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MEETING OF THE FLORIDA STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE
U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL
100 CHOPIN PLAZA
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33121

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1989

1:00 p.m. - 5:55 p.m.

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REPORTING:
GLENDA WARREN
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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PRESENT:

U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

WILLIAM ALLEN

JOHN BINKLEY

BOBBY DOCTOR

MELVIN JENKINS

FLORIDA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MICHAEL J. MOORHEAD

JACKIE L. BELL

ROBERT M. BRAKE

KENNETH CLARKSON

VIRGIE H. CONE

LINDA GARCIA

JONATHAN I. KISLAK

JUNE D. LITTLER

CAROLYN ANN WINSTON

* * * * *

AGENDA

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Open Meeting Welcome, Introductions
Michael Moorhead, Chair, Florida SAC

William Allen, Chair
U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

Xavier Suarez, Mayor
City of Miami

Thomas Battles
Community Relations Service
U.S. Department of Justice

Milton Vickers, Director
Metro Dade Minority Businesses

William Perry, President
Overtown Advisory Committee

Reverend Richard Barry
Citizens Review Investigation Panel

Johnnie McMillan, President
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People (NAACP)

Reverend Jean-Juste, Director
Haitian Refugee Center

Dr. Willie E. Williams, Vice President
People United to Lead Struggle for
Equality (PULSE)

Reverend Nathaniel Graham, Chair
Committee to End Discrimination
People United to Lead Struggle for
Equality (PULSE)

Perry Anderson, Chief
Miami Police Department

Bill Cullon, President
Miami Chamber of Commerce

Betzaida Ferrer, Director
National Puerto Rican Forum

Reydell "Sonny" Santos, Director
Spanish American League Against
Discrimination (SALAD)

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Whereupon, at 1:10 p.m., the proceedings were called to order by the Chairman, after which the following occurred:)

CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: If we could come to order, I think we will get started.

We were scheduled to start at one. We're about ten minutes beyond that. Why don't we begin.

I would like to make one announcement, and that is that the mikes that are placed by the transcriber are those that are on tripods. So when we're speaking, we should address ourselves to those mikes so our comments can be recorded.

This is a briefing meeting for the Florida Advisory Committee. The members sitting at the table, I'm going to ask each to introduce himself or herself.

I will indicate that we are fortunate in having the Chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission with us today, Chairman William Allen.

When we get to making some initial remarks, I will ask him to give a few.

I ought to describe the nature of this forum before the introductions as well.

And that is, as you may have heard the

1 Staff Director, Melvin Jenkins, indicate at our
2 preliminary meeting, that this is a briefing meeting
3 to inform the Advisory Council on developments in
4 Miami, developments that we have been examining over
5 a period of years.

6 There has been two major documents on the
7 issue of racial unrest in the Miami area; one,
8 "Police by the White Male Minority," which was
9 published in 1976; and the second document,
10 "Confronting Racial Isolation in Miami," which was
11 published in 1982.

12 We will be looking at issues that arose
13 out of the latest incident in Miami. We'll also be
14 supplementing the information that we received at
15 our last forum here in Miami, which was held in June
16 of 1988.

17 We will follow our agenda fairly closely;
18 try, as we can, to maintain the pace listed in the
19 agenda.

20 But before we turn to it, make a round of
21 introductions and then ask the Chairman of the
22 Commission if he cares to make some remarks.

23 John Binkley, would you start.

24 MR. BINKLEY: I'm John Binkley of the
25 Commission Staff in Washington, D.C.

1 MS. CONE: I'm Virgie Cone from Jasper in
2 North Florida.

3 MS. GARCIA: Linda Garcia from Tampa.

4 MS. LITTLER: June Littler, Gainesville.

5 MR. CLARKSON: Ken Clarkson from the
6 University of Miami.

7 MR. BRAKE: Bob Brake from Coral Gables
8 here in Dade County.

9 MR. MOORHEAD: I'm Michael Moorhead from
10 Gainesville, Florida.

11 MR. DOCTOR: I'm Bobby Doctor, Commission
12 Staff, Washington.

13 MR. KISLAK: John Kislak from Miami.

14 MS. BELL: Jackie Bell, Miami, Florida.

15 MR. JENKINS: Melvin Jenkins, Acting Staff
16 Director in Washington.

17 MR. MOORHEAD: And again, the Chairman is
18 Chairman Allen.

19 Would you care to make some remarks?

20 MR. ALLEN: Thank-you, Mr. Moorhead, yes.

21 I probably should not make any opening
22 remarks because I don't know anything.

23 I've come to learn, rather than to speak,
24 and I only wish I had more time to spend with you.
25 I'm unfortunately on a tight schedule and will be

1 flying out probably even before you're done this
2 afternoon.

3 Before I do fly out though, I hope very
4 much to have one question above all if not answered,
5 at least outlined, and it's really the reason I've
6 come.

7 You know better than I that for many years
8 now Miami has suffered, and you've been around the
9 horn on this particular issue a long time.

10 And I will be blunt with you and tell you
11 I'm concerned to find out why it is we don't seem to
12 be able to get a handle on these questions; why it
13 is we always recur to the same tired old
14 explanations, the same tired old attempts to resolve
15 these difficulties.

16 I sometimes have the impression that we're
17 carrying on a blood auction down here, as perhaps
18 we've sometimes done elsewhere in the country; a
19 blood auction in the sense that periodically we have
20 to spill the blood of a few Black citizens in order
21 to set in motion a new round of bids for policies
22 and expenditures.

23 And one of the things that troubles me is
24 we spend more time talking about the policies and
25 future expenditures, than we do talking about just

1 retribution.

2 I think the blood of those who have
3 fallen, either now or at other times, cries out for
4 more particular consideration.

5 There may be community problems to be
6 discussed as well, but long before one gets to
7 community problems, it seems to me one has to deal
8 with the problem of justice.

9 Whether for poor or for rich, the problem
10 of justice demands our focus, and we have to say
11 whether those who have fallen on this occasion
12 deserve to fall. And if they did not, what is the
13 just retribution.

14 After that we can talk about various
15 policies at state, local, and federal levels, but I
16 hope we can finally find a way to address those
17 questions that will put them once and for all behind
18 Miami, and ultimately behind the United States.

19 I'm here to listen.

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, Mr.
21 Chairman.

22 I'd like to acknowledge the presence of
23 the Mayor of Miami, Mayor Xavier Suarez.

24 Would you like to make some brief opening
25 remarks, sir?

1 MAYOR SUAREZ: Let me say, first of all,
2 that we're quite happy that you have convened and
3 have decided to examine some of the things that have
4 taken place in Miami; specifically, the incident
5 that gave rise to civil disturbances in our city.

6 We're quite open to any investigation,
7 inquiry; quite open to ideas, suggestions; and
8 frankly, quite interested in any resources that
9 might be used to apply to the problems at hand.

10 And I think we have done that uniformly
11 since 1985, including a major problem that I meant
12 to refer to a little later in my statement, having
13 to do with our police department, and that is, of
14 course, the problem that you know we've been plagued
15 with, having to do with corruption.

16 And I don't think that any police
17 department in the history of the United States has
18 ever been more open to investigations and inquiries
19 and chastisement, for lack of a better word, than
20 ours has, in cooperation with the federal and state
21 authorities.

22 And I think that speaks well for that
23 department going through some very difficult times.

24 The issue most at hand, of course, as
25 stated by one of your Board members just now, is the

1 shooting death and accidental death to go with the
2 shooting death of two people in the Overtown
3 community.

4 And we have had one message rather clearly
5 conveyed to us by the people of Overtown and Liberty
6 City, two of our predominantly Black communities--
7 not similar in many other ways -- and that is that
8 their concern about this particular shooting
9 incident.

10 Convening, as we have done, a panel with
11 subpoena powers and with a majority of residents of
12 the area is an extraordinary, unprecedented move;
13 however, as to that particular incident, it could be
14 expected not to be too fruitful for reasons that are
15 obvious now.

16 I couldn't say that at the beginning, but
17 with an indictment, with a State Attorney
18 investigation, and with U.S. Attorney and FBI
19 involvement, and Justice Department involvement,
20 why, the fact of that particular incident becomes
21 something that that committee will not be able to
22 delve into all that much. It might not have too
23 much need.

24 However, it is not in any way restrained
-25 otherwise, and even as to that, only by whatever

1 legal limitations that might apply from the fact
2 that other proceedings are taking place with
3 preeminent jurisdiction.

4 And that committee has been charged with
5 a broad charge to investigate that kind of a
6 incident, that pattern of incidence.

7 Frankly, we know and are mindful of the
8 fact that in our city we've had racial or racially
9 motivated or racially over-toned disturbances since
10 1968, I guess, and successively and periodically for
11 about 20 years.

12 So we know that that is something we must
13 look at and be attentive to. And that committee
14 can delve into any of that that it would like to.

15 On the police community relations--
16 moving very quickly because I know you must hear
17 from other speakers and I have to get back to a
18 Commission meeting today.

19 I'm sure that you didn't schedule this on
20 a Commission meeting day on purpose. I see one of
21 our former Coral Gables Commissioners over there
22 laughing, knowing what's it like to have a 12-hour
23 Commission meeting as we do today, but we're on a
24 break right now until two p.m. and I really should
25 get back.

1 In any event, I did mention already that
2 we have a troubled department. We have a police
3 department that was plagued with corruption
4 allegations and disciplinary actions and
5 indictments, including some for murder -- I forget
6 if it was first degree murder or not -- involving
7 the famous River Cops case.

8 As many as a hundred officers out of a
9 force of 1,050 have been implicated, and you have
10 to understand that given that, a lot of times other
11 things that we might have done with the department
12 including improving our deployment situation,
13 improving our community relations component,
14 sometimes seem to take a back seat. And now, in
15 retrospect, maybe they shouldn't have, but that is a
16 fact.

17 We were also involved in taking back the
18 streets of Miami from the visible sale of drugs on
19 our streets.

20 We're mindful that the sale of drugs takes
21 place at two levels, the drug problem in our
22 community; one is the entry and that invisible flow
23 to the rest of the nation of drugs; the large
24 transactions, the ones that are profitable, and a
25 lot of times don't even involve that many members of

1 our community per se, certainly not the profits.

2 We're also mindful of the fact that the
3 health of our city is affected a great deal by that
4 visible sale in the streets of our communities; not
5 just Overtown, but maybe Overtown is one of the
6 worst plagued communities, but Winwood and Liberty
7 City and Allapattah and East Little Havana.

8 We've had sting operations in East Little
9 Havana that I think have brought perhaps more
10 arrests than any other area in the city and indeed
11 the entire county area.

12 We've been successful at those. We've
13 been mentioned in the national media as having
14 successful reverse sting operations, when we arrest
15 the buyers, not just the sellers of drugs, and try
16 to create an incentive for them not to come into our
17 neighborhoods and buy drugs.

18 Let me dare make reference to what I think
19 is a great success story of our police department
20 under our two recent Chiefs, particularly the former
21 Chief, Clarence Dixon, who I think did a marvelous
22 job in this area, and say that one example is the
23 Charles Drew Elementary School which the Vice
24 President recently visited.

25 And the principal telling me in 1986, just

1 a few months after I was elected, that before we
2 began these reverse sting operations, there were
3 drugs being sold right at 61st and 17th, and that
4 since we began them, we essentially and almost
5 totally cleared the area of that kind of stuff that
6 affected, that activity that affected the students
7 as they left an elementary school. You can imagine
8 what the impact, the negative impact is of that kind
9 of activity, and we're proud of that.

10 Mayors of other cities and police chiefs
11 have asked how we have done it, and I can go into
12 that, but that's not the matter at hand, but it just
13 explains that our police department has
14 distinguished itself in these three years at least
15 in that way, and also, of course, in rooting out the
16 corruption.

17 We are also mindful of the fact that we
18 inherited from the early 1980s problems that would
19 have beset any other city to the point, I think, of
20 self-destruction, including one point in late 1982,
21 one out of every twelve people that were living in a
22 very large county, Dade County, had arrived within
23 the previous 18 months, and the strain on our
24 resources that placed from large migrations, and of
25 course, the recognition that we are, in fact, a drug

1 entry point into the United States; although I think
2 we've made some strides in that too.

3 In the area of community relations, we're
4 particularly interested in any recommendations you
5 might have, given your particular charge and your
6 background and your respective knowledge.

7 I've got all kinds of ideas. I'm trying
8 to implement some. I've already obtained from the
9 City manager a deployment log of all the police that
10 are assigned to Overtown and Liberty City, and I
11 have it on my desk, and I'll make it available to
12 you if you want to see a very, very unusual system
13 of deployment.

14 For example, if you wanted to know at any
15 time the ethnic distribution of our officers in
16 Overtown and Liberty City, for example, you would
17 find, as I did, that they varied from day to day.

18 This is part of the national -- I guess,
19 nationally accepted and perhaps people think
20 enlightened way of deploying police officers on an
21 almost day-to-basis, but it really takes away the
22 permanence that people would like to see in their
23 neighborhoods of knowing who the police officers are
24 and having those police officers know their
25 community.

1 If we could do nothing but at least once a
2 month have the officers that regularly patrol an
3 area go in there at night and have dinner with a
4 family in that particular community, we would have
5 already achieved a great deal, because a lot of
6 those officers and generally the philosophy is that
7 with police cars and police radios and all the
8 modern deployment techniques, they do the best job
9 one could possibly do, and not with the old walking
10 beat and the permanent presence that people are used
11 to and indeed keep asking about, which I think is
12 perhaps a mistake in the modern way of doing
13 deployment, and we're going to have to start looking
14 at that.

15 But I am pointing out that I think it's
16 the way it's done in most parts of the nation. You
17 probably would find the same thing in your own
18 police departments.

19 We have other ideas. We obviously need
20 more sensitivity training for our police officers.
21 We need more inter-ethnic interaction of all sorts.

22 We are mindful of the fact that we should
23 have a more proportionate deployment, so that we
24 have some Black officers in Black areas, some
25 Hispanic officers in predominantly Hispanic areas,

1 and some white native-born American, or as we call
2 them here, Anglos, in those areas too.

3 However, that can never be the total
4 solution, and we are not going to delude ourselves
5 into thinking that with the right proportion, we're
6 going to solve totally the problems of
7 police/community relations.

8 And I'm referring not only to deadly
9 shootings, but excessive instance of excessive
10 force.

11 I have advocated that this committee that
12 we have initially impanelled on an Ad Hoc basis be
13 made into a permanent independent review board; that
14 any citizen with any complaint against the police
15 for their actions can go to and will not be
16 dependent on the police department itself, and
17 hopefully, my Commission will move on that.

18 But in the meantime, at least we have the
19 Ad Hoc panel with subpoena powers, and we think if
20 that turns into a fruitful experience and useful
21 experience, that the Commission -- that a majority
22 of the Commission will see fit to implement it on a
23 permanent basis.

24 I cannot do it by myself, by the way. We
25 do have a legislative commission form of government;

1 although I believe I have a majority on that issue,
2 if not the unanimity.

3 Economic development and disparity issues,
4 I'll just very briefly run through.

5 Obviously, some of the anger being
6 expressed in the community, some of the frustration
7 felt by people like Jackie Bell and some others here
8 is based on the difficulty of bringing some of the
9 minority communities into the economic mainstream of
10 a city that has had a great deal of economic growth
11 and prosperity.

12 Now, within that, let me say something
13 about Overtown. Overtown is a special area of
14 concern.

15 Overtown and Liberty City are very
16 different in many ways.

17 There's very few areas in Overtown that
18 one could point to with all kinds of pride, because
19 it really is an area where beyond government
20 neglect, there's been government action that
21 directly has impinged on Overtown in a negative way
22 by dividing it.

23 Somebody told me the other day that
24 Overtown is four Overtowns really because you have
25 an intersection of two principal highways that

1 divide it into four pieces.

2 We have effectively, through government
3 action and neglect, ended up with a very bifurcated
4 divided community.

5 After the disturbances -- I had noticed it
6 before but never thought about it -- I realized that
7 even the infrastructure in Overtown was not up to
8 par with the rest of the city.

9 This is inexcusable, frankly, because the
10 rest of Miami's infrastructure, as you've probably
11 noticed if you're not from here, is in extremely
12 good shape, including the Liberty City
13 infrastructure; the streets, the parks, bridges, and
14 some of the classic amenities.

15 Overtown was not like that. In fact,
16 there was a rail down the middle of one of the
17 streets, and I guess I had thought that that rail
18 belonged there because I hadn't done anything about
19 it.

20 And after the Overtown disturbances, I
21 brought it quickly to the attention of the Manager,
22 and it's been paved over.

23 And by the way, the residents, you know,
24 feel a certain amount of satisfaction that something
25 very quickly was done, even at that superficial a

1 level.

2 But classic infrastructure, we're in
3 pretty good shape there. Even the garbage pickup
4 has improved and was not as good as it should have
5 been.

6 Let me point out that Overtown, like
7 Liberty City, has public housing projects. They're
8 not my jurisdiction, and I don't think it is a
9 coincidence that some of the worst incidence of
10 violence in those two days occurred in the public
11 housing projects, both in Overtown and in Liberty
12 City.

13 The one in Overtown is the Rainbow Village
14 Project. It is in the worst condition of any
15 housing project that I have ever seen in my entire
16 life.

17 And if you want to take a trip over there,
18 you'll notice that benches that used to be for
19 people sitting on, are now the benches are missing,
20 and all you have is pieces of corrugated iron or
21 something sticking up into the air.

22 Swings are hanging down because the seats
23 have not been repaired.

24 I have brought these problems to the
25 attention of the State Attorney. The reason I say

1 the State Attorney is that she had initially filed
2 suit against Dade County Housing and Urban
3 Development for failure of maintaining the public
4 housing projects.

5 And it's not a matter of placing blame
6 now. We're all equally responsible.

7 I can say this on behalf of the city, that
8 if it was a matter of adopting one or two housing
9 projects, I think our Manager and Commission would
10 be willing to do that if we received, of course, the
11 funds to go with those projects.

12 And I think we could do a pretty good job
13 of managing some of the ones in our own
14 jurisdiction, geographical jurisdiction, and Rainbow
15 Village might be the first one.

16 We tried to do that over my last three-
17 and-a-half years as Mayor, three-and-a-quarter
18 years, by volunteer work and donations, and of
19 course, that's not enough.

20 You need substantial amounts of money to
21 improve the garbage pickup, to improve the screen
22 doors, to improve the cleanliness, the fumigation,
23 infestation of rodents, flooding, and equipment in
24 the playgrounds, and even re-sodding and removing of
25 vehicles that are there.

1 People who live in those conditions
2 obviously have to resent the society that has
3 allowed that to take place.

4 I might point out that on one side of 3rd
5 Avenue in Overtown, as you go north from around
6 15th Street or 16th Street, you see this particular
7 housing project, maybe 18th Street, and it's not in
8 very good shape, and in fact, it's in the worst
9 shape, as I mentioned.

10 On the other side, you have homes that are
11 actually very well kept and people obviously very
12 proud of them.

13 I don't remember if they're scattered site
14 housing or if they're totally privately owned, but
15 it shows the difference between how people take care
16 of something that they have pride in and that they
17 have resources to take care of.

18 In Liberty City, we are proud to have been
19 mentioned in Time Magazine, I think it was, or
20 Newsweek or one of the principal magazines, as
21 having done some economic development projects in a
22 very quick period of time, since the 1980
23 disturbances in 1982.

24 And we point with pride to quite a few of
25 those, including affordable housing and the Urban

1 League with the rehabilitation projects, and the
2 city participants in all of that.

3 We don't always have the resources, but we
4 apply our community development monies to those
5 efforts.

6 And I do want to give a lot of credit to
7 the Urban League, which has not only helped to
8 revitalize multi-family or large apartment
9 buildings, but then manages them at the end of the
10 process so that they don't simply become a nice
11 project for a couple of months and then falls into
12 total deterioration.

13 As I mentioned, the infrastructure, except
14 in Overtown, is in fairly good shape in the city.
15 We have begun major efforts of affordable housing,
16 including the Overtown Park West Project, the
17 project that is now underway.

18 And for awhile it looked like it was not
19 going to be underway, and it's 1,139 units of
20 housing, of which at least 25 percent must meet the
21 federal low income criteria.

22 And as it turns out, we displaced from
23 Overtown in the project about 260 families, and we
24 now will be making available to low income families
25 roughly that amount. So some displacement took

1 place; some gentrification took place, and we hope
2 to redress that with this project.

3 It's a beautiful project, and I can report
4 to you that the people are making reservations to
5 buy into or rent into the project at roughly the
6 same ethnic proportions as the city as a whole.

7 So we may have an integrated affordable
8 housing project in an area that a couple of years
9 ago you know how it looked and has improved, but not
10 north of Northwest 8th Street. That's the problem.

11 The problem is that it has impinged the
12 area very close to downtown and has not really
13 reached too much into the actual Overtown area as we
14 now know it.

15 And that's where our task lies and that's
16 what we're trying to apply all the resources that we
17 can find, including anything that Housing and Urban
18 Development will give us, for which I have an
19 appointment with the Secretary on March 10.

20 In the final analysis, as I did a program
21 the other day on WMBM, one of our local radio
22 stations, people kept saying, "You have a jobs
23 program," because we initiated an outreach program
24 in the community with trailers placed out there so
25 people don't even have to go looking for the jobs

1 and going through perhaps the difficulty of getting
2 to downtown or to city offices or the indignity of
3 being treated by the people there that might not
4 know too much about the program; the typical kinds
5 of problems.

6 We've outreached into the community, and
7 yet people call and say to the radio program, say,
8 "These are entry level jobs. What about
9 management?"

10 One of the answers that I gave on that
11 program is I think a realistic answer. I said, and
12 I believe it's correct, that roughly 80 percent of
13 the U.S. economy is in the hands of small
14 businesses.

