



# Memorandum

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To: The Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor  
The Honorable Chairperson Bruno A. Barreiro  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From:  Christopher Mazzella, Inspector General

Date: October 2, 2008

Subject: Abuse of Disabled Parking at MIA Results in Plea of TSA Employee; IG08-26

An investigation by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) into workers at Miami International Airport (MIA) abusing a County ordinance that provides free parking in public parking facilities to the disabled and that resulted in an arrest and the filing of criminal charges, ended with a guilty plea last week.

Earlier this summer in July 2008, Anthony Lee Lindsey, an employee of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) working at MIA, was arrested on charges of Falsely Obtaining a State of Florida Disabled Parking Permit, Grand Theft, and Cheating. The OIG investigation revealed that Mr. Lindsey had utilized a fraudulently obtained disabled parking permit to waive \$886 in parking fees that would have been otherwise incurred from January 2008 to May 2008 for parking his car in the MIA public garages.

On September 26, 2008, Mr. Lindsey pled guilty before Circuit Court Judge Bertila Soto. The judge withheld adjudication and sentenced the defendant to three (3) years felony probation, with the special conditions that he perform 50 hours of community service, pay restitution to MDAD of \$886, and pay investigative expenses to the OIG totaling \$3,636. The Court is also requiring that Mr. Lindsey turn over his parking permit to the OIG, or submit an affidavit that he has already destroyed it and write a letter to the State of Florida revoking the permit.

Mr. Lindsey was the second arrest resulting from the OIG's investigation. The investigation uncovered that in addition to inconveniencing disabled patrons of MIA by parking in the designated spaces, employees working at the airport were cheating the County out of parking revenues by presenting a disabled parking permit upon exiting the garage and, thus, having their parking fees waived.

cc: Mr. George Burgess, County Manager  
Ms. Ysela Llort, Assistant County Manager  
Mr. Dennis Morales, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor  
Mr. Jose Abreu, P.E., Director, Miami-Dade Aviation Department  
Ms. Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit and Management Services Department  
Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor  
Clerk of the Board (copy filed)