



Memorandum



Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General
A State of Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accredited Agency
601 NW 1st Court ♦ South Tower, 22nd Floor ♦ Miami, Florida 33136
Phone: (305) 375-1946 ♦ Fax: (305) 579-2656
Visit our website at: www.miamidadeig.org

To: Jay Fink, Director
Water and Sewer Department

From: Felix Jimenez, Inspector General 

Date: February 10, 2026

Subject: One Additional Water and Sewer Department (WASD) Employee Arrested in Scheme to Steal WASD Scrap Metal, Ref. IG22-0017-I

A joint investigation by the Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General (OIG), the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office (MDSO), and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, yielded an additional arrest following the September 2025 felony arrests of three WASD employees for the theft of scrap metal generated on the job.

Barbaro Leonel Gutierrez, a former WASD Pipefitter Supervisor was arrested last Thursday, February 5, 2026, in connection with one count of Petit Theft in violation of Florida Statute 812.014, which carries a maximum penalty of imprisonment not exceeding 1 year.

The OIG investigation has already resulted in charges against three WASD employees for recycling county scrap for their private gain. Mr. Gutierrez has been arrested and charged with one transaction of County scrap metal to a private recycling company. The investigation found no evidence that Mr. Gutierrez was working with others in their individual schemes.

The OIG appreciates the assistance of WASD and the OIG's law enforcement partners, the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office and State Attorney's Office.