15 Members of this Board, if you're not the
16 owner of a small business, most of the time you're
17 not going to have a manager that's not a member of
18 your family or a close associate or close friend,
19 or, you know, someone you've known for a very, very
20 long time.

21 And what we need to do then is to empower
22 people with ownership of their own small business.

23 For that we need all of the monies that
24 the federal government, state and local governments
25 can make available, and all of the pressure that we

1 can put on the private sector so people can buy
2 their own businesses and can have the monies to
3 begin a small business.

4 Some of them aren't so small, and I'm
5 proud to say that since the disturbances, there is
6 now a Black-owned office supply company in Miami,
7 with the purchase of Long's Office Supply. There
8 wasn't one up to now.

9 The city was not doing very well in
10 procurement of office supplies and furniture and
11 equipment, and thank God we did very well in
12 development contracts, constructions contacts -- not
13 very well, but we did better, and we did reasonably
14 well in professional contracts.

15 There was no -- it just seemed like there
16 was no way to buy supplies and equipment and so on
17 from Black-owned businesses. And we now have a
18 company that has been purchased.

19 I gather that in that particular field
20 there are large economies of scale and the companies
21 must be very large or something, and that's why it's
22 difficult for people to buy their own companies to
23 supply that to us.

24 We have a very aggressive minority
25 procurement ordinance, almost as aggressive as the

1 county.

2 People say that I criticize Metropolitan
3 Dade County. Let me say this: They were ahead of
4 us in that.

5 And if the Supreme Court allows, we will
6 continue to implement our minority procurement
7 ordinance and to effectuate it. It has had a lot of
8 success.

9 And let me close by saying that we have
10 applied it creatively, not only to things that the
11 city does with public resources, but also joint
12 public and private projects, of which in the city
13 we have engaged in roughly a half a billion dollars
14 worth of joint public and private projects,
15 including the affordable housing ones; most notably
16 in the Bayside Project, which was city land, prime
17 city land, given to a developer, the Rouse
18 (phonetic) Company, to build a beautiful
19 marketplace, a very successful marketplace.

20 The best that the Rouse Company had ever
21 done in minority involvement in the ownership of
22 those business was 15 percent in Baltimore, Harbor
23 Place, and we went for 50 percent and have achieved
24 a level of 51 percent, including 25 percent Black
25 owners.

1 Now a lot of the businesses owned at
2 Bayside by Blacks are smaller than the ones owned by
3 Hispanics, and let be me the first to acknowledge
4 that, but at least we have done that.

5 The employment rate, we don't know for
6 sure, but there must be 85 or 90 percent, if you
7 include the women employees, and a very large
8 proportion at Bayside that are Hispanic or Black.

9 We're very proud of that project. It's
10 obviously just one.

11 And the Sports Arena we did reasonably
12 well in minority involvement in all the phases,
13 including construction, management.

14 And you note that the security company
15 that manages the Sports Arena is an all Black
16 company or predominantly Black company.

17 We're happy for that. We know it's not
18 enough. We know that other jurisdictions haven't
19 done enough. We know that we ourselves have not
20 done enough. And we know that the private sector
21 has been somewhat reluctant.

22 When I was first elected, I'll tell you
23 this last story, we could not get banks to finance
24 any of our affordable housing projects, let alone
25 economic development.

1 And since that, a consortium of five banks
2 has banded together to finance up to 20 million
3 dollar worth of affordable housing projects.

4 I know that Ms. Bell met with one of our
5 local banks, which, by the way, is the one that
6 earns the highest grades, without mentioning names,
7 for involvement in our city projects, and we have
8 now, I think, turned that around a little bit.

9 One last point in that connection as to
10 the private sector: is that Overtown Park West, all
11 the developers had to be brought in from out of
12 town.

13 We initially didn't get much interest from
14 local developers.

15 One final point, and I do want to give
16 credit to the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce for
17 helping us by participating in a couple of programs
18 that I have asked them to help us with, including
19 the Adopt a Junior Program for junior high school
20 students with A and B averages, and recently the
21 Adopt a Senior Program, for those who graduate from
22 our four inner-city high schools with any kind of
23 average, just as long as they have a 95 percent
24 attendance record, based on the Baltimore Plan that
25 Mayor Smokey (phonetic) implemented.

1 And also they have participated in our
2 outreach program for jobs for anyone that is
3 unemployed and have forwarded to the City Manager in
4 the City of Miami quite a few jobs for a total of
5 about 800 actual job listings, so we don't refer
6 people to jobs and then they get there and find out
7 that there's no job available.

8 I wish I could tell you that we have done
9 more, but I think with the resources that we have,
10 that's about as much as we have been able to.

11 But we, obviously, once again, will be
12 interested in any suggestions you might make as to
13 other reforms, initiatives, or changes that we
14 should make.

15 Thank-you.

16 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I want to thank you
17 for taking the time to come in and talk with us and
18 would hope you would entertain a few questions.

19 One thing I would like to ask is if you
20 could make those deployment logs available to us.
21 They would be of some interest.

22 I would ask a general question, and that
23 is whether there has been thought to developing, if
24 you will, a comprehensive plan and approach to areas
25 such as Overtown and Liberty City to ameliorate the

1 problems that manifest themselves in an outburst
2 periodically.

3 Is there anything like a comprehensive
4 plan that has a set of goals and times in which
5 those goals would be achieved that would involve the
6 members of the community in structuring it and
7 overseeing it?

8 MAYOR SUAREZ: Yes. Let me answer that in
9 two ways:

10 One, the Southeast Overtown Park West
11 Project is, of course, in all its phases, is
12 supposed to be a comprehensive plan; so
13 comprehensive that I think we're hearing from the
14 community that maybe we could go one block at a time
15 instead of being so comprehensive, you know, and
16 spending the next 20 years doing what they'd like to
17 see done in the next 20 days.

18 So there's a bit of a problem with the
19 comprehensive approach.

20 I also want to say that historically even
21 that project had to be changed substantially.

22 It was originally called Park West, and
23 Park West was a project of essentially upscale
24 housing, as far as I can tell, on Biscayne
25 Boulevard. We still have the three-dimensional

1 models.

2 And the city had set out to attract
3 upscale -- I mean, middle income people, upper
4 middle income people, into downtown Miami.

5 Why a city would ever get involved in that
6 with the housing stock that we had and the problems
7 of the working poor, which is the group that we're
8 obviously targeting now, is beyond me, but that's
9 the way it was.

10 And people complained and the project
11 slowly moved from Biscayne Boulevard to, actually
12 literally and figuratively, the tracks, so we now
13 straddle both sides of the tracks there, and we're
14 building on both the good side of the tracks and the
15 bad side of the tracks, to use that terminology.

16 Finally, there is a problem in any kind of
17 comprehensive plan, as I pointed out, with the
18 fragmentation of jurisdictions in Dade County.

19 The public housing, for example, was
20 ~~seeded~~^{ceded} by the city to Dade County, I think, in 1968
21 or 1970.

22 And I don't think if I had been around we
23 would have done that, but that's the way it was.

24 And it is difficult to have a
25 comprehensive plan unless you have joint city,

1 county, State Attorney, School Board cooperation,
2 and we're beginning to now establish those kinds of
3 networks.

4 But any recommendation that you make along
5 those lines might induce us to further cooperate
6 with each other, and we've been doing a lot more of
7 that between the city and county lately, thank God,
8 and thanks to some elections that took place
9 recently.

10 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Any additional
11 questions?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Again, I'd like to
14 thank you, Mr. Mayor, and appreciate your taking the
15 time.

16 I hope you will --

17 MAYOR SUAREZ: We'll make those logs
18 available right away.

19 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you very much.

20 The person we will hear from is Mr. Tom
21 Battles with the Justice Department Community
22 Relations Service.

23 Tom, it's good to see you again.

24 MR. BATTLES: Same here, Mr. Chairman. It
25 certainly is a pleasure to see you all again. You

1 were here a few months ago, and I had an opportunity
2 to speak to you.

3 I'm not going to spend a lot of time
4 because of the work of the staff some time ago. You
5 have a full schedule, but as I thought about your
6 agenda and what you were here to do, I thought I'd
7 ask a couple of other people who I did not have an
8 opportunity to speak to the staff about that I think
9 are very important to the agenda, and I've asked a
10 couple of people, and they primarily are involved
11 in the issues of economic development and the
12 problems in that arena, and I think they're very key
13 actors, so I hope that in the short time that I have
14 I can be very brief, and if you will allow me, Mr.
15 Chair, let them take up the remainder of my time.

16 I do want to say to you that of course CRS
17 has been here since 1980, following the McDuffy riot
18 situation, and of course, our primary mission is to
19 conciliate and mediate racial and ethnic disputes.
20 That's our primary focus, and we have been involved
21 in doing that.

22 We've worked closely with this community
23 leadership, the police departments throughout this
24 community, in suggesting and providing assistance to
25 them in areas, particularly in the area of excessive

1 force, police community relations.

2 And it's a continuing evolution, and we'll
3 continue to do that.

4 I want to say to you, however, that there
5 are many other issues that plague this community
6 that I think that this Commission on Civil Rights
7 can be involved in as you begin to look at the
8 issues of Miami.

9 Certainly, immigration is a major issue in
10 this community and housing.

11 Dade County also has a problem in its
12 developing street gang sub-culture, and I hope that
13 as you develop your agenda for the remainder of this
14 year and next year, you will be involved in that as
15 well.

16 Because I have an opportunity to interact
17 throughout this state, I'd like to just share with
18 you some other communities as you begin to develop
19 your agenda that I think you ought to pay some
20 attention to.

21 Certainly, you've been and spend a lot of
22 time in Miami, but there are other communities in
23 this state that need your attention, and I hope that
24 you will spend some time in Tampa. I hope that
25 you'll spend some time in Key West. They have

1 problems.

2 I hope that you spend some time in Palm
3 Beach County. I hope that you spend some time in
4 Fort Lauderdale. There's a problem in the area of
5 move-in violence. I hope that you will be sensitive
6 to that.

7 I hope that you spend a lot of time in
8 Orlando. I hope you look at the issues of hate
9 violence in this community and the KKK and its
10 developing, growing membership, which is certainly
11 on the rise in this state.

12 And there are other communities, but I
13 don't want you just to look at Miami, but Miami is a
14 good place to start.

15 And I have some specific recommendations
16 for you as a Commission.

17 Specifically, I hope that you would
18 formulate a "think tank" or task force just
19 specifically to look at the Miami situation.

20 As you begin to refocus your efforts as a
21 Commission and gain a greater level of involvement,
22 as you once had, I hope that you will look at
23 recommending to this administration that you put a
24 think tank together for Miami and the myriad of
25 problems because if you can solve the issues that

1 plague this community, I think that you can do well
2 throughout the rest of this country.

3 And I hope that you will take into serious
4 consideration in providing technical assistance to
5 Miami at all levels in the area of economics in the,
6 minorities' community, housing, administration of
7 justice, and its immigration policies.

8 In addition to that, I have recommended
9 through my agency a stronger level of federal
10 presence, and I hope you spend some time with the
11 U.S. Attorney because he shares that same concern; a
12 stronger federal presence in this community.

13 Certainly, I am here, but that's not
14 enough for this community.

15 Miami's needs are great, and I hope that
16 with your level of influence that you will make that
17 level of recommendation to the highest officials as
18 relates to the Civil Rights Commission and its
19 concern.

20 With that, Mr. Chair, I would just reserve
21 any further comments, and I would ask some of the
22 other persons that I've asked to come to share with
23 you their comments.

24 Mr. Vickers, if he's here; Mr. Vickers,
25 he's the Director of the Metro-Dade Minority

1 Business Program, and I hope that you'll give him
2 just a few moments to share with you some of his
3 concerns.

4 MR. VICKERS: Good afternoon and welcome
5 to Greater Miami.

6 The Black community presently lacks the
7 tools of development necessary for economic growth
8 and the confidence that economic progress can occur.

9 There are few capital instruments in and
10 for the Black community and few strong experiences
11 and well-supported Black economic and business
12 development organizations.

13 Entrepreneur development is minimal and
14 there are few models of business success to inspire
15 and provide examples for potential business persons.

16 What I've read to you is a quotation from
17 the 1980 Janic (phonetic) Report that was produced
18 by Metropolitan Dade County and the City of Miami
19 after the disturbances of 1980.

20 It was also followed up in the 1984 spring
21 term Grand Jury report for the Eleventh Judicial
22 Circuit in and for the County of Dade in Florida.

23 The economic conditions in Dade County
24 basically have not changed as it applies to Black
25 economic development and Black entrepreneurship,

1 going back to the initial studies of 1978 through
2 the studies of 1980 and studies in 1982 and again in
3 1984.

4 If you were to look at the U.S. Civil
5 Rights Commission's report confronting racial
6 isolation that, I believe, if my memory serves me
7 right, was completed sometime around 1981, then the
8 finding of that report are primarily identical to
9 the findings of any report that would be done in
10 1989.

11 The economic disparity in Dade County
12 between the Black community and other communities in
13 Dade County is widening.

14 There are less than 600 Black businesses
15 in Dade County, employing less than one percent of
16 the Black population in Dade County.

17 There is a direct correlation between high
18 unemployment and lack of Black entrepreneurship.

19 There is a documented unemployment rate in
20 1980 in the Overtown area of the City of Miami,
21 documented by the City of Miami, and studies and
22 surveys of roughly 40 percent or higher.

23 Yet when you look at the degree of
24 business participation in the local economy, you're
25 talking less than one percent, not just for

1 Overtown, but the entire Greater Miami community.

2 So to that extent, the conditions that
3 exist are extreme.

4 A U.S. District Court judge in his ruling
5 that applied to Dade County Race Conscious Ordinance
6 in 1982 or 1983, indicated that the problem was
7 severe; that the problem took some really
8 affirmative measures in order to deal with the
9 economic disparity that exists.

10 Certainly, this cannot be the reason, a
11 capsulated reason, for the degree of civil
12 disturbance that we've had here.

13 However, we live in a very urban setting.
14 It is not uncommon for individuals to travel from
15 one end of this community to another and see adverse
16 poverty in one area and economic growth and
17 prosperity in another.

18 It is not uncommon for individuals to see
19 high unemployment in Liberty City/Overtown area, the
20 Brownsville area of Dade County, the Goulds area in
21 South Dade, and in the Opa-locka area, individuals
22 who are chronically unemployed, and at the same time
23 see individuals who are prospering in a climate that
24 is based in many instances on international trade
25 and commerce.

1 Dade County is a unique area and therefore
2 requires some unique measures.

3 In 1980, the Board of County Commissioners
4 approved and adopted the country's first and only
5 Race Conscious Ordinance to date.

6 However, unlike other minority business
7 programs, it has been challenged. Fortunately, in
8 1982, we won that.

9 And what I'd like to do is to give you a
10 brief capsulized summary of the accomplishments of
11 that ordinance.

12 The Mayor spoke earlier in terms of
13 economic development.

14 I would like to have the opportunity to
15 address a few of those accomplishments of Dade
16 County.

17 One, with the Race Conscious Ordinance,
18 there's been some 30 million dollars awarded in
19 county contracts to Black-owned business in Dade
20 County.

21 I would like to speak to the Mayor at some
22 point to let him know that there are other Black
23 stationery owned supply houses within the boundaries
24 of the City of Miami, in which Dade County did
25 somewhere in the neighborhood of a half-million

1 dollars with many of those companies last year
2 alone.

3 We will be more than happy to provide any
4 technical assistance that he may need in order to
5 prove that or to improve their status.

6 We believe in that because that 30 million
7 dollars generated in contracts leveraged over 3,500
8 jobs in Dade County in the last year. It helped to
9 retain an additional 2,000.

10 Yet, based on the ~~Richman Corson~~ *Richmond (va) court* ^{(sp}
11 ~~(phonetic)~~ case, I expect that Dade County will be _{ct}
12 reentering a court suit on our ordinance within a
13 very short period of time.

14 It is very, very difficult for individuals
15 to understand why 100 percent of the pie is
16 necessary to satisfy so few individuals.

17 When we look at the amount of dollars
18 going out in county contracts, we're hovering around
19 12 percent in both construction and procurement.

20 That, in essence, is a little bit more
21 than 30 million dollars.

22 What it has generated in jobs alone is
23 sufficient to justify the existence of such an
24 ordinance.

25 The city's program is sufficient to

1 justify its existence.

2 Dade County School Board's program is
3 sufficient to justify its existence.

4 However, the climate that exists in this
5 community is constantly putting these programs up to
6 challenge; let it be by trade organizations or
7 individuals who have a very difficult time in
8 understanding why it is necessary to foster Black
9 business development.

10 I would not like to take up any more of
11 your time. I don't know if Tommy has invited or
12 asked anyone else to speak on other issues, but I
13 think I'll be happy to provide to you the 1984 Dade
14 County Grand Jury report that deals with
15 revitalization and economic development in Dade
16 County -- I think it's the first Grand Jury in this
17 state to look at that and look at it on a race
18 conscious basis -- as well as Dade County's annual
19 reports for 1987/'88 in terms of contract awards.

20 Thank-you.

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

22 MR. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, if you will, I
23 would like to ask Mr. Battles and his guest the same
24 question.

25 As I listened to them and as I listened to

1 the Mayor, I reflected that we're talking primarily
2 about programs of economic development and some
3 community development in response to the outburst.

4 I haven't yet heard mention the names of
5 Lloyd and Blanchard, and therefore the implication
6 is raised that the outburst is not caused by the
7 deaths of those two men, but rather by underlying
8 social conditions.

9 We all know historically throughout human
10 history that when the rule of law and the
11 expectation of justice break down, it is normal to
12 see outbursts, riots, and rebellions follow, and
13 that seems to take place no matter what the social
14 conditions are.

15 I wonder are we so sure that Black people
16 in Miami are being killed because they are poor, or
17 do we believe that they deserve to be killed because
18 they are poor, and therefore, the only response is
19 to talk about their poverty and not to talk about
20 the specific situations and its justice or
21 injustice.

22 MR. VICKERS: Mr. Allen, as probably one
23 of the very few native Miamians that exist in this
24 community, let me say to you that there are many
25 problems facing the Black community and addressing--

1 and to address their concerns strictly from an
2 economic standpoint is certainly not doing justice
3 to those concerned.

4 However, let me say to you that Dade
5 County or Greater Miami is unlike any city that you
6 have come in contact with.

7 In San Francisco a few years ago at a
8 conference, a National Forum of Black Public
9 Administrators, a mayor on the west coast asked me,
10 "Why is there so many disturbances in the Greater
11 Miami area?"

12 Well, we have not seen the type of
13 immigration and the process of assimilation
14 impacting an urban community since the early 1940s
15 in this country.

16 There has not been a community asked to
17 assimilate over 600,000 refugees from a number of
18 South, Central American, and Caribbean countries.

19 Whenever you are talking about
20 assimilating individuals in those numbers, you are
21 talking about the displacement of individuals from
22 the work place.

23 You are talking about widening the gap of
24 economic disparity in this community.

25 Certainly, local government cannot carry

1 all of the burden in terms of addressing those
2 problems.

3 That is a national problem that should be
4 laid at the doorstep of Washington, based upon
5 foreign policy, that, as an individual tax-paying
6 citizen, I have literally nothing to do with.

7 However, individuals who reside and pay
8 taxes in Dade County must carry that burden. Those
9 individuals or the individuals coming as immigrants,
10 as many Black ancestors came to these shores as
11 immigrants in the early '20s from the Bahamas,
12 helped developed this community. That process is
13 there.

14 Economics is a problem here. Unemployment
15 is a problem.

16 When individuals are unemployed, they have
17 very little to do.

18 When individual men, Black males, are
19 unemployed, they cannot feed, house, and support
20 families.

21 When they are unemployed and cannot do
22 these basic things, then what you find is a very
23 angry Black male.

24 That, in essence, I think gives many or
25 addresses many of the concerns that you've raised.

1 MR. BATTLES: Just to add to that, Mr.
2 Allen, I think if you would look at this community
3 from a holistic standpoint and if you raise the
4 issues at all levels, crossing all ethnic lines, I'm
5 sure you will hear that the issue of administration
6 of justice is a problem, period; particularly, as it
7 relates to Blacks in this community. That's just a
8 fact for this community.

9 You call it perception, but for most of
10 these folks it's their reality.

11 You look at the history of this community
12 dating from 1980, and perhaps you can go back
13 further than that.

14 In this community it's a problem, and it
15 remains a problem. We have worked overtime. We
16 have worked overtime to address that issue in
17 training, in recruitment, at all levels, and yet it
18 remains a problem.

19 I think that when you look at the issues
20 that Milton raised, certainly it just serves as a
21 catalyst. The shooting just serves as a catalyst to
22 bring the folks to the street.

23 But when you look at all the disturbances
24 in this country, hasn't it been at the hands of--
25 quote, the catalyst, hasn't it been at the hands of

1 a police in a community incident? I mean, that's
2 just a fact.

3 But certainly, the shooting basically just
4 served as a catalyst to look at some of the other
5 issues.

6 For example, the housing problem in this
7 community is a severe problem.

8 Dade County just hired a director
9 yesterday and made that public yesterday.

10 They've been without a director for over
11 three years, and perhaps they have one of the worst
12 public housing situations in this country.

13 You cannot continue to do that in this
14 community and not get a reaction from those who feel
15 depressed.

16 You have people who see the growth in this
17 community. Buildings are going up every day in this
18 community.

19 Millions and millions of legal dollars are
20 passing through this community. And many folks in
21 the minority community just do not feel a part of
22 that growth. And it stands to reason that there
23 will be a reaction. And I'm concerned about it.

24 There's a growing uneasiness in this
25 community that I am concerned about, and I think the

1 responsible folk in this community are concerned
2 about it.

