Leave Reason - Actual Claimants	<b>Duration in Days</b>	<b>Duration in Weeks</b>
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Pregnancy plus Maternity Bonding - 20	77	11
Newborn Paternity Bonding – 149	21	3

Historically, leave usage is taken into account as part of the City's annual budget development process. All City employees, with the exception of Fire personnel who work a 48-hour week, are budgeted for 2,080 hours annually. Most City employees accumulate 96 hours of leave for sick and 96 hours for vacation annually (IAFF Shift employees accumulate 144 hours of vacation and 96 hours of sick annually). So whether employees work or utilize their accrued leave, the funding to pay that employee's salary is included in the budget. Additionally, there are some departments that take into account both anticipated and unanticipated leave usage that occur during the year to ensure City services are not interrupted by budgeting overtime or use of temporary staffing. Generally, during extended employee's leave work may be distributed among existing staff.

With the adoption of this Paid Parental Leave Ordinance, employees could have more accrued leave available in the future, and therefore could potentially have higher separation payments upon leaving the City. Upon implementation of this Paid Parental Leave policy, we can collect data to revisit the financial impact, if any, that this leave policy will have on the City's budget.

## **Legislative Tracking**

Human Resources

#### Sponsor

Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**Description** 

Ordinance

The questions that were raised by this group are as following, along with my responses:

- Q1. Is it the intent of the City Commission to allow the leave to be used by the day?
- A1. The Paid Parental Leave ("PPL") Ordinance that was approved by the Commission states that "...may be taken by the day or week anytime during the first year after the birth..."
- Q2. Is the benefit limited to one parent or the other in the event that both work for the City?
- A2. The PPL Ordinance states that "If both parents are City employees, each employee is entitled to up to a six-week leave period..."
- Q3. In the case of twins, would that be one "birth" or two?
- A3. Twins are considered on birth and therefore entitled to one six-week leave period. The PPL Ordinance states "The leave period shall not exceed six weeks per birth, adoption, or foster care placement regardless of the number of children born..."
- Q4. Will the policy allow six weeks of leave for stillbirths? Wouldn't that fall under a bereavement policy instead?
- A4. Yes, the PPL will apply for stillbirths (baby being birth dead after the 24th week of pregnancy). Under FMLA you are entitled to maternity leave for stillbirths, and therefore would be entitled to PPL.
- Q5. How does this work for employees that are eligible for Short Term Disability ("STD")?
- A5. Employees that have elected STD will not be able to use the STD while receiving the PPL. It is advisable that employees use their PPL first, since it is time sensitive, and then use their STD, if applicable.
- Q6. Are both parents, that work for the City, eligible for the PPL regardless of marital status?
- A6. Yes, both parents are eligible, regardless of marital status.
- Q7. Should the definition of an eligible employee include "full-time" status?
- A7. No, as long as the employee meets the 1250 hours in the past 12 month period, they meet the definition of an eligible employee.