

Memorandum



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To: The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County

The Honorable Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman

and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

From: Felix Jimenez, Inspector General

Date: April 14, 2025

Subject: Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works Employee

Sentenced for COVID-19 Relief Fraud, Ref. IG 23-0018-I

Anita Faircloth-Toombs, a Department of Transportation and Public Works Department (DTPW) bus driver, was sentenced today, in federal court in connection with her fraudulent applications for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act paycheck protection loans of over \$36,000. The case was investigated by the FBI's Miami Area Corruption Task Force, which includes investigators from the Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Inspector General - Investigations Division Eastern Region.

Ms. Faircloth-Toombs was prosecuted by the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida and pled guilty to one count of Wire Fraud, on January 13, 2025. She appeared today before U.S. District Judge Robert N. Scola, Jr. and was sentenced to 3 years of probation and 4 months of home detention with electronic monitoring. As part of her sentencing, she was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$41,804, and a special assessment of \$100. In addition, she was sentenced to perform 100 hours of community service.

The CARES Act, enacted in March 2020, provided emergency financial assistance to individuals and eligible small businesses, sole proprietorships, and independent contractors experiencing substantial financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the CARES Act, the SBA provided Ms. Faircloth-Toombs with two Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans.

PPP loans were intended to provide small businesses funds to cover payroll costs for a period of up to eight weeks. PPP loan applications required supporting documentation including average monthly payroll information and number of employees. The applicant was also required to certify, under penalty of perjury, that all information in the PPP loan application was true and correct. For PPP loans, a qualifying business had to submit an application to a participating lender. While the PPP loan was issued by the participating lender, the loan was 100% guaranteed by the SBA.

Ms. Faircloth-Toombs, who has been employed by DTPW since November 15, 2021,¹ submitted the fraudulent PPP loan applications on behalf of Anita F Enterprise, LLC. Ms. Faircloth-Toombs falsely claimed that for the 12-month period prior to January 31, 2020, she had monthly gross revenues of approximately \$1,200 to \$1,500 and no employees.

Anita F Enterprise, LLC was registered as a Florida Limited Liability company with the State of Florida Division of Corporations on May 23, 2022. Ms. Faircloth-Toombs is listed as the sole manager and registered agent. As a result of the fraudulent applications, Ms. Faircloth-Toombs obtained PPP loans from an SBA-approved lender in the amount of \$36,804.

Ms. Faircloth-Toombs's LLC has not been disclosed to her employer—DTPW—via a Request to Engage in Outside Employment. Nor has Ms. Faircloth-Toombs filed the required annual Outside Employment Statement, disclosing any income from outside employment.

cc: Stacy Miller, Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works

¹ Ms. Faircloth was employed by Miami-Dade County Public Schools immediately prior to her County employment.