3 And by you being here, I think you are
4 concerned about it.

5 MR. ALLEN: May I just press this very
6 briefly. I'm not going to ask beyond this, but I
7 just want to make this as clear as I can; at least
8 understand you as clearly as I can.

9 Are you suggesting then that the outburst,
10 the riots, rather express pent up angers and
11 resentments than they do justified resentment of the
12 particular incident?

13 MR. VICKERS: Mr. Allen, I think -- I'm a
14 believer that the criminal justice system works.

15 I would not like to address if it will
16 work based upon the incident that occurred in the
17 Overtown area.

18 I'll leave that to Mr. Black who's the
19 attorney for the defendant sitting behind me and the
20 State Attorney's office and those individuals, 6 or
21 12 individuals, who will sit in judgment.

22 Based upon the jury selection system in
23 this state and the state legislature passage of some
24 legislation a couple of years ago, I think that will
25 handle itself.

1 However, I think we have to understand
2 that when we are talking about civil disturbance,
3 we're talking about disturbance that is generated
4 based upon a number of factors; housing is one; a
5 perception that the criminal justice system does not
6 work is one; the perception of economic disparity
7 or, better yet, the reality of economic disparity is
8 a little easier to measure than to measure
9 something as unsundry as does this justice work or
10 not.

11 There is economic disparity, unemployment.
12 A system, an educational system, that is also
13 suspect.

14 All of these things play into the minds of
15 individuals before the first rock is thrown.

16 But there must be something to light the
17 fuse, and in this instance it happens to be a
18 conflict between a citizen, or citizens in this
19 case, and law enforcement agencies.

20 But let me say to you that this has
21 happened since '78 or '68 in this community.

22 We have found that law enforcement since
23 '68 has totally changed its face from the days of
24 Bernard Garmeyer (phonetic) and Kenneth Watkins in
25 the City of Miami to Clarence Dixon and Perry

1 Anderson; two individuals, in Mr. Anderson and Mr.
2 Dixon, that are very well qualified and could
3 probably head any law enforcement agency in this
4 country.

5 That has changed. Some ideas in that
6 department has changed. It is not a panacea,
7 however. There are still problems.

8 And there are problems that must be dealt
9 with from a holistic approach and through a master
10 plan that will address and bring to culmination
11 answers to a number of problems.

12 I am not a believer in only the economic
13 development fad.

14 Five or ten years ago, it was social
15 services, and everyone jumped on that bandwagon.
16 Now it's economic development, and now everyone
17 jumps off of the social service bandwagon to leave
18 individuals to starve to think about the panacea of
19 entrepreneurship which may be ten or twenty years
20 down the line.

21 It has to be, it must be, both working
22 hand in hand.

23 Social services must be provided at a
24 level where it's not merely something extra that
25 government does.

1 Local government, in terms of Metro and
2 the City of Miami, cannot carry that burden. We
3 live in a non-tax environment, just as Washington
4 lives in a, read my lips, non-tax environment.

5 But what must happen is that resources on
6 the federal level, and we're talking about housing--
7 Dade County HUD has not received money for
8 maintenance in housing for years, years; yet we have
9 one of the oldest housing projects in this country;
10 not in the state, but in the country.

11 We can be creative in terms of maintenance
12 and repair and improving the quality of life of
13 individuals, but there's only so much creativity
14 that we can have. I mean, we are not, at the local
15 level, Houdini.

16 And you cannot deal with public housing on
17 one end and on the other end parents are afraid to
18 send their children to a little ma and pa store on
19 the corner for fear of having them attacked or
20 molested by some individual who's selling crack
21 cocaine on a corner.

22 So we cannot have economic development on
23 the north side of the street and poor law
24 enforcement on the south side of the street, and we
25 see that.

1 I think the city is attempting to bring
2 about some changes in that area, but those changes
3 must be helped by individuals who are able to bring
4 a sack full of revenue from Washington.

5 And there must be an attitudinal change on
6 the part of the private sector in Dade County.

7 City of Miami and Dade County and Dade
8 County School Board and the other 25 jurisdictions
9 do not determine the economic vitality of this
10 community.

11 The Southeast Banks of the world, the
12 Centrusters of the world, the Capital Banks, the
13 Rousse, and the major developers in this community
14 do.

15 And when they begin to participate and
16 take and become a full partner in the economic
17 development and the social well being and improving
18 the quality of life in both social, economic, and
19 the education arena, we will have a change in this
20 community.

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I want to follow the
22 Commission's Chairman's question with one brief
23 question, if I could, trying, if I can, to solicit a
24 direct immediate response.

25 I think your elaboration was well

1 received, but if I pose the question -- this is a
2 hypothetical that we'd like to imagine -- that a lot
3 of the ignoring of communities, such as Liberty City
4 and Overtown and other such communities, would not
5 respond as they responded in this police use of
6 force incident and other such incidents, the
7 likelihood the response that we see would not be
8 what we would get if these were very different
9 communities.

10 And if that's so, the response, the short
11 response to the Chairman would be yes, this is
12 something more than an act of individual injustice.

13 This is an act of individual injustice
14 that is interpreted by a community that feels an
15 injustice and looks at this most extreme, most
16 blatant manifestation as intolerable and deserving
17 of an immediate and forceful response.

18 And maybe that's not enough of a question
19 for you to respond to, but I was pulling that out of
20 your comments, but I thought your comments perhaps
21 weren't as direct to the Chairman as his question
22 was.

23 Do you care to speak to that?

24 MR. BATTLES: Let me take a shot, Mr.
25 Moorhead.

1 I think when you hear from some of the
2 other active civil rights organizations in this
3 community, you'll hear this, and I hope that you'll
4 raise this question with them also.

5 Since 1980, I think you will hear
6 presentations that there have been X number of Black
7 men shot and killed at the hands of law enforcement.

8 Perhaps when you look at that figure,
9 perhaps you'll say, "It's not really a large figure;
10 why is there such an alarm?"

11 My response to that would be this: In
12 that time frame since 1980, I think the figure that
13 the community raises is between ten and fifteen, and
14 most of those situations, in at least three of those
15 situations, it has generated street disorder.

16 No other city in America can take that
17 claim. That's significant for a community like
18 Miami.

19 The question is, January 16 through the
20 18th, Miami experienced another civil disorder.

21 Can it happen again? Yes.

22 When? I can't answer that.

23 But rest assured it can happen again in
24 Miami, and the tensions are high enough for that to
25 happen.

1 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, gentlemen.

2 Is Chief Anderson here?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Chief Anderson, is he
5 in the hall anywhere?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: It appears that Chief
8 Anderson is not here yet, so we will move on to our
9 next presenter, Mr. William Perry from the Overtown
10 Advisory Committee.

11 Mr. Perry, if you would perhaps give us a
12 little bit of your background and then move into
13 your comments, we'd appreciate it.

14 MR. PERRY: Certainly.

15 My name is Bill Perry. I reside at 850
16 Northwest 7th Street Road, Overtown, Florida.

17 I am a public school administrator,
18 currently principal of a school for pregnant young
19 ladies.

20 I've been in public school administration
21 for the past eighteen or twenty years.

22 I'm former President of the Greater Miami
23 Chapter of the NAACP; former President of Operation
24 Push of Dade County.

25 I served on several community boards;

1 currently President of the Overtown Advisory Board.

2 I got a piece of correspondence asking me
3 to appear before you today. I welcome the
4 opportunity to do that.

5 I submit to you that I also appeared
6 before you when you were here a few years ago, and I
7 haven't seen any significant changes occur in this
8 community during that period of time.

9 Granted, a lot of money has come into this
10 community, and I think that the money that has come
11 into this community has been -- the so-called
12 persons in elected positions and the officials in
13 this community have allowed that money to trickle
14 out to various groups in the community and not
15 enabled that money to be leveraged to bring about
16 any significant changes in this community, and I
17 submit that that is by design.

18 I don't want to talk about the conditions
19 that exist in Overtown and other pockets within the
20 communities that are predominantly African American.

21 I would like to just say to you that the
22 shooting incident that occurred in Overtown
23 recently, no matter what you do, that can't be
24 stopped.

25 No matter how much money you put in this

1 community, that cannot be stopped.

2 We cannot change the mentality of some of
3 the cops in this community by pouring money into it.

4 It's going to take a tremendous amount of
5 race training within the police department to
6 correct those kind of conditions, and still we have
7 no guarantee.

8 But I will tell you that there is a
9 perception in the community, and particularly in
10 Overtown, there's a vendetta against African
11 American males as exercised by Hispanic cops in this
12 community.

13 The shooting that occurred recently
14 occurred within a few steps of the one of Neville
15 Johnson that caused a disturbance in this community
16 a few years ago.

17 What people are sensing now is the outcome
18 of this trial, looking at how the process is going
19 to be worked out.

20 But let me take an approach that I think
21 that you will not hear from other people that
22 appear.

23 I don't want to get into the conditions of
24 the community because they're no different from
25 Baltimore and Chicago and anywhere else, as far as

1 inadequate housing, poor education, those kind of
2 things.

3 We have a unique problem in this community
4 that no one has touched upon yet, and it exists
5 within the Miami City Police Department.

6 We have some of the most racist
7 occurrences within the department that happen, I
8 would imagine, than in any department in this
9 country.

10 Right now, if you go to the Miami City
11 Police Department, and if they allow you to catch
12 the elevator from the garage that only cops can
13 catch to go upstairs, you will see the word "Nigger"
14 inscribed on the elevator.

15 It's engraved with a piece of metal. It's
16 a permanent feature there, which gives you some
17 indication -- I know it's been there at least two
18 weeks.

19 Which to me is a reflection upon that
20 department and the kind of sensitivity those in the
21 top command level have within that department.

22 Another aspect of that department is that
23 there is a perception that when Hispanic officers
24 have been charged with violation of policy within
25 the department, internal policy, that when those

1 charges are subsequently worked out, those persons
2 return to their previous positions. In fact, some
3 have been elevated.

4 There is a lieutenant now that's over the
5 internal review, which is looked upon as the city's
6 response to our cry for a civilian review panel,
7 which is an internal operation, like the fox
8 guarding the hen house.

9 Nevertheless, that department is now
10 headed by a person that was involved in an
11 investigation in which there was an allegation of
12 excessive use of force against a county police
13 officer that happened to have been African American.

14 I think that you're talking to the wrong
15 people.

16 You really need to talk to some of the
17 cops in the police department to get some insight of
18 the conditions and the critical point that we are in
19 in that police department.

20 You're talking about the inflammatory
21 conditions within the community. They're also
22 within the Miami City Police Department.

23 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Let me interrupt you
24 for one second, Mr. Perry.

25 I need to caution you that in your remarks

1 avoid any comments that could serve to defame and
2 degrade any specific individual.

3 MR. PERRY: Have I done so, so far?

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I don't think so, but
5 at a point thought we might be getting close, and
6 rather than have that occur, would ask you to focus
7 on --

8 MR. PERRY: Sure.

9 I thought maybe I'd done it; that's why I
10 was trying to rethink from the comments I made.

11 Nevertheless though, I think that it would
12 be, you know, to your benefit to talk to some of the
13 officers in that department and get firsthand
14 information from them.

15 I could give you names, but I don't want
16 to do that now; you made the comment, but they're
17 certainly names that are well known in this
18 community of officers that have appeared before
19 panels.

20 When Congressman Conyers (phonetic) was
21 here, there was a young police officer that made
22 some serious allegations of activities going on
23 within that department.

24 I certainly would think you can't leave
25 this town without talking to people like that.

1 Beyond the police department, when we
2 begin to look at areas within our community of
3 concern to some of us out there in the streets, we
4 often hear our so-called leaders and so-called
5 elected officials making proposals as to what needs
6 to occur in the community.

7 I think that none of us have the answers,
8 but I believe the answers reside within the people
9 of the community.

10 And we are pushing and proposing to you
11 that you would highly recommend a planning process,
12 somewhat similar to a charade, if you will, where
13 we can bring various elements of this community
14 together, an intensive planning session, to exchange
15 ideas and come out of that that some people, that
16 all of us will have a sense of ownership in.

17 We've heard several proposals that have
18 been offered to this point that I have very little
19 and the people I've talked to have very little
20 credence in or will accept because of the integrity
21 of some of the people that are involved in these
22 proposals.

23 Very rarely do you talk to the persons in
24 the street that engaged in the so-called
25 demonstrations or the so-called revolutions,

1 whatever kind of activity, the stone throwing and
2 the bottle throwing and the looting that occurred
3 out there.

4 I think it would be worthwhile to get
5 firsthand rather than hearing from some of us that
6 have been out there the reasons for this.

7 The overriding reason that I began to pick
8 up is the incident of the incidence that we've had
9 in this community where African Americans are
10 tremendously insulted and disrespected by members of
11 the police department that are of another ethnic
12 group. That's the constant cry.

13 That must be remedied in this community if
14 we're going to see any peace and harmony exist
15 between races in this community.

16 The age-old solutions to the educational
17 problems, the housing problems, health care, we have
18 those needs as well, and they need to be addressed.

19 But I submit to you the number one
20 priority is the police community and the perception
21 that exists between the African American males and
22 the Hispanic police department.

23 I can't go any further to offer you
24 anything that anyone else; will be any different
25 than other people will say here.

1 I would like to say to you in closing that
2 an over-arching problem we have, not only in this
3 community, in most of them, as it relates to the
4 conditions within the African American community,
5 there's a lack of history and a lack of sense as to
6 who we are.

7 Our history has been, by design,
8 distorted, played down, and our public schools do
9 not teach our children who they are.

10 We constantly talk about developing a
11 sense of self-esteem in our young people.

12 I say to you that I don't think that will
13 ever occur until our young people get a sense of who
14 they are, the persons that preceded them on the part
15 of our history, so they can walk with pride and take
16 pride in their efforts as they try to take their
17 rightful place in our society.

18 I have nothing else to add. I endorse
19 practically everything.

20 I've looked at the names of the people
21 that you have coming before you. I know what
22 they're going to say. I endorse all of that, but
23 the final thing is to take a look at that police
24 department, the Miami City Police Department.

25 Thank-you.

1 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Let me ask one
2 question for clarification.

3 You focused specifically on the Miami City
4 Police Department.

5 There is an overlapping jurisdiction.

6 Did you mean to focus on one? Do you have
7 any comments to make about the other?

8 MR. PERRY: I talk about my realm of
9 experience.

10 I function and work in Overtown. I'm
11 familiar with that community. I'm not familiar with
12 Dade County.

13 I can only speak to those persons that
14 I've interacted with and with my experiences, which
15 happen to be within the City of Miami and
16 particularly Overtown.

17 MR. DOCTOR: Thank-you, Bill.

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Is Reverend Barry
19 here?

20 At the same time, is Ms. McMillan here?

21 MS. McMILLAN: Yes, I am.

22 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Do you want to come to
23 the table at the same time?

24 Thank-you, and I would ask each of you to
25 again introduce yourself, give any background you

1 desire, and to make comments.

2 FATHER BARRY: I'm Father Richard
3 Marquist Barry, Director of St. Agnes Episcopal
4 Church, which sits in Overtown.

5 It is one of the old historic churches in
6 this community, 1896, with a membership close to
7 3,000.

8 Presently, I'm serving as the Chairman of
9 the Citizens Investigative Panel set up by
10 resolution by the City Commission.

11 As I come before you, I want to make one
12 thing clear; that I am not one of those persons
13 commonly referred to around here as "Johnny come
14 lately's."

15 I was born, reared, in Miami. As a matter
16 of fact, I was born two blocks from the parish I'm
17 fortunate enough to serve.

18 So I've seen the drastic change in this
19 community.

20 There used to be a time in Miami when
21 Blacks could hold their heads up high because we did
22 not wait for somebody to do something for us. We
23 did something for ourselves.

24 We were businessmen, professional persons.
25 We provided jobs in Overtown, which was the hub of

1 Black business. Some refer to it as Broadway.

2 So I've seen what the government can do to
3 displace and destroy Black folk.

4 The government called it, I think, urban
5 renewal, and we call it Nigger removal. So it's
6 nothing strange about that.

7 Ever since the government saw fit to give
8 us progress when we didn't need it, Overtown has
9 been spinning and has been doing nothing but going
10 down the cesspool ever since.

11 However, there are some of us who are
12 committed to toughing it out; to seeing that
13 Overtown, as much as possible, remained Black.

14 We are not as inept and as stupid as white
15 Miami would have the nation believe.

16 We know that downtown Miami can only come
17 to Overtown. It can't go south. It has to come
18 north.

19 And we know that there is an unwritten but
20 rather conscientious effort on the powers to be in
21 this city to move us out, but we aren't going
22 anywhere.

23 And if the city were to come to deal with
24 that fact that we are not going anywhere, perhaps
25 something can be done to remedy our problems.

1 Our problems stem from lack of
2 opportunity. There is no economic base in Overtown.

3 The second factor, and I think one of the
4 overriding factors, is the kind of racist mentality
5 that has become rather overt here in recent years;
6 specially, as it relates to the police department
7 and the Black residents of Miami.

8 We must remember that these attitudes are
9 nothing new. They've always been there.

10 But I think the last administration,
11 national administration of this country, made it
12 once again okay to be overtly racist.

13 So we are dealing with that as it is
14 situated in the police department.

15 We have gone from 2 Latin surname
16 officers in the Miami Police Department in the last
17 twenty years, from 2 to over 400.

18 We had in the last twenty years, 88 Black
19 police officers. Twenty years later, we have
20 roughly 144; a great imbalance; a great
21 insensitivity.

22 Nothing has changed, other than that where
23 we once were considered in the structure and the
24 planning, we are now completely left out.

25 So we have to address the fact that Blacks

1 in Overtown aren't going anywhere; that they are not
2 asking or begging; they are demanding.

3 They are demanding a right to stay in
4 their community and not to have it developed for
5 them, but to be a part of the developing process.

6 Then we need to address those racist
7 attitudes that reside primarily within the law
8 enforcement community.

9 The other thing is the educational and
10 opportunity structures that are in the Overtown
11 area.

12 Part of the demise of Overtown was the
13 closing of the Black high school.

14 When you strip a community of its
15 institutions, you can do anything you want to do
16 with its people.

17 If there aren't any institutions to which
18 people can belong and to which they have identity,
19 then you have pretty much stripped them of their
20 personhood.

21 We need to address that issue. We need to
22 demand that Overtown gets a senior high school; that
23 our kids not be bussed all over Dade County; catch
24 buses all around the county, where they are placed
25 in situations where they are forced to deal with the

1 fact, those negative attitudes are reinforced, that
2 they aren't anything; they won't ever be anything.
3 And that's what's happening in these predominantly
4 white situations in our school system. We need to
5 address that.

6 We also need to address, I think in this
7 community, the fact that Blacks aren't always going
8 to think alike.

9 You know, every time white folk get us
10 together, they want us to be all along one mind.

11 Well, we just aren't like that. We are
12 just like white folk. We all have different
13 opinions.

14 And someone who will come after me will
15 say something differently than I would say, but that
16 doesn't mean that we don't agree on some things.

17 We want you to stop putting us in that bag
18 where we've all got to speak the same language,
19 because we don't, and I think we'll be able to make
20 some progress.

21 I've read all of these reports, and I want
22 to tell you nothing has changed. It's gotten worse.

23 And I'm open to any questions you might
24 want to ask.

25 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Why don't we take

1 comments from Ms. McMillan, and then you may pose
2 questions to both of them.

3 MS. McMILLAN: Then you'll double-barrel
4 us, okay.

5 My name is Johnnie R. McMillan. I reside
6 at 18600 Northwest 48th Court.

7 Like Father Barry, we probably were born
8 around the same side of town, same street -- he
9 doesn't know it -- but not the same year. He was
10 much, much earlier than me.

11 I work for Dade County Public Schools as
12 an administrator; prior to that time, as a classroom
13 teacher.

14 Presently, I am volunteering -- I want to
15 make that emphasis, volunteering, with the NAACP,
16 not on payroll, as the President of the Miami Dade
17 Branch, newly merged from four branches into the
18 one.

19 Prior to the merger, I was President of
20 the Opa-locka Branch.

21 I am very involved with the NAACP at the
22 state and national level.

23 I'd like to focus my comments on behalf of
24 the Miami Dade NAACP today around the police
25 department and its insensitivity and the State

1 Attorney's office.

2 I think today as you hear many comments
3 from many persons, the one set of comments I hope
4 that you will really seriously consider are those
5 comments that hopefully will lead to recommendations
6 on your part to help make a difference, and to help,
7 if you will, thwart another riot or civil
8 disturbance. I hope that's our overall goal.

9 As we begin to look at those things that
10 will hopefully do that, the first thing I'd like to
11 do is to look back, not at 1980, I'd like to look
12 back at 1968.

13 Back in 1968, there were several findings
14 by your Presidential Commission which investigated
15 at that time civil disturbances in the City of
16 Miami.

17 There were about five major points that
18 that particular Commission found and recommended as
19 concerns and made positive recommendations as to
20 changes coming out of that.

21 The very first recommendation that that
22 Commission made in the very first set of findings
23 that it found, I should say first, was that there
24 was a systematic insensitivity and hostility by
25 police departments against African Americans. Now,

1 that was number one finding.

2 They indicated that there was brutal
3 treatment of African American residents, especially
4 of Black men, by insensitive and biased police
5 officers.

6 And they said that time that there were
7 triggering words and triggering things done to aid
8 in the existence of the 1968 disturbance. That
9 still exists.

10 During that time, that particular
11 Commission found that the word "Nigger" was used by
12 white police officers in addressing African
13 Americans, to demean and provoke confrontation.

14 The main violators, as you heard me say
15 earlier, was Anglo persons, Anglo officers.

16 The situation exists today. The only
17 change is that the officers are primarily Hispanic.

18 What we said at that time was that there
19 needed to be a change made from the inside of the
20 police department; from the inside, not the outside;
21 from the inside.

22 And so today it exists. From the inside
23 we need to look.

24 We need to look at what was found at that
25 time; the hiring, the training; all the things

1 you've heard before about police officers.

2 But now something else is hitting the
3 Miami Dade Branch of NAACP about this particular
4 issue.

5 Time and time again you have made
6 recommendations -- and I don't mean you sitting
7 here; I mean "you" generically -- that we ought have
8 a beefed up situation of hiring more Black police
9 officers; we ought have a beefed up effort in terms
10 of our training procedures.

11 We've said all these things, but nobody
12 has ever monitored it.

13 And what has happened has been that yes,
14 you've had more persons hired, but what kind of
15 persons?

16 Yes, you've had more training done, but
17 what kind of training?

18 For some reason, all of that has been
19 ineffective. That has been done.

20 Somebody, obviously, needs to come from
21 the outside. It just seems more difficult for
22 people inside who are involved to make a change, so
23 perhaps we ought be pleading, and we are doing that
24 as an organization, pleading with you to take a
25 serious look and consider putting in your

1 recommendations an effort by the government to
2 establish an adjunct, if you will, committee to the
3 Justice Department that will seriously begin to
4 review, not only the City of Miami Police
5 Department, but the Metro Police Department and the
6 Florida Highway Patrols, more specifically, because
7 we have concerns there too; taking a look at their
8 use of deadly force.

9 : Take a look at it yourselves. Just what
10 is happening? Where is the breakdown?

11 How can that breakdown be repaired? And
12 who is gong to monitor it?

13 Please don't leave it up to OPDs and to
14 independent review panels and all of the things.

15 You've made all of the recommendations,
16 and I reviewed them, you know, earlier; the
17 recommendations being advisory committees being set
18 up; independent review panels with subpoena powers;
19 just every kind of panel and committee that you can
20 think of.

21 They are not working. They didn't then.
22 They're not working now. And obviously, the impact
23 has been nil because we still have the same
24 situation recurring, so that's not the answer.

25 When you ask and you make a recommendation

1 for a governmental agency or a community to
2 establish advisory committees and independent review
3 panels, what happens is that politics takes over.

4 And on those panels sit persons who work
5 for the very agencies they're monitoring.

6 Now, I work for the school system. If you
7 think I'm going to sit here and talk against the
8 school system, you're crazy; I want my check. You
9 see what I mean? So I mean, I let somebody else do
10 that.

11 So, you know, here we are making these
12 recommendations time and time again about these
13 advisory committees and these independent review
14 panels, and you've got people sitting on, you know,
15 that's more or less feather-bedding the situation
16 and certainly not aiding and getting to the root of
17 the problem in order that it can be addressed
18 appropriately.

19 Then we talk about, oh, yes, we want to be
20 sure to be fair and include members of the police
21 department.

22 I found out this is a very interesting
23 independent review panel; no deference to you,
24 Father Barry and Bill Perry, but that's an
25 interesting group you all are sitting on.

1 Five of the people are them and five
2 police officers. Now I wonder how far they're
3 going; talking about investigating the shooting. Of
4 what?

5 Investigating police brutality. Of what?

6 You know, I don't understand where that's
7 going, but I mean, I should give them a chance,
8 shouldn't I, but I'm not going to. I'm going to
9 step right out there on them now.

10 What I'd like to talk about also is I'd
11 like to talk about the last shooting.

12 You know, we can go back and talk about
13 all of the shootings from 1968. We know the
14 history.

15 I'm certain you'll have other persons who
16 will address everybody who has been shot and give
17 you all of that scenario, but I'd like to talk a bit
18 about the last shooting earlier here in January.

19 Let's just look at what really happened.

20 Once you had the shooting of this alleged
21 speeding motorcyclist, and you had the subsequent
22 death of his riding partner, the officer was then
23 charged with manslaughter.

24 And it was alleged in this community that
25 the case would be very complex.

1 Now that just stuns me. You know, I'm
2 just a lay person. You know I'm in education. What
3 do I know about criminal justice, right?

4 But you know, I read and I thought to
5 myself, and I took it to the exec committee of the
6 NAACP, and we just talked about it at great length,
7 and they were all asking the same questions that I
8 was asking myself.

9 And what we came up with, the thing that's
10 so baffling, is that the State Attorney office says
11 that she could not or they could not file anything
12 else at the time based on the evidence.

13 Well, we were wondering, well, why
14 couldn't they file second degree murder charges and
15 allow the jury to decide whether the evidence fit
16 murder or a lesser manslaughter charge.

17 The only reason we could come up with is
18 that politics had to get into the case.

19 So again you have the scenario painted.
20 You have a situation where you have the victims, the
21 two African American men; the officer is white
22 Hispanic; and we set the time in early 1989; the
23 place, Dade County.

24 It's not the facts that matter, but the
25 politics and race which complicate things.

1 Now, three things can happen in this case
2 to obstruct the justice before the case ever gets to
3 the jury.

4 First, there could be a procedural
5 bungling of the prosecution on technical grounds or
6 ruling on a pretrial motion that would block a
7 conviction.

8 Second, the State Attorney could roll over
9 and play dead. We've seen it before.

10 The prosecution could simply sit quiet
11 while defense attorneys systematically exclude
12 African Americans and perhaps Anglos too, and an all
13 Hispanic jury could be seated.

14 We've not yet seen a fraction of the zeal
15 for prosecution in this case as we saw in the Johnny
16 Jones case.

17 Third, defense lawyers could make a
18 mockery of the system with a barrage of delays and
19 trials with press conferences geared to shaping
20 public attitudes.

21 This could be followed by motions to
22 transfer the case to another county, of course,
23 because the climate here will not allow the defense
24 attorneys to have a fair trial.

25 As a trial strategy, the white police

1 officer will be portrayed as a good guy, trying to
2 do his job; being offered up to a lawless Black
3 community, which includes the two victims.

4 The civil disturbance which were triggered
5 by killings, if allowed, would be injected as
6 justification for the shooting.

7 In legal circles, what I just painted for
8 you could be called the McDuffy defense.

9 Successful use of the McDuffy defense
10 requires an accommodating of weak prosecution or a
11 trial judge who is weak and already committed to the
12 defendant based on political considerations.

13 Officer Lozano's attorney, a master at the
14 McDuffy defense, is well into phase one, with the
15 daily testing of defense strategies in the
16 newspaper.

17 First, it was self-defense; then it was a
18 mistake.

19 The trial judge, at the State Attorney's
20 request --

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I have to interrupt
22 you at this point.

23 You are now making comments that refer to
24 specific individuals.

25 MS. McMILLAN: Okay. I'm doing the same

1 thing.

2 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: And we cannot permit
3 that.

4 MS. McMILLAN: Okay.

5 Did I do it already? Am I over the line?

6 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Do you want to shift
7 in reverse and get back to the other side?

8 MS. McMILLAN: Okay, I'll get to the end
9 of it.

10 What I want to say is though this case is
11 not complex.

12 We just expect in this community to get
13 the same old thing that we normally get from a list
14 of what I just attempted to enumerate before I went
15 over the line.

16 The last thing that I want to talk about
17 is to address what we want to take a look at in
18 terms of recommendations that were made by this
19 body, as well as other bodies, in prior years.

20 One of the recommendations had to do with
21 an affirmative action plan that would have more
22 Blacks hired in the State Attorney's office.

23 Am I allowed to discuss that?

24 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: You are.

25 MS. McMILLAN: Presently, that

1 recommendation has not been followed to its fullest
2 extent.

3 We do not have any Blacks in top level
4 positions in the prosecuting arm or the
5 investigatory arm of the State Attorney's office.

6 There is a perception that there is a
7 racist attitude in the investigatory arm that we as
8 Blacks cannot get a fair investigation; much of
9 what has come from what I mentioned to you before.

10 There is no change in the practices of the
11 police internal review of complaints. There just
12 hasn't been any ostensible change so the community
13 can feel that we are being well represented when one
14 of us has been shot.

15 Overall, I did not think today that I
16 wanted to get into any of the underlying problems.
17 I think that has been well outlined and will be
18 outlined for you. We certainly would support those
19 recommendations.

20 But we want to emphasize a need for
21 outside intervention by the government.

22 Much of the policies that have been set
23 up, your immigration policies that have been set
24 up, allowing immigrants to come in at the rate that
25 they have been coming in, has certainly complicated

1 the situation here for African Americans.

2 We would ask again that the government
3 take a look back at that situation to provide
4 necessary funding as well as any other support that
5 is needed in order to be sure that the effort that
6 is being given to outside immigrants are being given
7 to African Americans as well as to the Haitian
8 immigrants that have been coming in.

9 There is a discrepancy between various
10 immigrants coming in, as well as a discrepancy being
11 made upon those of us who have been here for all of
12 our lives.

13 I would like to say in closing that the
14 NAACP is very concerned about what is going on in
15 terms of us not feeling as a group and as a people
16 in this community that we have any voice,
17 politically, economically, nor throughout the
18 criminal justice system.

19 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Any questions?

20 MR. CLARKSON: Yes, I have some.

21 Reverend Barry, you had indicated certain
22 factors that you felt changed the Black community;
23 the closing of the high school, urban renewal.

24 I think it would be very useful to us if
25 you could give us more detail about actions,

1 policies, institutions, that might have occurred
2 over time, that have changed that; not necessarily
3 now, but if you could provide that to the community,
4 I think it would be helpful.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: You will provide that
6 for us, Reverend Barry?

7 FATHER BARRY: Yes.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

9 FATHER BARRY: You know, you can get it.
10 It's public information. You could get it through
11 the city or county.

12 Overtown was a stable community. They
13 came in there and claimed imminent domain and took
14 people's homes for literally nothing; moved them out
15 and knocked those homes down; ran a highway
16 throughout the community.

17 Then they built all of these public
18 housing; put people in them like pack rats; walked
19 off and left them, and now they're in far worse
20 shape than they were before.

21 You know, they took tax-paying properties
22 off the roles and gave us a lot of low rental
23 housing that do nothing to enrich or to build a
24 community.

25 MS. BELL: Father, it is indeed a pleasure

1 for me to sit here and see you here.

2 We both come from the same neighborhood,
3 but it didn't just happen in '46 when they first
4 took our properties. They just took some of our
5 properties recently.

6 They took some of our properties in 1984,
7 and they used the same kinds of imminent domain that
8 they used then, and the community's under that same
9 siege right now.

10 And I heard you, Ms. McMillan, say that
11 the Hispanic police officers are now the ones that
12 we are having problems with, but I go back the same
13 way with all of you.

14 We first had the Anglos who treated us
15 wrong. Now we have the Hispanics.

16 But I was watching TV this morning, and I
17 saw a Hispanic professor at one of the universities
18 saying when they came here we was under that kind of
19 problem, so are we now looking at that new immigrant
20 who is newer than we are taking over the same role
21 that the Anglos did to us and that we are not decent
22 people; we don't deserve to be treated well.

23 Is that the feelings that we're having;
24 that the Hispanic groups feel that because the
25 Anglos who had treated us poorly when they came

1 here, they now can do that to us, because that is
2 the pattern that we're seeing.

3 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Ms. Cone, did you have
4 a question?

5 MS. CONE: Yes.

6 I'm a great believer in the ballot box.

7 How are you about the voter registration
8 in your community?

9 FATHER BARRY: Not good.

10 MS. CONE: Not good.

11 FATHER BARRY: That's our problem. You
12 see, a lot of what Blacks suffer in Dade County it's
13 Black's own making.

14 It's just like the single member voting
15 districts that they're asking about.

16 Ain't no way in God's earth the 67 percent
17 registered Hispanics are going to go to the poles
18 and vote to change the system as it now is.

19 Power doesn't give up power.

20 MS. CONE: You know, North Florida is old
21 Florida, and we have it in North Florida.

22 We went to the poles and we have it.

23 FATHER BARRY: Yeah, because you're a
24 majority.

25 I would vote for it too if I were a

1 majority, if Blacks were a majority in Miami.

2 MS. CONE: But you still need to get a lot
3 of people to the ballot box.

4 FATHER BARRY: Yes.

5 MS. McMILLAN: The problem is really not
6 only the voter registration effort needing to be
7 increased, but the actual get out to vote, going to
8 the poles itself.

9 MS. CONE: That's right.

10 MS. McMILLAN: One of the reasons that we
11 have, and this is a very valid reason, and it really
12 doesn't matter; we do have to disagree at some
13 points on this, but if people in Dade County -- and
14 we haven't -- the Black Americans and African
15 Americans have not seen any effort on behalf of
16 elected officials to do anything for them, so why
17 bother.

18 Now, that's the attitude in many
19 instances. They have not -- we have not had an
20 opportunity in masses to see a difference in terms
21 of the result of us going to the polls; therefore,
22 it's very difficult to interest and motivate and
23 mobilize us to doing it, but it does not mean we are
24 down to the point of not wanting to or not believing
25 that changes can be made. We do believe that. And

1 some groups are working on that.

2 But certainly we're working toward it, but
3 we must understand that there is a feeling of
4 helplessness. There is a feeling that we're not
5 being represented. There is a feeling that nothing
6 has been done, so why bother.

7 FATHER BARRY: You know, that's a part of
8 the fallacy in us.

9 MS. CONE: I'm a retired educator, and so
10 I believe in training the students to go to the
11 ballot box when they get older.

12 MS. McMILLAN: You're right. It does have
13 to start there.

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you very much.
15 We appreciate your comments.

16 MS. GARCIA: May I ask a question, please?

17 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Excuse me; I'm sorry.
18 There are a couple of more questions.

19 MS. GARCIA: It's been a number of years
20 since I've been to Miami, and I'm just amazed at the
21 increased polarization between the Black and the
22 Hispanic community. It's very distressing.

23 I wanted to ask you, are there any active
24 efforts to bridge the communication between those
25 two groups and lessen this polarization?

1 FATHER BARRY: You know, people in this
2 community, every time something happens, you know,
3 they go and find these little two-cent
4 psychologists all over the place to give
5 explanations for what happened and they use this big
6 word called perception.

7 Well, you know, I could care damn less
8 about perception because I live out there and I know
9 what happens.

10 And what happens in Miami is Latins look
11 out for Latins. That's the bottom line.

12 If there are five jobs and a Latin is
13 doing the hiring, he hires five Latins, and you
14 know, forget about qualifications; forget about
15 that.

16 And as long as we have that reality that
17 Blacks are being left out completely, then you're
18 going to have this friction.

19 You know, the perception around here
20 somehow seems to translate to reality; that Blacks
21 have become the least desirable; that's American
22 Blacks.

23 And as long as we have that attitude
24 prevailing in this city, I don't think we're ever
25 going to draw closer together as a community.

1 MS. McMILLAN: You asked a question: "Is
2 there any effort being made?"

3 I really -- I just have a hard time being
4 pessimistic about anything, particularly when I see
5 people trying.

6 I think it would be unfair for me to sit
7 here and say that there is no effort on any of the
8 Hispanic, members of their community, or any members
9 on the Black community, not trying to -- to build a
10 communication gap and not trying to do some things.
11 That would not be true.

12 We do have Hispanic supporters who believe
13 in the fact that we do need to have some help. We
14 do have some Blacks who believe that we do need to
15 talk with Hispanics. So that does exist, and I
16 think it would be unfair to say that it does not.

17 FATHER BARRY: Wait a minute. That might
18 exist, but that's always existed.

19 But the thing we got to look at is we're
20 talking about jobs and opportunities, and when we--
21 let me give you a pointed example.

22 Monies were given to do some renovations
23 in Overtown to abandoned apartment buildings.

24 The understanding was that these Latin
25 firms were going to get young Black males in

1 Overtown and train them as carpenters, plumbers,
2 electrician.

3 We walked through those properties on
4 several occasions. We did not see one Black person.

5 Everybody who was hired for those jobs in
6 Overtown were Latin, okay.

7 Now, you know, we cannot kid ourselves
8 about that. We cannot kid ourselves that right on
9 the edge of Overtown we have a multi-million dollar
10 sports complex. We have condos being built.

11 You know they ain't being built for me.
12 They ain't being built for me.

13 And you know, where is this money coming
14 from? Who are the people they want to move from
15 Kendall? They're certainly not me, okay.

16 And we can dress this thing up, and we can
17 sound pretty about it, but the fact still remains
18 that in Miami Blacks are non-existent when it comes
19 to divvying up the pie, being a part of the
20 structure.

21 And we bear the blame for a lot of that
22 because we don't register, and we don't vote, and we
23 don't do some of the things we ought to be doing.

24 MR. BRAKE: I've got a question for Father
25 Barry.

1 I've heard other Black people express the
2 same idea, but in your talk you mentioned that you
3 objected to bussing Black students out of Overtown.

4 Did I understand that right, and could you
5 elaborate a little bit on it?

6 FATHER BARRY: Yes.

7 Integration hasn't been a friend for us.
8 Let's be frank about it.

9 Now that we can go anyplace we want to go,
10 we don't have the money to go.

11 See, you told us, "Okay, yes, you can come
12 down here to this restaurant," but hell, I can't
13 afford to pay \$30 for a piece of codfish.

14 It's economics now. You segregate me
15 economically. That's what I'm concerned about.

16 Those Black kids who leave Miami to go--
17 leave Overtown to go to Miami Beach High and
18 somewhere in Hialeah, they aren't being served by
19 those teachers who segregate them in those
20 integrated classrooms, don't pay any attention to
21 them.

22 I'm a product of a segregated school
23 system here in Miami. One of the things that I can
24 say in all honesty is that those Black teachers gave
25 me a good background.

1 They did not look at me as being something
2 strange, you know. I left the public school system
3 of this city and went to white schools and competed
4 and did well.

5 It's nothing to be ashamed of. And I
6 finished school four years after Brown vs. the Board
7 of Education, you know, and there was no integration
8 of the public schools here.

9 It was not until Father Gibson forced the
10 integration of public schools here; forced the
11 opening of Virginia Key Beach for Blacks.

12 Before we were going to Fort Lauderdale.
13 That's the only place we could go to swim, you know.
14 It didn't hurt me.

15 So when we play on these terms
16 "segregation/integration," all we're doing is giving
17 each other a head trip because my reality is
18 something different.

19 MS. McMILLAN: But the facts remain, in
20 terms of your question also, that the burden has
21 always been on the Black community to do the riding
22 on the bus, and that's what's existing now, and we
23 still have been locked out of the true integrated
24 school system.

25 We still have a very segregated school

1 system here, and I think that's what Father was
2 alluding to.

3 But the bussing situation obviously has
4 not been the answer here for us. It just has not
5 worked.

6 MR. BRAKE: What would your answer be to
7 the current bussing situation?

8 MS. McMILLAN: Now that is something that
9 we are certainly looking at. You know, I wouldn't
10 fall in the trap of sitting here, because if I had
11 the answer clearly, I'd be a rich woman all over the
12 country. You know, we have a slippage going on
13 throughout all the urban areas.

14 But there are many alternatives, I think,
15 that can be looked at, and I would not wish to
16 itemize any one, but there clearly has to be a
17 plan.

18 And you know from the Yonkers case that
19 ultimately the goal has to be to begin to look at
20 communities and being sure that as you build
21 communities that those communities incorporate low
22 and middle income housing, because ultimately that's
23 the easiest way for integration to occur.

24 The hardcore problem that we're faced with
25 now is going to require some kind of creative

1 organizational structure within the system; be it
2 through Magnet schools, not programs, but actual
3 schools where maybe one-third of the school cap can
4 be at a certain level; maybe other kinds of
5 ingenious organizational patterns of school pairings
6 that will allow students to feed from one school to
7 a next in a feeder pattern situation, could be some
8 of the creative things that can be done, but no one
9 thing is going to do it.

10 It's going to take a multi-faceted
11 approach to achieve it.

12 MS. CONE: I'm not here to testify, but I
13 could testify at length and agree with what she's
14 saying from my actual experience, because when they
15 took away the community schools, it was the worst
16 thing that happened to the communities, and
17 integration can come another way.

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Mr. Allen.

19 MR. ALLEN: Thank-you.

20 I'm not going to pose a question to these
21 panelists in the interest of time, but I do want to
22 make an observation in particularly because I will
23 be slipping out in another twenty minutes to go to
24 the airport, and I want to leave a question that I
25 hope the record of this briefing will develop in my

1 absence, which I think is one of the most important
2 things to come out of their presentations.

3 I must observe at the outset that if Miami
4 were a patient and the federal government were the
5 doctor, I would say it's high time you folk got a
6 second opinion.

7 It's rather clear that those
8 recommendations that we talk about and the manner
9 of implementing them has not served the purposes
10 intended.

11 And I don't mean by that any slight on the
12 people who generated those recommendations, whether
13 twenty years ago or ten years ago; just as I don't
14 intend any slight for those who adopted twenty years
15 ago, in a very high spirit, reforms which today we
16 wake up and in the words of Father Barry, and I've
17 seen this elsewhere that I've visited in the
18 country. East Palo Alto, California, has the same
19 problem.

20 We wake up twenty years later to discover
21 there are no communities left, and that is a grave
22 difficulty.

23 But what I'm concerned about and the
24 question I want to leave you to develop in the
25 record is whether all the recommendations were made

1 twenty years ago, ten years ago, even five years
2 ago.

3 One thing I have not seen in any of the
4 written material and not heard any testimony about
5 to this point is whether the laws are adequate;
6 whether they adequately describe crimes; and whether
7 they adequately provide for the punishment of
8 crimes; and whether in this respect, and in the
9 question of the administration of justice that we're
10 concerned with, there might be an addition to social
11 programs or training activities in police
12 departments or elsewhere, a revisiting of the very
13 laws themselves so that we can judge whether
14 citizens are adequately protected.

15 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, Father,
16 Johnnie.

17 We're going to take the next two panelists
18 that are part of this overall panel; Reverend Jean-
19 Juste and Reverend Nathaniel Graham.

20 We'd ask that each of you introduce
21 yourself and decide on the order in which you want
22 to proceed.

23 I should comment that the Police Chief is
24 here, and while we've gone past him, we will come
25 back to the Chief as soon as this panel concludes.

1 REVEREND JEAN-JUSTE: Good afternoon, Mr.
2 Chairman; good afternoon, members of the panel.

3 My name is Gerard Jean-Juste. I'm a
4 worker for the Haitian Refugee Center in Miami.

5 DR. WILLIAMS: I'm Dr. Willie Williams.
6 I'm First Vice-President of PULSE.

7 REVEREND JEAN-JUSTE: I won't be about to
8 speak long because the police department has given
9 me a permit to picket at 3:30 someplace. It's
10 getting close.

11 This is an honor for me to address the
12 panel this afternoon; to make a call for civil
13 rights for everyone in South Florida.

14 The way some officials and some rich
15 people are behaving down here, it seems that South
16 Florida tends to equal South Africa.

17 We would like that, with your help, to
18 stop that trend.

19 We are hurt whenever, through police
20 brutality, some members of our communities are hurt.
21 Either Black or white, we are hurt when anybody
22 else is hurt in South Florida.

23 The loss of Clement Anthony Lloyd and
24 Allen Blanchard has touched everyone; particularly
25 those concerned with justice for everyone in South

1 Florida.

2 We hope that this distinguished Commission
3 can help us solve some of our problems.

4 Those who have the powers, economic or
5 political, we would like to see them share more with
6 the have-nots.

7 We cannot impose that on them, but we
8 would like to reach their conscience.

9 The same way we share the sunshine in
10 South Florida, the same way we would like to see
11 everyone here share a little bit of justice, a
12 little bit of wealth, or whatever we have to partake
13 together.

14 But as long as some groups, some people
15 are getting greedy, greedy, and greedier every day,
16 it's going to hurt the whole community.

17 In our experience as Black refugees, we
18 find that if you don't struggle for justice, it
19 won't come to us on a silver plate, so we're
20 learning hard.

21 But what is hurting us as Black refugees,
22 as Haitians, is bringing disharmony in this
23 community.

24 When we see at the beginning of January
25 ~~immigrations~~
~~integration~~ and naturalization officials chain

1 innocent brothers and sisters and send them away,
2 either to Haiti or to some other place, to some
3 other jails, to some other detention centers in the
4 United States, that hurt.

5 At this present moment, we have what we
6 called the Louisiana 16; 16 Haitians who are
7 handcuffed, chained, and shipped in the middle of
8 nowhere in Louisiana.

9 I received a letter from them today. It's
10 very touching.

11 The Haitian community is calling for more
12 peaceful demonstration.

13 And we thank God that some people in
14 Florida, particularly brothers and sisters from the
15 African American community, have been giving us
16 great support.

17 We would like, in front of this
18 Commission, to thank particularly the folks from
19 NAACP, SCLC, UPPAC, PULSE, the churches, and some
20 African American elected officials.

21 With their help, there is hope for
22 justice.

23 To summarize, because I'm in a hurry, I
24 would like to say that we call for an end to
25 interdiction of black refugees. That must stop.

1 And secondly, we call for equal treatment.

2 Either we are the new African arriving in
3 this country, or we are from the old generation of
4 African in this country, or we are Hispanic or poor
5 whites or anybody sitting here, we must find ways to
6 practice justice equally to all.

7 And I think this will bring us to the
8 respect of the Constitution of this country of the
9 American tradition.

10 We are particularly hurt to see that
11 recently 149 Haitians arrived here on our shores.
12 They were forcefully interdicted and taken back to
13 Haiti.

14 The Coast Guards -- I'm going to submit
15 this to you, Chairman -- the Coast Guard and the INS
16 official not even know that on December 27, 1988,
17 former President Ronald Reagan has expanded the
18 territorial seat of the United States of America
19 from three miles to twelve miles.

20 They keep saying that these Haitians were
21 interdicted at the end of January they were not in
22 USA territorial waters; they were about seven miles
23 from the U.S. shores.

24 And these people, pregnant women,
25 children, they were in U.S. territorial waters.

1 They have asked for political asylum. They have
2 cried, "Long live President Bush; down with
3 President Prosper Avril of Haiti," but their voices
4 were not heard. That hurt.

5 And we would like to see that the minors,
6 wherever they are, they are some in Louisiana taken
7 in a remote place, we would like to see them free.

8 We would like the minors who are here,
9 either they have parents or not, but Haitians with
10 extended family, we would like to see our brothers
11 and sisters be free.

12 And particularly, knowing what's going on
13 in Haiti. You stand in line to vote, you get shot
14 at, you get killed.

15 And this should not be forgotten.
16 November, 1987, massacre in Haiti. Nobody can
17 forget that.

18 And now to take the Haitian and say we are
19 economic refugees, this is an insult to the human
20 race. This is an insult particularly to African in
21 this country.

22 So to finish, I would like once more to
23 thank my good friend here, Mr. Bobby Doctor, who is
24 always interested in helping us Haitian refugees.

25 He has been calling us many times during

1 the year, not only when he comes here, but we have
2 been in touch once in a while and trying to be
3 informed about what's going on.

4 So I would like that everyone in South
5 Florida, Black and white, make an effort, a sincere
6 effort, the church people, the other people working
7 for government, let's make an effort to change the
8 face of South Florida. Don't let South Florida
9 become South Africa.

10 Thank-you very much.

11 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, and we
12 would appreciate the statement that you have, if you
13 could leave it with us.

14 Since we are running behind and you have
15 to leave, can we pose any questions that we have to
16 you at this point?

17 REVEREND JEAN-JUSTE: Yes, please.

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Are there any
19 questions?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

22 REVEREND JEAN-JUSTE: All right. Thanks a
23 lot.

24 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Dr. Williams.

25 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes, Mr. Chairman and

1 members of the committee.

2 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Dr. Williams, if I
3 could make one statement before you testify.

4 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We should I think
6 recognize the significant role that your
7 organization, PULSE, has played in us being here
8 trying to grapple with a problem that's not simple.

9 You certainly have over the year-and-a-
10 half, as an organization, given this body much
11 support, much assistance, and guidance.

12 DR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to begin by saying
13 that we really understand the kind of job that the
14 police are faced with, and it has come a long ways
15 since we have perceived the police as being
16 watchmen.

17 We need a more educated policeman. We
18 need a more sensitive policeman.

19 We're interested in that the police
20 administer the law to everyone honestly and fairly.

21 But here in Dade County we still have a
22 dual system of justice; one for whites and one for
23 Blacks.

24 In Plessey (phonetic) vs. Ferguson,
25 sometimes called the separate but equal doctrine, it

1 still exists here in Miami; that is the white man
2 gets the mule and the Black man gets the rabbit.

3 This criminal justice system appears to be
4 incapable of clearly condemning excessive force by
5 policemen upon Black citizens in this community.

6 And they seem to be unable to dispel the
7 belief that the system is still unfair and racist.

8 We still have inadequacies in terms of
9 investigations.

10 There are still improprieties in
11 relationship between the State Attorney's office and
12 the police departments.

13 Two problems I wish to talk about, that's
14 the internal review investigations and the law that
15 is on Florida statutes, called the Police Bill of
16 Rights.

17 The internal review investigations are
18 still unsatisfactory here in Dade County; that is,
19 they are still not being conducted to find the
20 truth, but rather for the purpose of clearing police
21 officers of any criminal wrongdoing.

22 The role of the Grand Jury here in Dade
23 County, from my perspective, seems to be a rubber
24 stamp, rather than an organized body that is able to
25 fulfill and review cases with its full power.

1 Peremptory challenges at one time was a
2 big problem in the last investigation, but seemingly
3 since then a law has been passed that if it's used
4 properly, Black folk cannot be eliminated from
5 juries where there's racist sensitivity in them. If
6 the law is administered, then Blacks can still be
7 seated on juries.

8 The Gag Order which I spoke about is
9 Florida Statutes 112.533.

10 This law's intent was to protect police
11 from baseless accusation, and I agree with that.

12 But in practice, according to legal
13 experts, community groups, and reporters, the
14 statute is used to intimidate those who file or plan
15 to lodge complaints against the police.

16 It is what you call a prior restraint law,
17 and this prior restraint law violates the right of
18 free speech.

19 Recently, more recently, some police
20 officers have been charged with misconduct, and at
21 the last -- from the report that I received from you
22 that I investigated, since then no supervisors were
23 involved in this misconduct.

24 But here recently, supervisors have been
25 involved in misconduct by policemen, especially in

1 some beatings, and especially in some wrong house
2 invasions.

3 This law further prohibits the free flow
4 of information.

5 And we further believe that it helps the
6 police to suppress evidence critical to the support
7 of the police officer's case that is involved.

8 There's still unrepresentation of Blacks
9 in the police department.

10 The psychological exam that you spoke
11 about, it still has a tendency to eliminate Blacks.

12 The Citizen Advisory Committees of the
13 police seems, after being organized, seems to become
14 more of a kind of rubber stamp committee.

15 The training of the police officer in Dade
16 County, and it has been said and I tend to agree
17 somewhat, that they're the best in the country, but
18 something's wrong somewhere; that out of this
19 training comes the kind of officers who are very
20 insensitive, especially to the Black community.

21 I have looked on my television and saw a
22 suspect handcuffed and a police walk up to this
23 suspect and hit him in the stomach.

24 There's no need for this kind of police
25 officer to exist on any police force here in Dade

1 County or anywhere else in the country.

2 We call for an independent review panel;
3 one that is completely independent of the police
4 department.

5 We feel that in order to be completely
6 independent, and one of the things that is very
7 important, is that it has subpoena power. If it
8 does not have subpoena power, then it's almost a
9 worthless committee.

10 In closing, I'd like to -- Dade County
11 criminal justice system is still a source of
12 abrasion to the Black community.

13 There still exists incidents involving
14 misconduct and unequal treatment by police officers.

15 There is a perception in the Black
16 community that they are still excluded; that police
17 allegations of misconduct and unequal treatment
18 really compound the friction that exists between the
19 Black community and the criminal justice system here
20 in Dade County.

21 Hence, as a result of this, there is
22 distrust and the potential for confrontation still
23 remains here in Dade County.

24 And it is my recommendation that this law,
25 the Florida Statute 112.55, some effort to take it

1 off of the books because this seems to be an
2 instrument whereby the police in their internal
3 investigation, and here I'm not saying that since I
4 support -- since PULSE supports an independent
5 review panel, we're not necessarily saying that the
6 police should not do internal investigations on its
7 own.

8 But what we really want with this internal
9 investigation is to really get at the truth, and if
10 in finding the truth, the police are found guilty of
11 misconduct, then something should be done to
12 eliminate that person from the police department.

13 Secondly, I recommend that everyone
14 support this idea of the independent review panel,
15 because it is PULSE's idea that if this is
16 instituted, this would be another step toward
17 getting our police department to be more responsive
18 to our communities.

19 Thank-you.

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Reverent Graham, do
21 you want one moment?

22 REVEREND GRAHAM: Yes, sir. I was going
23 to sit up here along with him, but I'd just like to
24 say -- first of all, I'd like to introduce myself.

25 My name is Nathaniel Graham. I was born

1 here and I expect to die here.

2 I'm a product of the system. I reside in
3 an area in Overtown where they brought I-95 through
4 an area.

5 My father was 75 years old when 95 came
6 through there.

7 They offered him \$6,500 for his home, when
8 they were selling homes in another part of town for
9 \$12,000.

10 Imagine displacing a man 75 years old,
11 giving him \$6,500 to go out there and stay someplace
12 else.

13 What I'm especially trying to say is I'm a
14 part of this area. What affects this area, affects
15 me.

16 And as of now, nothing really has changed.
17 As a matter of fact, it's escalating. It's getting
18 worse.

19 If something isn't done drastically, the
20 same thing that transpired a few weeks ago will
21 happen again. It's not the end of it.

22 So while we're here, we ought to make this
23 as much conducive as we possibly can and try to
24 alleviate, try to eradicate some of the problems
25 that are causing this here.

1 And hopefully, when we leave here today,
2 that we will be on the road to try to resolve some
3 of these problems.

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

5 Any questions of Dr. Williams or Reverend
6 Graham?

7 MR. KISLAK: Dr. Williams or Reverend
8 Graham, either one.

9 Can you discuss -- you and others have
10 suggested that the police department has some
11 problems, and we've heard suggestions that it might
12 be individual officers. We've also heard that it
13 might be systematic within the police department.

14 Could you comment on it, and also whether
15 you see any improvements or changes taking place?

16 REVEREND GRAHAM: Let me take it in order
17 which you asked those questions right here.

18 You take the Metro, for instance, right
19 there; you have a Chief that's in charge, he's
20 insensitive toward Black folks.

21 To me he gives the perception that he does
22 not respect Black folks, so consequently, what will
23 happen to the Chief will be passed down to the
24 officers there.

25 We think if you're going to make some

1 corrections there --

2 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We have to be a bit
3 careful in terms of --

4 REVEREND GRAHAM: All right.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: -- comments that are
6 derogatory.

7 REVEREND GRAHAM: I think that's part of
8 our problem. We've been trying to dress it up. We
9 need to tell it like it is; get right to it, all
10 right.

11 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Well, one can evaluate
12 actions without getting into personalities.

13 REVEREND GRAHAM: Yes, sir.

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: That's the only
15 restraint we --

16 REVEREND GRAHAM: Well, I've been out
17 there for about eight years, and I'm fighting the
18 same thing over and over again, and things are
19 getting worse.

20 You can't correct the body unless you
21 correct the head. You've got to start at the head
22 and work down.

23 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Well, if you speak and
24 describe actions that have been taken that you have
25 difficulty with, that's perfectly fine.

1 But if you're going to identify
2 individuals and make derogatory comments, it's one,
3 unfair; it's two, impermissible.

4 REVEREND GRAHAM: I understand that. Like
5 I said, it's a matter of opinion there.

6 As you know, we've been contacting with
7 you over the years. Everything that happened in
8 Miami, we've been trying to get in contact with you,
9 so you know basically what we were confronted with.

10 And like I said, we're still having police
11 brutality, insensitivity towards Blacks.

12 The police department, whether the City of
13 Miami or Metro, there's a lack of respect for Black
14 men.

15 And unless this situation is corrected,
16 we'll have another problem on our hands.

17 DR. WILLIAMS: I think we all realize that
18 excessive force is being used by our police because
19 people who are arrested, they come out with knots on
20 their head, broken arms, and other kinds of things
21 happening, so something happened between the time
22 the arrest was made and by the time the person got
23 to jail.

24 And in reference to your question, I've
25 been in many situations where we talk to police and

1 police Chiefs, and we talk about these situations,
2 and they seem to think or convince us that these are
3 isolated cases.

4 But it's -- when they say it's isolated
5 cases, you'd think that this is the exception rather
6 than the rule. But for Black folk in this
7 community, it's the rule rather than the exception.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Any further questions?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I'd like to thank both
11 of you again. We appreciate your taking the time.

12 I'm going to call on Chief Anderson.

13 Chief Anderson, we appreciate your coming
14 and are open to any remarks you care to make.

15 CHIEF ANDERSON: I think I probably made
16 these remarks before as far as the feeling in Miami
17 and dealing with past commitments and current
18 commitments.

19 I've talked about the community in general
20 in my speaking, and also relating that in a
21 political sense.

22 The main reason, dealing with the problem
23 here in Miami, is a general feeling by Blacks of
24 feeling disenfranchised.

25 The problem of dealing with educational

1 situations, medical situations, jobs, the lack of
2 housing, and just a general feeling that there is a
3 lack of sensitivity on the part of Miami in general
4 in dealing with the Black community.

5 As far as the police is concerned, I think
6 that we have moved along very rapidly. We have
7 improved.

8 We still have some improving to do. We
9 still have to do deal with situations in the police
10 department.

11 Those situations are isolated situations,
12 even though they may at times give the impression
13 that they're problems that center around them
14 dealing with prejudice, I don't think that that's
15 necessarily the situation and necessarily the case.

16 What happened here in Miami is that we
17 provided the spark, but I think that the problems
18 were already there. The problems were already
19 festering, and I think that it could have happened
20 possibly in a number of ways.

21 There have been studies of the police.
22 We've had panels. We've had blue ribbon committees.
23 And we have been very diligent in pursuing those
24 recommendations to bring about improvement.

25 We've also looked at our hiring process.

1 We've been concerned with specifically recruiting
2 Black males as police officers.

3 It has been somewhat of a difficult
4 ordeal. We're still pursuing that concern.

5 We are also concerned about providing
6 service in totality to this community.

7 We're also impacted upon by the problems
8 of immigration, the sudden increases of individuals
9 coming to Miami impacting on police service.

10 We are very conscientious -- I am as the
11 Chief of Police of the Miami Police Department--
12 about the need to project extreme professionalism,
13 about the need to place individuals in key
14 positions, about the need to deploy manpower in
15 areas that are sensitive to this community.

16 But the composition of Miami is a rapidly
17 changing one. The percentage of Latins in the
18 community have increased steadily and very rapidly
19 with a decline in the Anglo community.

20 And even so with urban renewal and housing
21 and a number of other things that have occurred here
22 in Miami, has also decreased the Black population in
23 Miami; therefore, adding to the problem of feeling
24 disenfranchised and left out.

25 Basically, that is what I wanted to say

1 here today, and I'm open for any questions that may
2 be asked of me.

3 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Ms. Bell.

4 MS. BELL: Chief, I know the police
5 department used to have a community forum, a
6 community department, because you and I met one
7 another under those circumstances; although we knew
8 one another from just the fact that we were here.

9 Do you still have that kind of program
10 with the department, and maybe it's me, because I've
11 gotten so busy I don't see it as much.

12 Is that program still there?

13 CHIEF ANDERSON: Let me relate the --

14 MS. BELL: Uh-oh, I'm getting in trouble.

15 CHIEF ANDERSON: No, you're not.

16 MS. BELL: Yes, I am, because one of the
17 people who are on that is in here.

18 She keeps looking at me saying, "You
19 don't know I'm there."

20 CHIEF ANDERSON: No, but I think the
21 reason why I wanted to respond to that because
22 assumptions are because -- when you make assumptions
23 and not necessarily you, Jackie, but I'm just saying
24 there's an assumption that a lot of things are not
25 occurring.

1 There's an assumption, for example, that
2 we do not have sensitivity training, when it's being
3 provided by a Black college, Florida Memorial
4 College.

5 That has been ongoing, and we've had them
6 under contract for approximately four years.

7 But in going and referring to your
8 question in a direct sense, is that we have the same
9 commitment to community relations.

10 We have officers assigned to schools. We
11 have community involvement specialists. We have
12 officers who are working in crime prevention.

13 We also have juvenile services that are
14 offered. We have a number of athletic programs
15 throughout the community.

16 We have community-based individuals in
17 many stations assigned throughout the community;
18 specifically, in the Culmer (phonetic) Overtown
19 area.

20 We have a detail over there that has been
21 over there now for approximately four years,
22 relating specifically to those concerns. And the
23 majority of those officers, if not all, are Black
24 officers.

25 So I think it was a good question and

1 needed to be expanded on.

2 MS. BELL: I know that some time ago when
3 we all were looking at this problem we tried to come
4 up with some answers, and some of the things that
5 was instituted at that time was some good programs.

6 I am just hearing today and last June, and
7 we do go throughout this community, and we do have
8 hearings, that there is not a sensitivity to Black
9 males in this community.

10 And how do we dispel that, or how do we
11 get the police department to act in a different
12 manner?

13 I have been, and I'm sorry I'm putting
14 this on a personal basis, but when I say "I," I work
15 in the Overtown community, and I've been involved
16 with the police department, and I understand what is
17 happening.

18 I'm a native of that community. I was
19 born and reared there as well, and I've seen all of
20 the changes.

21 That particular community has been the
22 blunt of the last two violence, and they were the
23 results of what everybody knows happened.

24 But we do have a group that is from that
25 Overtown mini-station, that whole squadron of people

1 who volunteered to be on detail there.

2 How do we answer with that kind of a
3 commitment? How do we answer the last two problems?
4 How did they happen?

5 And I know we can expand on -- I'm not
6 talking about a person or a incident, but how do
7 that continue to happen?

8 How do the community continue to feel so
9 blatantly disrespected with the kinds of things that
10 I know that has been there.

11 I know the City of Miami bought a program
12 from a group of Black people out of the State of
13 Washington, and it went through all of these kinds
14 of scenarios.

15 How do this continue to -- I guess my
16 question is: With all of the things that has
17 happened and all of the training and all of the
18 community relations and all that, how do we continue
19 to have the same identical problem?

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Let's have that
21 question responded. It's a good question.

22 CHIEF ANDERSON: Let me deal with this on
23 a national perspective.

24 This Commission probably could be convened
25 in any city in America dealing with Black issues and

1 Black concerns, because I think there is a national
2 kind of feeling.

3 You could have been, for example, in
4 Detroit. You could have been in California, because
5 there is a general feeling of some of the things
6 that I have stated.

7 The riot could have been -- I don't want
8 to say that -- but the disturbance could have taken
9 place anywhere.

10 I think that we have to be very cognizant
11 of that, but in bringing it back and being a little
12 bit more local to the Miami scene, is that there is
13 a kind of need, accountability, I call it, that we
14 continue -- the community continues to vote and
15 place people in office and not hold those
16 individuals accountable for the platform or
17 platforms that they render.

18 I continue to focus on the Black community
19 and talk to individuals about the need to vote and
20 turn in very mass and very large numbers.

21 I don't know how you could have stopped
22 what transpired because unless there is a continuous
23 commitment, unless there are overseers to make sure
24 that those commitments made in 1980 and 1982 and
25 1984 and also in 1968 are kept, and that those

1 commitments are honored, I don't know how you can
2 prevent, because we have -- let me get down to the
3 crux of the matter in dealing with a very serious
4 problem.

5 There is a very serious drug problem in
6 the Black community. That problem is destroying the
7 very fiber of that community; destroying the culture
8 of that community.

9 Crack cocaine, with its availability and
10 cheapness, being a very glamorous and attractive
11 drug, is eating away at the Black community like a
12 cancer.

13 I have an obligation as a Police Chief to
14 respond in a very responsible way to deal with some
15 of those individuals who are very hardcore, who are
16 very intent on destroying the Black community.

17 And we're going to confront occasionally
18 individuals who will put themselves in a situation
19 or be put in a situation where the police will have
20 problems with them.

21 The only thing that I can say as some
22 direction as a Police Chief, I will continue to try
23 to provide a professional service, a high level of
24 service, but without the recognition that there is a
25 very serious problem of dealing with drugs,

1 destroying minds and bodies in the Black community,
2 and dealing with that in a very serious way, and
3 that the police officers in the Black community, in
4 trying to combat this problem, will run upon
5 individuals who continue to lawlessly shoot and keep
6 unrest going in the areas like 60th Street, 59th
7 Street, 61st Street, and also on 3rd Avenue in the
8 area of 21st Street.

9 I think that as a side issue, the
10 Commission or this panel perhaps should take a visit
11 in those areas.

12 I think you all should take a visit, if
13 you have not, and look at the housing situation.

14 I think it would only be appropriate for
15 you all to visit Jackson Memorial and see what's
16 occurring in Jackson Memorial.

17 I think you should expand a little bit,
18 perhaps, and visit some of the classrooms and the
19 conditions of schools in the Black community.

20 So the commitment and the solution is so
21 broad in nature that there is a beginning. However,
22 I do not know where the ending is.

23 MR. BRAKE: I have one question, Chief.

24 The Mayor alluded earlier to the rotation
25 of the police throughout the city from time to time,

1 and the question of whether or not it would be
2 better to have police stabilized, the old-fashioned
3 cop on the beat, and he said that the city was
4 looking into that.

5 Do you have or could you make at this time
6 any comments on that as to how far the city's gone
7 into looking into that and what might be done?

8 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

9 This is the very reason why we have the
10 various substations now.

11 We have a north end substation. Those
12 individuals, even the Commander, is Black.
13 Basically, those individuals who are assigned there
14 are Black.

15 We're also sensitive to the language and
16 the needs of Hispanics. We're in the process of
17 building a south end substation, which will
18 basically serve the Hispanic ~~populous~~ *populace*.

19 And of course, we have the various mini-
20 stations that are localized throughout the
21 community, and most of those officers spend time at
22 those and they're assigned there basically on a
23 permanent basis.

24 We do not have wholesale shifting and
25 changing of officers from zone to zone.

1 However, occasionally, because of the time
2 off, sick time, vacation time, and a number of other
3 things that we must consider, we do have to make
4 changes just to manage and adjust.

5 We have a problem here in Miami where
6 calls for service have increased by some ten
7 percent.

8 A lot of the conveniences that we would
9 like to provide we're prohibited from doing that
10 because we just do not have the kind of -- and I
11 don't know whether a city could afford what would
12 necessarily require by having a person placed in a
13 stationary position.

14 But to answer your question, we do have
15 individuals assigned to specific geographic areas.

16 MR. JENKINS: For the sake of the record,
17 there are several questions that I'd like to pose to
18 the Police Chief, and those questions have come up
19 throughout the day.

20 One, Jackie alluded to concerning the
21 treatment of Black citizens by Hispanic officers.
22 There's been an allegation that there's a certain
23 amount of tension between Black citizens and
24 Hispanic officers.

25 For the record, I would like you to

1 respond to that as question one.

2 CHIEF ANDERSON: Don't ask me too many
3 questions. Give me one to reply and then --

4 MR. JENKINS: Well, respond to that one
5 then.

6 CHIEF ANDERSON: I'll try to do my best.

7 The first one, I think there's a general
8 perception.

9 There's a general perception about the
10 political environment.

11 There is a general perception about jobs.
12 To be more specific, there is a general perception
13 about Hispanics in serving the Black community.

14 I do not feel, I personally do not feel,
15 and I'm not telling you that you do have "one-sies"
16 or "two-sies" or whatever you might call them of
17 individuals who do discriminate.

18 But I don't think that there is wholesale
19 discrimination on the part of Hispanic officers
20 towards the Black community.

21 That's my feeling.

22 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I might follow that
23 specific with a question.

24 Would you have the data by race as to how
25 often a Black is killed by a Black officer versus by

1 a white officer versus by a Hispanic or other
2 ethnic?

3 CHIEF ANDERSON: We could get that
4 information.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Do you have a sense as
6 to whether it's proportional or disproportionate?

7 CHIEF ANDERSON: We're aware of that.

8 Let me talk about the ratio and the
9 composition of the police department.

10 The police department is very reflective
11 of the community.

12 Just by the number, and it will increase,
13 by the number of Hispanics in the general populous
14 of Miami, and also the number of individuals on the
15 police department, is that you're going to have a
16 higher ratio just by assignment alone of those
17 individuals being involved with the Black community;
18 whereas, that ratio would be reflected in the same
19 sense to be somewhat lesser in number because you
20 have less, the lesser amount of Black police
21 officers, which is about seventeen to eighteen
22 percent, would reflect very small, so the chances
23 based upon just the number alone and their
24 assignments, would add to the possibility of more
25 occurring dealing with the Hispanic officer than

1 dealing with the Black officer.

2 However, if we had some righteous figures
3 --when I say "righteous figures," those figures in
4 numbers of saying we had fifty/fifty of whatever,
5 and then I think that those would be a
6 representative sampling of what would transpire in
7 incidents.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Could you provide for
9 us, say, for the last two years, each incident in
10 which force was used, deadly force was used, or
11 force that resulted in substantial injury to an
12 individual, and report that to us by individual and
13 police officers' ethnic or racial background?

14 CHIEF ANDERSON: I can have that
15 information provided.

16 MR. KISLAK: Michael, may I follow up
17 further?

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Yes.

19 MR. KISLAK: Chief, you suggested that
20 it's your perception that to the extent there is
21 discrimination, that it is individual and not
22 widespread.

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

24 MR. KISLAK: Individual after individual
25 today from the community have suggested that in the

1 city's police department that discrimination is
2 systematic; that it's widespread; and that it is
3 particularly intense between Latin officers and
4 Black males.

5 How do you explain the disparity in the
6 perceptions, and how do you propose to go and
7 change, if indeed your perception is accurate, to
8 change the community's perception of circumstances?

9 CHIEF ANDERSON: We're now looking at the
10 possibility of furthering, because if there is a
11 perception, then we have to deal with that
12 perception.

13 MR. KISLAK: And there's clearly that
14 perception.

15 CHIEF ANDERSON: Believe me, I understand
16 that. Believe me, I understand it very strongly,
17 but I have to provide you with -- my point is is
18 that we are looking at right now the possibility--
19 and when I say possibility, I mean looking at it as
20 a reality -- of furthering our sensitivity efforts.

21 We had a program back I think maybe
22 fifteen years ago, there was direct police kind of
23 community activity when they were in a setting that
24 helped us an awful lot in dealing with the
25 perception.

1 So we're furthering, you know, looking
2 into that possibility.

3 I don't know whether I answered the -- was
4 there another part of that?

5 MR. KISLAK: I'm not sure that the answer
6 is going to result in a satisfaction compared to the
7 perceptions which are widespread out there.

8 CHIEF ANDERSON: See, what I'm hoping, Mr.
9 Kislak, is that all too often these issues are
10 redirected and focused only on the police.

11 And I'm hoping -- I'm not saying that we
12 do not have problems in dealing with the police.
13 I'm very sensitive to that.

14 But there are some problems that are very,
15 very deep. There are some problems that have been
16 around before the Hispanics basically started an
17 influx here in the Miami area.

18 So I want to be realistic in trying to
19 address some of the things and talk about them.

20 Perhaps fifteen years ago, we would have
21 convened this panel for a large segment of
22 Hispanics -- I mean, not Hispanics, but Anglos.

23 MR. JENKINS: The other question dealt
24 with the concern raised by two representatives from
25 PULSE dealing with the, quote, Police Bill of

1 Right, that somewhat that has had a dampened effect
2 upon the complainant.

3 Would you, one, describe that, and two,
4 discuss their concerns and your perception of it?

5 CHIEF ANDERSON: Well, I'm an
6 administrator.

7 Any time there is something that would
8 impede me from getting rid of somebody that I feel
9 should be gotten rid of, I see that as a problem.

10 However, we have developed some ways of
11 dealing with that, because there is what is called a
12 guaranty ruling that we apply that somewhat
13 overpowers the other one, the latter.

14 So the policemen have gone to Tallahassee,
15 they've lobbied, they've won some things, and
16 they've been very successful at them.

17 My job is to make sure that I don't
18 violate them.

19 MR. JENKINS: Finally, one question that
20 has been in the back of my mind and I've followed
21 the Miami situation for --

22 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, sir.

23 MR. JENKINS: But there is a question
24 concerning the Flee^{ing} and Felon Law, which we have
25 studied throughout the nation, from not only the

1 Commission's standpoint, but also from a State
2 Advisory Committee standpoint.

3 Could you, one, describe the Flee^{ing} ~~and~~
4 Felon Law in Florida, the implementation of it, and
5 the perception of the community concerning the Flee^{ing}
6 ~~and~~ Felon Law, because often it's utilized and it's
7 probably the most misunderstood law in America
8 because it applies differently in different
9 jurisdictions.

10 How does it apply in Florida?

11 CHIEF ANDERSON: I do not have it before
12 me, but I'll try to be as accurate as, you know, I
13 can interpret it as being, is that any individual
14 who's involved in a felony, it is our understanding
15 that that individual can be shot.

16 However, our deadly force policies are a
17 lot more restrictive than that of state law,
18 prohibiting us from doing a number of things of
19 which I can provide you with a copy of that Order,
20 specifically, dealing with the use of deadly force.

21 But we have, with the Dade County Chiefs
22 of Police Association, we have restricted
23 considerably the use of force in fleeing as it deals
24 with whether or not there's a threat or threat
25 thereafter involving the community, so our deadly

1 force policy is very strict.

2 MR. JENKINS: But when you weigh it
3 against state law which is somewhat more flexible,
4 where does that put the police officer?

5 CHIEF ANDERSON: Well, it puts us in a
6 situation I think every police officer, it's
7 imperative that they familiarize themselves with our
8 deadly force policy.

9 That's the way that we look at it. It's
10 more restrictive, it's more confining, and we
11 expect for the police officers to at least be
12 totally be familiar with that.

13 MR. JENKINS: But you're still protected
14 by the state law.

15 CHIEF ANDERSON: What I'm telling you is
16 that there is state law and also there is -- there
17 are restrictions as to policy applied within Dade
18 County and specifically speaking about our
19 organization.

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: What do you mean when
21 you say your police officers are expected to be
22 familiar with that policy?

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: Well, we have rules,
24 regulations, policies, procedures, and it is
25 imperative that they abide by those rules, policies,

1 procedures, et cetera.

2 So they're held accountable for violating
3 those procedures.

4 MR. BINKLEY: Subject to disciplinary
5 action?

6 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, sir.

7 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I guess you sort of
8 identified a back-end response; that they're held
9 accountable.

10 What is the obligation to assure that they
11 know?

12 CHIEF ANDERSON: What is the obligation--
13 sir, I'm sorry?

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: To assure that they
15 know of these policies.

16 They are told, what, to read a manual and
17 know all of the pertinent --

18 CHIEF ANDERSON: No, there is academy
19 training. There's familiarization with the
20 Constitution, with state law, with various
21 ordinances, various policies that are more
22 localized.

23 We have regional training here in Dade
24 County, but we further that by placing emphasis on
25 our specific area of municipality.

1 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: What kind of training
2 exists at the municipality level on an ongoing basis
3 for police officers?

4 CHIEF ANDERSON: I would have to revisit
5 that from my perspective, but I think that it should
6 be -- I would say that it's probably ongoing, but I
7 could not specifically tell you that we're covering
8 the operational and the policies and the rules and
9 regulations on a prescribed time period, that that's
10 occurring, so I could not tell you that.

11 But I would tell you that there are
12 ongoing -- there is ongoing training to deal with
13 policies, rules and regulations, et cetera.

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Is there ongoing
15 training that one deals explicitly with the deadly
16 force policy and one that deals explicitly with
17 interracial inter-community interaction with the
18 police?

19 CHIEF ANDERSON: To speak about constant--
20 if you're saying -- there isn't any continuous--
21 when I say continuous --

22 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Periodic?

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yeah, there is periodic
24 training on deadly force, yes.

25 We have "stop." We have "shoot/don't

1 shoot" situations. We have a million dollar piece
2 of equipment that we ordered to give us situations
3 as to when and when not we should apply.

4 All of our shooting is geared around when
5 to shoot and not to shoot, which is part of our
6 deadly force policy and part of deadly force
7 situations, and that's every time that we have
8 training and those officers are bound by state law,
9 police standards, to qualify on a prescribed period
10 of time, so that training is reinforced all the time
11 as to when to shoot, when not to shoot, and that is
12 a part of our deadly force application and deadly
13 force policy.

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Could you tell us what
15 occurs when a police officer uses deadly force from
16 the department's standpoint; what kind of follow up
17 occurs.

18 CHIEF ANDERSON: We have employed
19 psychological services.

20 We have investigative modes, internal
21 affairs or internal security.

22 We also have our detective bureau to visit
23 this, a particular shooting immediately.

24 We also are relieved, police officers, of
25 duty until the outcome of the investigation is

1 determined.

2 So we do have a mechanism or situations in
3 place where we do deal with our police officers
4 involved in shootings.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Ms. Winston.

6 MS. WINSTON: Chief Anderson, can you
7 revisit the statement that you made on the
8 perception that the community has now have in mind
9 as far as them testifying in front of the committee
10 on the individual discrimination that has come about
11 from your department.

12 When you talk about perception, is there
13 anything real that we heard here today, or can you
14 give me some idea of what your perception is as some
15 things that you can kind of outline on how those
16 possibilities could have developed as far as
17 perception?

18 CHIEF ANDERSON: I have to deal with
19 perceptions in the sense as being a reality.

20 They're realistic because if there is a
21 perception of discrimination and abusive treatment,
22 then it kind of -- it interferes with my and my
23 officers' ability to provide a service, to go out
24 and police.

25 What I have not seen transpire is that in

1 some situations the community has not been able to
2 separate an incident requiring a certain degree of
3 force.

4 And in not being able to do that, and I'm
5 saying not in all situations, there is a tendency to
6 lump every action that is taken by a policeman or a
7 police officer as being abusive, when that is not
8 necessarily the case.

9 What we do not hear about, and we answer
10 close to a million calls a year in the Black
11 community, are those daily kinds of things that
12 occur where there are no complaints.

13 When you look at the number of arrests
14 that take place in the Black community and people
15 are taken into custody in very dangerous situations
16 and there are no complaints, there is no evidence of
17 brutality; that happens every minute, every hour,
18 365 days a year.

19 So I would have to provide that answer to
20 your question.

21 MR. BINKLEY: Mr. Chairman.

22 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Yes.

23 MR. BINKLEY: Do you know how long the
24 department here has kept records of racial and
25 ethnic breakdown of the employees of the staff of

1 the police department?

2 CHIEF ANDERSON: Forever.

3 MR. BINKLEY: Forever?

4 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, as far as my twenty
5 years will take me.

6 MR. BINKLEY: That would be a good time
7 right there, twenty years.

8 I know Chief Dixon provided us once before
9 with a record or breakout of the current staff by
10 race, ethnic identity, gender, that sort of thing.

11 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

12 MR. BINKLEY: Could you provide us with a
13 current breakdown and what it was, say, twenty years
14 ago.

15 We've heard reference made here --

16 CHIEF ANDERSON: I'm looking back because
17 I do have people who are supposed to be writing some
18 stuff down for me.

19 MR. BINKLEY: We heard reference here
20 earlier today about the increase and change in the
21 rate of employment of Black officers and Hispanics,
22 and we'd like to look at that.

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, sir.

24 MR. BINKLEY: I also wonder do you keep a
25 record of whether the officers are foreign born or

1 native?

2 CHIEF ANDERSON: We have it broken down.
3 We have what is known as a Cohen's (phonetic)
4 Report, and it gives all the information that you've
5 just described. All of that information is
6 available, and we put that out, I think, once a
7 month.

8 It's a very, very detailed report,
9 indicating all of the information by percentage, by
10 race, by nationality, from various kinds of ways.

11 MR. BINKLEY: Can you identify the person
12 that you have accompanying you that I could give my
13 name and address that they can send that to?

14 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, yes.

15 MR. BINKLEY: Thank-you.

16 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Did I understand
17 correctly that you would have data that would say
18 for a particular ethnic group whether the individual
19 was born in the United States or not born?

20 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, sir.

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Dr. Clarkson.

22 DR. CLARKSON: I have a question related
23 to some of the individuals that have come before us
24 today, and their concern is that a lot of things
25 have been identified in the past, but there hasn't

1 really been an implementation or monitoring.

2 I'd like to explicitly focus on the area
3 of review because some of them have indicated that
4 if review were more external, rather than internal,
5 that the result would be very different, or at least
6 there's that feeling.

7 And I was wondering to what extent you
8 felt that you could have more of an external
9 component to the review process and perhaps either
10 change the perception or change the outcome.

11 CHIEF ANDERSON: Are you talking about an
12 independent review panel kind of situation?

13 DR. CLARKSON: That would be one of them.

14 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

15 DR. CLARKSON: I wouldn't want to say that
16 I'm the most, in that regard, the most creative, and
17 there may be other ways to get the sense of external
18 review into it; independent is one of the ways.

19 CHIEF ANDERSON: I welcome any kind of
20 review panel.

21 We have one that's internal. We do have
22 one that's external.

23 I'm one that would welcome any kind of
24 review panel. I think that it would be very
25 revealing to find out that in doing all of our

1 investigations, and I welcome that, that we are very
2 professional.

3 I think that there probably -- one of the
4 organizations beyond those organizations like the
5 AMA and other people, the judicial kind of review
6 committees, where we discipline and fire our people
7 as a result of our own internal investigations.

8 We have participated with the FBI. You're
9 all aware of the corruption cases.

10 Those cases resulted with joint
11 investigative skills of the Miami Police Department
12 and the FBI.

13 We participated in other investigative
14 efforts with other bodies looking at the Miami
15 Police Department.

16 We've offered organizations such as the
17 Police Foundation, the Bureau of Justice Assistance,
18 even more currently, to look at the Miami Police
19 Department internally.

20 I welcome any kind of review of our
21 investigations because I think there will be
22 something revealed as to the level of
23 professionalism that's applied by those
24 investigating other police officers.

25 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Can that be

1 interpreted as saying that the independent review
2 panels that now exist could be reconstituted so that
3 it's a full civilian group or a lesser contingent of
4 police officers serving on that panel, and they
5 would get the same cooperation from the department
6 that the existent --

7 CHIEF ANDERSON: They will get the same
8 cooperation from the department.

9 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: And would have the
10 same authorities that the current panel has?

11 CHIEF ANDERSON: You mean subpoena power;
12 is that what you mean?

13 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Yes.

14 CHIEF ANDERSON: We are willing to deal
15 with the perception of being abusive, of mistreating
16 the community, and if that entails some
17 recommendations that deal with a review panel, we're
18 not -- I'm not prohibitive in any kind of way.

19 And I hope and I know, Mr. Chairman, that
20 you are familiar with the success of review panels
21 throughout the nation.

22 Traditionally, in 99 percent of the
23 cases, unless there is quasi-involvement of the
24 police, unless they're dealt with in a way to deal
25 with the various restrictions of constitutional

1 rights, the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment,
2 Fourteenth Amendment, they are no more effective or
3 somewhat less effective. And I just wanted to throw
4 that out.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I have just one last
6 question dealing with a different topic, and that is
7 once an incident occurs using deadly force, and
8 we've seen in the past that communities can get
9 exercised by such incidents, is there any plan,
10 tact, approach that your office takes to try and
11 head off any strong negative or even violent
12 response to the shooting?

13 CHIEF ANDERSON: I sit every day on nails
14 and everything else wondering when one of my 1,050
15 police officers, and moving towards 1,100, will be
16 involved in a situation that may deem community
17 interest to the point of the outcome being a civil
18 disturbance.

19 I don't know. You know, I don't know how
20 to second-guess the community. I don't know how to
21 tell my guys not to go out and police the community
22 where policing is so needed. I don't know how to do
23 that.

24 So I sit every day on that kind of a
25 powder keg, hoping that out of a thousand guys, that

1 some interpretation will not occur that will say
2 that one of them have been abusive or something
3 resulting as a result of an action by them.

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: The question isn't
5 abusive or not, but the use of force that results in
6 substantial injury.

7 We're seeing something of a pattern as to
8 when that's likely to result in a violent response.

9 I guess I'm asking is it anything your
10 office could do in advance in the way of planning
11 to make sure there is an immediate response in the
12 community, letting people know what happened and --

13 CHIEF ANDERSON: Sure, sure; I get your
14 message.

15 We involve community leaders; we involve
16 grass root people.

17 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: In an immediate way,
18 right after the incident?

19 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, yes, yes.

20 As a matter of fact, about maybe an hour
21 or two, but I would say about two hours after, in
22 the room up on the fourth floor, I was meeting with
23 community people.

24 We have community relations people who go
25 out into the community specifically with the purpose

1 in mind to dispel rumors.

2 I have met with the NAACP. I have met
3 with PULSE. I have met with the SCLC and various
4 other groups.

5 I have been very open and candid with them
6 in relating what transpires or what happened, so we
7 do have, yes.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: That's immediately
9 after an incident?

10 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

11 We have arm bands for people who put on
12 those arm bands and go out into the community and
13 identifying themselves, so that they can cross
14 police lines.

15 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

16 MS. LITTLER: Excuse me, may I ask a
17 question?

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Yes.

19 MS. LITTLER: I understand that Liberty
20 City is unincorporated; is that correct?

21 CHIEF ANDERSON: No, it's incorporated.

22 MS. LITTLER: It's part of Miami?

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes.

24 MS. LITTLER: It's in your jurisdiction?

25 CHIEF ANDERSON: But part of it does

1 extend to the unincorporated area.

2 MS. LITTLER: Okay, so that means that
3 other part is policed by Metro Dade?

4 CHIEF ANDERSON: Yes, ma'am.

5 MS. LITTLER: Leaving aside personal
6 prejudices, would a unified police system work
7 better here, and is it possible?

8 CHIEF ANDERSON: Let me tell you, that's
9 as hard as dealing with politics.

10 I don't know if -- you've got 27
11 different --

12 MS. LITTLER: But would you have community
13 support though for a unified police system in Dade
14 County?

15 CHIEF ANDERSON: If you had that, yes.

16 But what happens is that you got 27
17 municipalities, and you got 27 different
18 governments. You got 27 different police
19 departments.

20 MS. LITTLER: So the Miami Police
21 Department -- okay, Coral Gables then, you don't
22 have any jurisdiction in Coral Gables?

23 CHIEF ANDERSON: No, ma'am.

24 MR. BRAKE: That's Coral Gables.

25 CHIEF ANDERSON: You would have to put

1 something on the ballot that would deal with the
2 whole county, which probably would be very
3 difficult.

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you very much,
5 Chief Anderson.

6 Before we call the next panel, can we take
7 a ten-minute break, and if we can hold it to ten
8 minutes, please.

9 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

10 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We are reconvening.

11 Our next presenter is Mr. Cullon, who's
12 President of the Miami Chamber of Commerce.

13 MR. CULLON: Thank-you very much, Mr.
14 Chairman.

15 My name is Bill Cullon. I'm President of
16 the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

17 We represent the 3,500 businesses in Dade
18 County and they represent over 400,000 of the
19 800,000 employed non-government people in Dade
20 County.

21 I have been with the Chamber for seven-
22 and-a-half years. I am retired from the trucking
23 business. I'm retired from Ryder Truck Rentals,
24 going with that company in 1964 and retiring in
25 1981.

1 It was because of the riot in 1980 that I
2 decided to become the President of the Greater Miami
3 Chamber of Commerce to see if I could be a part of
4 making a difference here in Dade County.

5 One of the things I can promise you that
6 the business community realizes, there's no despair
7 like the despair of being unemployed; that we see it
8 every day.

9 In my personal work now, I try to allocate
10 ten percent of my time, about six hours a week,
11 talking to unemployed people. These are unemployed
12 executives, bank presidents, on down.

13 And there is no more difficult and no lack
14 of hope and everything when people are sending your
15 resumes out, thousands of resumes, or making
16 thousands of presentations, going to see people, and
17 you can't get a job.

18 And you add to that a group of people when
19 other people are coming into this community that
20 haven't been here for a long time, and the most
21 recent situation where over the thousands of people
22 coming from Nicaragua come in. Some of them have
23 been able to get jobs.

24 Therefore, it appeared to a lot of the
25 people that they weren't being treated fairly, and I

1 think that was one of the ingredients that caused
2 the disturbance in '80, the disturbance in '82, and
3 also the disturbance of a few weeks ago.

4 Realizing that in 1981 that I thought that
5 it was a part of the problem, I talked to friends of
6 mine and we got together, and in one lunch we were
7 able to raise seven million dollars from the private
8 sector to use to try to do something about this.

9 We since have been able to raise a total
10 of eight million dollars.

11 And this eight million dollars was for two
12 purposes; one was to create new Black businesses.

13 And since 1981, we've only been able to
14 create 44 Black businesses. We've loaned nine-and-
15 a-half million dollars, and we've gotten that money
16 back.

17 We've lost \$400,000 in bad debts, which
18 some people think is too conservative, but we have
19 been able to run an operation, and those businesses
20 have only been able to employ 450 people.

21 But the most important thing we did is we
22 tried to start a Job Assistance Center, and I have
23 brochures here.

24 And the Job Assistance Centers are trying
25 to do something that's unique. We're trying to take

1 the hassle factor out of trying to find a job.

2 We try to put -- we opened up the first
3 one, and we opened it up in Liberty City, where we
4 were able to get the School Board, we were able to
5 get the people at the Job Unemployment Office, we
6 were able to get the Private Industry Council, and
7 the new organization, we started the Business
8 Assistance Center, all to be located in the same
9 building, as opposed to somebody coming in there and
10 having an interview, and they say, "Yes, you have
11 potential, but you need this training, and you have
12 to go to the building downtown," or the building
13 somewhere else.

14 What we try to do now is when someone goes
15 in there, when they leave there, they should either
16 have a job, they should have the counselling come in
17 or the training company, and they should have a
18 plan, and that's what we're trying to do.

19 This program is not totally successful,
20 but it's being monitored very carefully by a lot of
21 people who are going to get the feedback to do this.

22 We've since opened up a Job Assistance
23 Center in Opa-locka, one in Homestead, and within a
24 few days we're going to open up a permanent Job
25 Assistance Center in Overtown.

1 We are going to have a mobile Job
2 Assistance Center. It's going to be covering
3 eighteen other communities that have no way of
4 finding.

5 So this Job Assistance Center program
6 which is unique here, we can identify 36,400 Black
7 people that we've been able to find that we've been
8 able to get jobs for in the last four years.

9 Now, after the most recent disturbance,
10 there was a lot of enthusiasm from a lot of people,
11 and this is a long-range program that we got here.

12 But the City Manager called and he said,
13 "We really want to get some other things going. We
14 want to put a mobile trailer in Overtown, one in
15 Coconut Grove, and also another one in Liberty City,
16 so we can get our neighborhood jobs program involved
17 in this effort, and would you find us some jobs?"

18 We wrote a letter to our membership, and
19 I'm happy to say that we have received as of about
20 two hours ago 1,027 job orders.

21 These are jobs that have job descriptions,
22 and these are good jobs. These are manager's jobs.
23 These are jobs at all levels, I mean, with some of
24 the most prestigious companies in Dade County; all
25 kinds of jobs with companies like Bertram Yacht and

1 people like that, where you can go in as a laminator
2 or carpenter, or radio stations where you can go in
3 as a salesman or a sales manager, and so on.

4 Unfortunately, I guess, and I don't know
5 all the reasons why, but in the first two weeks
6 we've only been able to get 76 people actually on
7 job, and I'm trying now to find out where we are on
8 referring these people to training or to counseling
9 or to identify it one way.

10 Our desire in this effort is that
11 everybody that wants a job, to either get a job or
12 to get the counseling or get whatever it takes to
13 find jobs for them.

14 I do think there are jobs in Dade County
15 available for every unemployed person that wants a
16 job.

17 And it's the purpose of the Grater Miami
18 Chamber and the business sector to stay in this
19 until we're able to get it done.

20 I was interviewed by a lot of companies--
21 I mean, the cities, after the last disturbance.

22 And people, you know, would give us a very
23 difficult time about why we have all the problems
24 down here.

25 And as I was talking to them, I was

1 telling them about our jobs program and what we're
2 trying to do.

3 And it's a unique program. The private
4 sector is willing to put dollars behind this, and we
5 are doing a lot of other things.

6 We have a program of making purchases for
7 the Black community of a minimum goal of 25 million
8 dollars a year.

9 We have programs for Black professionals.
10 We have mentor programs.

11 We have the Governor scheduled to come
12 down on April 5. This is a little fluff, but we
13 think it's important, and we're going to pick the
14 first Black business of the year here in Dade County
15 and the award is going to be presented by the
16 Governor.

17 We're working on one other thing that we
18 really -- and I hired Tony ^{Gary} ~~Geary~~ (phonetic) as a
19 consultant -- she's a very professional lady here in
20 town -- for the last three weeks to help me on it.
21 It's a jobs networking program.

22 And our goal is to establish the most
23 unique job networking program for Blacks anywhere in
24 America, where we will shorten the job from a job
25 availability, the time that somebody knows about the

1 job to get in it.

2 And the concept is that everybody that's
3 employed, every Black person, would be carrying a
4 card with them, and this card would have four phone
5 numbers on it and it would tell about the basic
6 information that we need. It will also tell about
7 how to network.

8 And if you are a lab technician at
9 Cordes -- and I met with the president of Cordes
10 yesterday and told him that we were doing this to
11 see what he thought -- and a person in the lab -- a
12 job came open.

13 If this person could go out and tell
14 another Black person, "This job is available. It
15 requires a high school education. They'll train on
16 the spot," and get the person in there the next day.

17 If you don't have a friend that's
18 unemployed, then you call one of these four numbers
19 and give the job description and give the basic
20 information to get it in there.

21 We think that this will work. We think
22 that it will be well accepted.

23 We don't think that the Greater Miami
24 Chamber is the organization to present it. We want
25 some other organization to present it; preferably,

1 maybe Miami Dade Chamber or some other, because we
2 want to have total acceptance of this.

3 We think that the networking is one of the
4 things that's missing, and I know for a fact that
5 there is some networking going on, but it's not as
6 good as it should be.

7 We want to have two networking programs;
8 one for Black professionals and one for other
9 people. And these are all the other jobs.

10 And we think that we need to separate
11 those because we do have a large number of Black
12 professional here, and sometimes they are
13 unemployed, and we want to shorten the time from the
14 time that they lose their work to the time they get
15 it.

16 And I'd just simply like to say that we
17 don't think that we have perfect programs, but I
18 wanted to let you know that our intentions are all
19 good; that what we're trying to do is to have a very
20 creative program.

21 The Chamber has been very fair to me and
22 others to let us spend this much time on this type
23 of work. This is not an ordinary type Chamber
24 program.

25 I've been to many Chambers, such as

1 Atlanta and to Houston and Dallas, and they don't
2 have any programs close to what we're trying to do.

3 So I just wanted to throw those thoughts
4 out, and this is -- we think that the jobs are a
5 part of the major problem that causes the tension,
6 that causes the disturbances, and we're going to do
7 everything we can to close the gap on that part of
8 it.

9 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

10 Any questions?

11 MR. BINKLEY: I have a whole lot.

12 Is there a Black Chamber of Commerce in
13 the Miami or Dade County?

14 MR. CULLON: Yes, right.

15 MR. BINKLEY: Is there a Hispanic?

16 MR. CULLON: Yes.

17 MR. BINKLEY: And what are you?

18 MR. CULLON: We are sort of a unique
19 Chamber.

20 We are the Greater Miami Chamber of
21 Commerce. There are two million people and there
22 are two thousand square miles. We cover the entire
23 of -- our membership is all over.

24 We have a lot of members in Homestead. We
25 have over a thousand members in West Dade. We have

1 members all over.

2 I would say that the Miami Dade Chamber,
3 which is a Black Chamber, has probably 500 members,
4 and the Hispanic Chamber probably has 500 members,
5 but that's only part of it.

6 There are 38 other Chambers of Commerce in
7 Dade County, but I could tell you we have more full-
8 time employees than all the other 40 put together,
9 so we are one that -- we primarily take care of
10 infrastructure.

11 We want to make this the perfect place to
12 live, work, and to visit, and so therefore, this
13 program and education and the other things are very
14 important parts of our program.

15 MR. BINKLEY: Are there members of your
16 organization who are from Black or Hispanic --

17 MR. CULLON: We're the most balanced
18 organization in Dade County. And I think that you
19 can talk to anybody, and they will tell you that.

20 We don't go after specifically -- we go
21 after businesses, and we don't send Hispanics after
22 Hispanics or Blacks after Blacks, but we go after
23 the businesses in Dade County.

24 We have probably as many Black companies
25 that are members of our Chamber as Miami Dade does.

1 We certainly have more members, Hispanic companies,
2 than the Hispanic Chamber does.

3 So we are a very balanced Chamber, and we
4 work very hard at that.

5 MR. BINKLEY: Are they represented on your
6 Board of Directors?

7 MR. CULLON: Yes, sir.

8 MR. BINKLEY: Did the --

9 MR. CULLON: Executive Committee also.

10 MR. BINKLEY: Thank-you.

11 Did the Chamber get involved in similar
12 programs of this nature in 1982 or in 1980?

13 MR. CULLON: We created this program, to
14 be exact, it was on July 2, 1982, that we raised the
15 6.9 million dollars at one lunch, which is the
16 largest amount of money ever raised from the private
17 sector anywhere in the United States.

18 MR. BINKLEY: I thought that was current.
19 I missed that point.

20 MR. CULLON: No, that was -- we still have
21 a lot of that money, because the money is loaned out
22 and brought back.

23 We still have in excess of six million
24 dollars available for loans now.

25 Some of the money has been used for the

1 jobs programs and other things, but we sill have in
2 excess of six million dollars.

3 We're getting ready to form a MESBIC, a
4 Black MESBIC, which is another investment where we
5 would invest a million dollars, and it would be
6 matched by federal dollars of four million dollars,
7 and it would five million additional dollars we'll
8 have for loans.

9 We have a goal this year to make loans to
10 start thirty new Black businesses.

11 MR. BINKLEY: Does that loan fund,
12 whatever it's called, have a special name or is it
13 managed by the --

14 MR. CULLON: It's managed by an
15 organization that the Greater Miami Chamber
16 started -- it's located in Liberty City -- called
17 the Business Assistance Center.

18 And we were able to negotiate with the
19 county to get the Marine Armory out there. It's a
20 beautiful place, and we were able to get that at a
21 dollar a year.

22 It's a business incubator where we have
23 businesses learning how to operate so they can use
24 secretarial pools, get copy and equipment.

25 We have 29 companies in the Business

1 Assistance Center right now in some form of
2 incubation.

3 MR. BINKLEY: I guess that's all I have
4 right now, Mr. Chairman.

5 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I have a couple of
6 questions.

7 Are there any other organizations that are
8 doing something comparable, not in terms of size,
9 but in terms of activity?

10 MR. CULLON: Well, we're getting
11 tremendous cooperation from everyone.

12 We are very dedicated to this, and the
13 Private Industry Council is one that's really
14 heading up the jobs program for us and doing a
15 wonderful job, and we're working close with them

16 We have good cooperation with the state.
17 We talked to the Secretary of Labor the other day
18 and told him about our new activity that we wanted
19 to get on with this, and we were able to get eight
20 additional positions for here for the Business
21 Assistance Centers.

22 But I, at this time, and we were talking
23 yesterday, Jackie -- I don't know exactly when the
24 program is going to be presented, but a very
25 competent group of Black executives are going to

1 present, either yesterday or today, a new program
2 that they've put together to form an organization
3 similar to the Beacon Council, which is something
4 the Chamber formed several years ago.

5 The Beacon Council's job is to create
6 businesses and to bring in new businesses. They're
7 the marketing arm of the community, and they're--
8 the Black community have put their own plan
9 together. We're waiting to hear that.

10 The first time I expect to get a full
11 presentation of the plan is on the 14th of March.

12 I think that they're going to start a
13 twenty million dollar MESBIC, and they have plans to
14 start twenty major projects in the Black community
15 in the next five years.

16 ~~Garth Reese~~ ^{Guarione Diaz} (phonetic) and Tony ~~Geary~~ ^{Gary} are
17 two of the people I know that are heavily involved
18 in this program, and we're excited to see the
19 results, but we haven't seen it yet.

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: When you spoke earlier
21 about the 25 million for Black businesses this year,
22 you said there were other funds for other programs
23 that didn't --

24 MR. CULLON: We have a program within--
25 we have a vice chairman of revitalization in our

1 Chamber, which is headed up by Art Hill, a very
2 competent bank president here in Dade County.

3 In their work program, which I brought to
4 the -- when I heard from you, I thought it was just
5 going to be you and me. I didn't know it -- so I
6 brought -- I mean, I thought it was going to be
7 Bobby and me, I'm sorry -- so I brought the book of
8 our work plan, which is under revitalization, you'll
9 see all of our programs that we're on target with;
10 that they have the Mentor program to match somebody
11 that's very experienced in the business with a
12 business that's not experienced.

13 It also has a program of helping Black
14 professionals network to get more business and to
15 work from that standpoint.

16 So we are very aggressive in this area,
17 and we're going to pick up momentum.

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Any other question?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: I thank you.

21 MR. CULLON: Thank-you very much.

22 What I'd like to do is leave with you
23 these brochures on the Job Assistance Centers and
24 also our work plan.

25 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, and again

1 I apologize for the misspelling of your name.

2 MR. CULLON: That's all right.

3 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Ms. Ferrer, please
4 come forward.

5 MS. FERRER: I'm Betzaida Ferrer, Director
6 of the National Puerto Rican Forum in Miami, and I'm
7 the newcomer on the block.

8 Because I am a newcomer, perhaps my views
9 are a bit different from the people you have heard.

10 And besides my own observations after
11 being here six months and interacting with the
12 different ethnic communities in Miami, I've also
13 done research in the library, and I called up 50
14 leaders of the community, and I have spoken
15 incessantly with the people on the street.

16 With that introduction, I leave the
17 microphone to my companion here.

18 MR. SANTOS: My name is Sonny Santos, past
19 President of SALAD and a current Director.

20 I have spoken to Bobby Doctor on a number
21 of occasions. I haven't had the opportunity to
22 speak before this group, but I thank you for
23 inviting me.

24 Basically, my comments are going to be
25 fairly brief, they're going to be broad, and I'm

1 going to speak -- I didn't get the opportunity to
2 listen to the previous individuals that were invited
3 to speak this morning.

4 I was tied up in court, and I would say at
5 the Metropolitan Justice Building, which is a
6 misnomer considering everything that has been said
7 today.

8 And to that point, I would like to address
9 this panel by, first of all, based on what I've
10 heard from the time I came in this afternoon around
11 three o'clock to now.

12 It really seems to me that all the persons
13 that have spoken to you have told you about the
14 problems, have told you about the money that they
15 are spending to try to solve the problems, but in
16 reality I think what they overlook is the fact that
17 they're treating symptoms.

18 I've been living in Dade County since
19 1962. I grew up here. I have seen the changes that
20 the county has gone through, and unfortunately, we
21 have a history, both with the municipalities and
22 with county governments of being reactive to events
23 that occur in the community as opposed to being pro-
24 active in terms of planning.

25 I'm speaking in general terms because

1 these I think are some of the things that have
2 contributed to the plight of people in Overtown, in
3 Liberty City, and other areas of the county.

4 We have been very short-sighted in terms
5 of planning. And that goes from education, dropout
6 prevention.

7 You cannot take and dump 15, 20, 30, 40,
8 100 million dollars into Liberty City, for example,
9 to help start Black businesses, if there is no
10 follow up.

11 You know, we didn't hear as to the number
12 of those Black businesses that are still in
13 operation.

14 We didn't hear anything about why those
15 Black business, \$400,000 worth, defaulted on their
16 loans.

17 Was there any training provided to those
18 individuals?

19 Those kinds of things which are really, in
20 essence, addressing longer term type issues.

21 I would like to point out to this panel
22 that' in Dade County the problems as I perceive them
23 are really in terms of dealing with the frustration
24 that the Blacks feel here in Dade County.

25 In SALAD we have worked very closely with

1 the NAACP on a number of issues. We have even held
2 joint press conferences in the past regarding
3 specifically discrimination against Blacks and
4 Hispanics within the fire departments.

5 And in this particular case, this joint
6 press conference was the result of discrimination
7 within the City of Miami Fire Department.

8 And I can address that issue on a personal
9 level because I worked for Dade County for nine
10 years as a fire fighter and paramedic.

11 I was President, past President, of the
12 Dade County Hispanic Fire Fighters Association, and
13 we were very, very much involved with the Black
14 community in trying to deal with some of those
15 issues.

16 The underlying cause, in my opinion, of
17 the disturbances, riots, whatever you want to call
18 them, is because the Black people in Liberty City,
19 in Overtown, have, in essence, lost all hope. They
20 feel so disfranchised.

21 The Black community in Dade County has
22 come to the point where, in terms that everybody can
23 understand, they've really hit rock bottom.

24 And when you're laying flat on the
25 pavement, you know, with your face up against the

1 sidewalk, there's, you know, where else do you have
2 to go; I mean, what else can you hope for.

3 And really, I think, that's probably the
4 despair that they feel, the sense of
5 disfranchisement, is probably the root of the
6 problem, and some of the things that we see in terms
7 of the perceptions of police brutality, of
8 perceptions of Hispanics, you know, are trying to
9 take our jobs; you know, the Nicaraguans are getting
10 better and more preferential treatment than we have
11 been.

12 And all these things, I think, really go
13 back to the fact that the real problems in these
14 areas have not been addressed.

15 And I spoke to Bobby Doctor about some of
16 the things that I feel are really, really needed in
17 terms of long-term solutions to the problems that
18 we are experiencing here in Dade County.

19 And one of them has to be in the area of
20 education.

21 You know, George Bush says he's the
22 education President. Well, Dade County is going to
23 have to take a good look at their educational
24 system.

25 We have forty percent dropout rates for

1 Hispanics. When you have sixty or higher percent
2 dropout rates for Blacks, there's something wrong.

3 And what that's going to turn out, you
4 know, in the long run, when you have those kinds of
5 dropout rates for minorities, down here, Hispanics
6 and Blacks, that's going to create a whole host of
7 other problems later on down the road.

8 Unemployment is going to result from a
9 lack of education. If you don't have the proper
10 training, if you don't have the proper credentials,
11 how are you going to get a job?

12 That's going to lead into, if you can't
13 get a job as a youth, you're going to end up either
14 with a gang, or you're going to end up on the street
15 trying to find a way to make some money, or you're
16 going to end up using drugs.

17 And you start adding up all the different
18 ramifications of having either no education or a
19 very poor one, and I think in the long run those
20 are the kind of things that you're going to see; you
21 know, the drug use, the crime.

22 And as to the disparate treatment of
23 Blacks and Hispanics or Anglos, I personally know as
24 an attorney, and I do some criminal defense work--
25 we do some court appointments as well -- I have seen

1 cases where if you're Anglo and you have an
2 attorney, and the attorney happens to be so and so,
3 that you will get -- I just came across a case today
4 where the person is charged with four counts of
5 burglary, and without disclosing any confidential
6 information or any names, but just to give you an
7 illustration, it's an Anglo, four counts of
8 burglary, including one of the burglaries including
9 a school property, one of the burglaries including
10 over \$18,000 worth of damage to a home, minimum--
11 maximum sentence in this particular case would be
12 twenty years.

13 The state offered him two years and then
14 two-year probation after that.

15 I can guarantee you if that had been a
16 Black or a Hispanic, they would not offer him that
17 kind of plea negotiation. You just wouldn't get it,
18 unless you were a Black who happened to come from a
19 family down here who had a lot of influence, and
20 even then I doubt that you would get the same kind
21 of offer that, you know, a Hispanic or a Black would
22 get.

23 So the criminal justice system down here
24 is just -- it's in shambles. It really is. That's
25 one of the problems.

1 And again, I don't know that a lot of
2 money into programs that, you know, whether from the
3 private sector or the federal government, I don't
4 know if that's going to be the solution because what
5 seems to me is that a lot of the money that is
6 committed to trying to deal with some -- again, from
7 being a paramedic with the Dade County Fire
8 Department, I think of symptoms and I think of
9 diseases, you know, in those terms.

10 We don't treat the disease. You know, we
11 try to put a lot of money into a lot of symptoms, we
12 try to treat a lot of symptoms, but the disease is
13 still there.

14 I think this panel needs to take a look at
15 the underlying causes of the disturbances, and not
16 necessarily whether a Hispanic police officer shot a
17 Black individual, or whether an Anglo, whether it be
18 City of Miami Police or Metro Dade office, beat up a
19 Hispanic while he was being arrested.

20 I can testify as a paramedic again in my
21 years -- not as a paramedic, but in the time that I
22 worked for Dade County, on a number of occasions we
23 got called to the police stations and to the police
24 substations to treat individuals who had been
25 arrested; whether they be Hispanic or -- I don't

1 recall whether, you know, the individuals that we
2 treated were Hispanic, Anglo, or whatever.

3 I'm just saying that there is some force
4 that's being used by police. Some of it may be
5 unnecessary; other, you know, at times, it may be
6 justifiable.

7 And with those remarks, I can leave it
8 open to you all to ask me any questions, or if you
9 have any specific inquiries that you'd like to make,
10 I would be more than happy to answer those.

11 Do you have any further comments you'd
12 like to make?

13 MS. FERRER: Do you have any questions for
14 him?

15 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Did you want to make
16 some comments before?

17 MS. FERRER: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Yes, why don't you.

19 MS. FERRER: Since I came to Miami, I
20 personally have come not against me, but against
21 some of the most racist comments, and I have found
22 that there is a tolerance in Miami of racism and
23 bigotry that I have not seen in other states.

24 I speak of other states because I was born
25 in Puerto Rico, raised in New York, and worked with

1 the Peace Corps and travelled quite a bit around the
2 U.S.

3 And because perhaps they don't identify me
4 with a particular group, I have been approached on
5 trains, on the street, in restaurants, and comments
6 have been made that have curled my hair even more so
7 than it is.

8 One thing I have found is that there is a
9 power structure, a hidden power structure in Miami,
10 that plays one minority group against the other.

11 I have found this, and to give you some
12 facts and some research that I have done, they talk
13 about the term "Hispanic."

14 First of all, there is no such thing as a
15 Hispanic. Hispanics are people of different
16 countries with different histories, backgrounds,
17 social economic levels, and different standing in
18 the United States.

19 I am Puerto Rican, and for those of you
20 who are not familiar because we are the invisible
21 Hispanic, we are U.S. citizens by birth.

22 But to give you the 1988 census update in
23 March, since the 1982 recession, the Puerto Ricans
24 have -- the income of the Puerto Ricans has risen
25 less than any other Hispanic group in the United

1 States.

2 Puerto Ricans have the highest poverty
3 rate at 38 percent.

4 Puerto Ricans have the highest number of
5 households headed by woman without men in the
6 family.

7 The unemployment rate for March was 9.2
8 percent, March '88, for the Puerto Rican community;
9 whereas it was 5.2 to 5.6 percent nationally.

10 There are over 2.5 million Puerto Ricans
11 in the United States.

12 The last estimate from the 1980 census in
13 Florida, in Miami, to be exact, was 45,000. It is
14 now estimated that anywhere up to 180,000 Puerto
15 Ricans are now established in Miami.

16 51 percent of Puerto Ricans completing
17 high school are 25 years old or over, which says a
18 lot about our educational system.

19 And there are more Puerto Rican women
20 working now and less men employed, and the trend
21 seems to be continuing.

22 What this means is that what I have seen
23 and what I have spoken with the Puerto Rican leaders
24 is that Miami is headed by crisis management.

25 Every time a crisis appears, then it is

1 the Black community that is responsible for the
2 disturbances.

3 It is the Haitian community that is
4 responsible because they're coming here uneducated
5 and without health benefits and nobody wants them.

6 It is the Cuban Marielitos who came along
7 and they have displaced the others.

8 Or it is the Nicaraguans which have been
9 in the media. The media plays a major role in
10 Miami.

11 And I think that this shifting of focus of
12 where the problem lies is a play by the political
13 powers.

14 It is very easy to blame the latest group
15 that comes into the county and into the city and
16 into the state for all its problems, but I think if
17 you look at the testimony today, the resentment is
18 growing; not only among the Black community.

19 There is disparity in the way the
20 different immigrant groups are treated in Miami.

21 And that is not only Miami's problem, but
22 the federal government's problem, because there is
23 no set policy on how immigrants are treated.

24 When you have inequality among immigrant
25 groups coming into the country, there will be

1 trouble.

2 The sad part about it is that there is no
3 communication between the different groups in Miami.
4 They're isolated physically. They're isolated
5 politically.

6 And because the problems are always blamed
7 on the group, the Johnny come lately, there are
8 never any long-term solutions.

9 Now, my own observance of the disturbances
10 in Overtown:

11 Because I was raised in a big city, I
12 could not believe that not one of the radio stations
13 or the TV stations would cover the disturbances and
14 immediately when they happened.

15 The main preoccupation is, "I hope this
16 will be over soon and will not affect the Super
17 Bowl."

18 Coming perhaps from a democratic
19 background of caring for the people, I kept
20 wondering what is happening to the moral fiber of
21 these people; how could they possibly -- two people
22 have been shot; there are disturbances, there are
23 burnings, and they're worried about the Super Bowl.

24 In a city like Miami, where they have the
25 capability to organize people to raise millions of

1 dollars overnight, how is it possible that they do
2 not have the capacity to look at these problems and
3 create long-range solutions.

4 It is not the Haitians that are coming in.
5 It is not the fact that we are getting immigrants.
6 You can't stop them until the federal government
7 develops a policy.

8 The problem is that Miami doesn't want to
9 face the problem. They want to keep them out.

10 So when one politician comes up and says,
11 "Well, we can set up perhaps trailer camps to handle
12 the refugee situation and so that they can get
13 medical attention until they get their working
14 papers," another politician will say, "No, no, we
15 don't want them here. That will only bring in more
16 immigrants," when they don't see the immigrants as a
17 resource and a challenge for Miami to grow.

18 Miami has been built up, and all its
19 riches have been built up since the immigrants have
20 been coming in.

21 Therefore, it's not a matter of displacing
22 one group with another. It's a matter of long-range
23 planning on how to absorb the people that are coming
24 in and perhaps channeling them to other states.

25 That means creation of jobs at the same

1 time as developing solutions for the people that are
2 coming in without displacing the people here.

3 Also the media has played a very important
4 role because it loves what I call political
5 advantage.

6 When the Cuban refugees came to this
7 country, it was a wonderful political opportunity to
8 shout against communism and, therefore, we have to
9 give these people all the support that they need.

10 There is no political advantage to helping
11 Nicaraguans right now, and there is no political
12 advantage to helping Haitians.

13 I think that you in Washington should not
14 only come in and observe the problems, not for one
15 day or two days, but research the newspapers.

16 How many times does the newspaper
17 headline carry, and I went through month by month
18 last year's newspapers, carry incidents on police
19 brutality.

20 In January, there was one incidence
21 reported. By November, there were sixteen under the
22 category of police brutality.

23 Now that alone, plus looking at the fact
24 that there was in January one article about Puerto
25 Ricans, three about Colombians -- all three about

1 Colombians were about the drug traffic -- nothing
2 on Nicaraguans or very little, at least not in
3 January.

4 And you look at it ten months later, and
5 the shift has been completely to 68 articles on
6 Cubans.

7 Now where is the representation of other
8 Hispanic groups?

9 So when it is in the interest of the power
10 structures to group together, they'll talk about
11 Hispanics, but I suggest that this Commission look
12 into how the power structure relates to different
13 Hispanic groups. They are not one Hispanic group.

14 When they talk about creating jobs for
15 Blacks and have them carry cards, I become leery.

16 One, because why aren't these jobs turned
17 over to the Black communities and the existing
18 structures that they have, so that they have the
19 power to do something about it.

20 Instead, the white power structure creates
21 new programs. They distribute the jobs, they
22 control who gets hired, and in the long run who gets
23 fired, and in the long run who stays on based on
24 political advantage.

25 I have one more thing to say, and it is

1 that there seems to be a pattern in Miami whenever
2 there are disturbances, and it is that the
3 community, the only way it can get attention is by
4 disturbances.

5 Proposals are written. I can't tell you
6 the thousands of proposals that are submitted, and
7 the cry, and the leaders are out there, and they're
8 trying to get their articles published in the
9 newspaper.

10 Nobody pays attention until an incident
11 occurs that draws the media.

12 The media goes in and immediately the
13 politicians follow. I can't understand why the
14 politicians aren't there first before the problems
15 burst into incidents, and then the media follow to
16 say what a great job they're doing.

17 Perhaps the last comment I want to make is
18 that there's a lot of intolerance of differences in
19 Miami, and the school system has not helped either
20 reduce the tensions of race relations or improve the
21 level of tolerance among students at an early age.

22 This I say because I live close to the
23 Miami Dade Community College, and I've spoken to
24 several college students, and I am surprised the
25 simplistic views they have of the problems of Miami.

1 They'll say Blacks don't want to improve
2 themselves. Minorities have to upgrade themselves.

3 These are college students, two-year
4 college students. They're a product of the school
5 system.

6 And then monies come in from the federal
7 government and the same power structures distribute
8 the monies because they're held at a local state
9 level.

10 So you give the Miami Dade system, school
11 system, more money when they have a 54 percent
12 dropout rate among Hispanics; very high. I don't
13 know the exact figure for Blacks.

14 But there's nothing given to alternative
15 community programs.

16 I would ask this Commission to study and
17 do research on how the monies are allocated that are
18 within the state and how the jobs are allocated and
19 what long-term effect do these programs have.

20 I'm open to questions.

21 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you.

22 Any questions?

23 MR. BRAKE: Does your last statement
24 indicate a preference for tuition vouchers?

25 MS. FERRER: For tuition vouchers?

1 MR. BRAKE: Yes.

2 MS. FERRER: Actually, what I favor is
3 that alternative programs run by communities, small
4 community units within the community, be given the
5 chance, for example, to get people into the GED
6 programs.

7 Everything is controlled by the Miami Dade
8 School System, so if the school system fails and
9 then implements another program with the same
10 structure, it's not going to work because apparently
11 something is wrong in the school system when the
12 people drop out.

13 So that might be one measure, but what
14 I'm talking about is returning the power to affect
15 the community to the community because everything in
16 Miami is concentrated on either the corporations or
17 City Hall, the school system, and even, what amazes
18 me, is that even the way people give donations, it
19 is to the great United Way or to the establishments,
20 and therefore, they control everything, and very
21 little gets down to the community; not just to the
22 Black community.

23 The Blacks have been at least the
24 spokesman and I think the Puerto Ricans have a lot
25 to learn from the Blacks, and I think the Haitian

1 community, because at least the Blacks have
2 identified their problems and they have cried out in
3 desperation.

4 But that same desperation will arise in
5 the other minority groups in Miami, and the federal
6 government has washed its hands, and said, "Well,
7 let each state deal with the funds," and that is
8 fine if the states are managing the funds.

9 But if something is wrong, I think the
10 federal government should step in and begin doing
11 research and working with that state until there is
12 a fairer distribution of wealth.

13 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Mr. Santos.

14 MR. SANTOS: Yes. She reminded me of a
15 couple of points that I failed to mention, and that
16 is that I'm not here saying specifically and only
17 that the Black community is the only community
18 that's disfranchised.

19 The Hispanic community also feels that
20 way. I don't know the exact statistics; I'm not
21 real certain about them, but I know that there are
22 over 100,000 Cuban Americans who are eligible to
23 vote, who are citizens of the United States, who
24 have not registered to vote in Dade County.

25 Over 100,000 is the figure I had last, as

1 of about eight months ago. That tells you
2 something about the system.

3 We do have -- I personally have been
4 working with a number of individuals in the state
5 legislature and also Jim Smith, who's the Secretary
6 of State, and we have succeeded in getting a number
7 of proposals in the legislature to make the voter
8 registration process a lot simpler.

9 For example, there's some legislation that
10 was recently introduced by Jim Smith, Secretary of
11 State, to require that jury pools be picked from
12 drivers' license roles as opposed to voter
13 registration roles, which wiled give the minority
14 communities more of an incentive to participate in
15 the electorate, in the electoral process.

16 The other point that I failed to mention
17 is that I feel that really a lot of my fellow
18 Hispanics in the community either don't understand
19 or really don't appreciate the historical
20 perspective of the Black community down here in Dade
21 County.

22 We came here at a time, I would say we
23 began to come in large numbers, in the early '60s,
24 mid to late '60s, and many of the educational
25 opportunities were already there.

1 Many of the individuals that came over
2 were professionals; had already had a very good
3 education; whereas, the Black community didn't have
4 that opportunity in terms of education.

5 And a lot of times I feel that Hispanics
6 may be a little insensitive, or if not
7 insensitivity, I think maybe not having an awareness
8 or an appreciation for the historical experience of
9 the Blacks, not only in Dade County, but in the
10 country as a whole.

11 I mean, you can go back and allude to the
12 fact that, you know, even when the Black slaves were
13 freed in this country, they were promised a mule and
14 forty acres, which, you know, they never got.

15 And since then, really to understand that
16 perspective, that it's not something that where they
17 have been deprived of many opportunities just in the
18 last ten or fifteen years or twenty years, but, in
19 fact, this is something that the Black community has
20 had to live with for, you know, 200 years.

21 And I think sometimes we as Hispanics
22 don't appreciate that, that historical perspective
23 because for us it was much easier, you know, in the
24 last 25 or 30 years to come here and take advantage
25 of the opportunities that were already set into

1 place at that time.

2 MS. FERRER: I'd like to make another
3 comment also in talking about Hispanics.

4 There is a lot of tolerance of police
5 brutality and corruption in many Latin American
6 countries.

7 When Latin Americans and people from the
8 Caribbean come to the United States, if they do not
9 have access to education as to our justice system
10 and how the government works, they are assimilated
11 only halfway because their attitudes towards justice
12 remains as they learned it in their countries.

13 They don't go up, and I've got this
14 information from all the community leaders I called,
15 they never go and complain against police brutality,
16 because the police represent an arm of fear to be
17 instituted in the people so they will not protest,
18 and the police represent corruption, and the police
19 represent repression.

20 Therefore, the last person that they would
21 want to go up against is a police officer, and they
22 will accept abuse as everyday state-of-the-art.

23 MR. BINKLEY: Can I ask a question, Mr.
24 Chairman?

25 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Surely.

1 MR. BINKLEY: I don't know how long you
2 were here, but all day long we heard people from the
3 Black community talk about their concerns that the
4 Anglo and more so lately Hispanic police officers
5 were treating the Black community in a
6 discriminatory manner; they used excessive force,
7 brutality, and that sort of thing.

8 Earlier you mentioned that the SALAD had
9 joint meetings with NAACP to discuss employment of
10 the fire fighters or something like that.

11 Are you aware of any ongoing efforts by
12 any organizations or individuals to try to develop a
13 basis for the understanding you think, for example,
14 Hispanics need for the history of Blacks to
15 appreciate their problems more?

16 MR. SANTOS: As a matter of fact, there
17 was a recent, I believe it was a seminar or a
18 conference or a report that was submitted, and it
19 appeared in the -- it had to do with Miami Dade
20 Community College.

21 And they interviewed a number of Hispanic
22 students, and basically, the outcome was that
23 Hispanics either did not appreciate or did not
24 understand Black history, or the end result
25 basically was, in the Herald article at least -- I

1 didn't see the report or the study that was done--
2 that Hispanics really, and in this case you're
3 talking about college students, had either no
4 interest or very little interest in Black history or
5 didn't appreciate Black history.

6 And I think this is what I was alluding to
7 earlier.

8 I don't think the problem has to do with
9 Hispanic officer versus Black defendant or Anglo
10 officer who beats up Hispanic.

11 I think it's just when you put that
12 uniform on an individual, and you strap a gun to his
13 side and you put a big silver flashy badge on his
14 chest, that does something to an individual, whether
15 it's an Anglo, Hispanic, or I don't care who it is.

16 A police officer is a good guy; they wear
17 the white hats, and this is, in simple terms, this
18 is the mentality.

19 You know, they're the good guys; those are
20 the bad guys, and we've got to do it.

21 I was appalled at the recent -- I don't
22 know if you all are aware of the seven or eight City
23 of Miami police officers who took a Hispanic
24 alleged drug dealer into a home and beat him to
25 death.

1 They actually, the people in this
2 community actually has rallies supporting these
3 officers.

4 I don't think any officer, any police
5 officer has a right, and we're talking something
6 that was extreme because there were individuals
7 trying to look into the home and the police officers
8 themselves took a sheet and covered up the windows
9 so they wouldn't be able to see what was going on
10 inside.

11 And I don't think it has any -- in this
12 particular case it was Hispanic killing a Hispanic.

13 It has nothing to do, at least in my
14 opinion, with whether, you know, it's Hispanic
15 against Black or whatever.

16 I think it's just when you put a police
17 officer or when you put a uniform and a badge and a
18 gun on someone, without the proper training, without
19 the proper ongoing training, as a number of the
20 members tried to question Chief Perry about, and
21 specifically as regards to the regulations he was
22 talking about, you know, the policies and
23 procedures.

24 When I worked for Dade County Fire, it was
25 a very simple solution to that. The ongoing

1 training was that every memo, procedure, whatever it
2 might be that came out of the director's office, had
3 to be signed by every individual in the department.

4 And they had briefings every morning with
5 the supervisors, or the supervisors would explain,
6 you know, the particular memo that came out or
7 operations procedures or whatever it might be.

8 And if that kind of ongoing training, if
9 you're going to send them to Miami Dade Community
10 College, to criminal justice school up there for X
11 number of weeks, I guess it's four months or
12 whatever, six months or whatever it is they go, and
13 you're not going to have any training after that,
14 you're going to continue to have, you know, the
15 problems with the brutality.

16 And I don't think, and again, in my own
17 personal opinion, it has anything to do with Black,
18 Hispanic, or white.

19 I think it's just, you know, cops against
20 the robbers, so to speak, and the lack of training.

21 MS. BELL: I hear the gentleman from SALAD
22 speak, and some of the things I hear him say is so
23 real, but then some of the other things I hear, for
24 the first time in thirty years in the city you had
25 Black police officers involved in a killing of

1 someone, but in that they were not alone. They
2 had -- their counterparts were Hispanics.

3 You have not had a Black officer on the
4 City of Miami's police department been labelled in
5 thirty years in a killing before this.

6 Somewhere along the line how in the world
7 can the Black police officers go out and police the
8 streets and they don't kill, you know.

9 But the other side is that Miami is a
10 melting pot. No one cares anything about any
11 other's culture.

12 The white community only sees culture as
13 a dollar sign. The Hispanic community sees their
14 culture. The Black community, don't nobody allow us
15 to have any.

16 So you do have an awful lot of problems
17 here, Blacks among other groups.

18 The lady who's just been here for six
19 months, you certainly have done a wealth of
20 research, and everything you have found is true.

21 Sad for me to be -- I'm not going to say
22 how old -- a resident of this town, who lives -- who
23 was raised in Overtown, but all of what you read is
24 true.

25 MS. FERRER: Thank-you.

1 MS. BELL: And it bothers -- Jonathan and
2 I both are natives of this town, and I was sitting
3 here talking to him, and it is true.

4 It is true, and it is all controlled just
5 like you said. I mean, totally controlled.

6 MR. BINKLEY: Ms. Ferrer, do you plan to
7 make a report or draft or summary of all you've
8 learned?

9 MS. FERRER: I would be -- I would love
10 to, and since my salary doesn't come from anywhere
11 in Miami, I don't have to be afraid of being fired.

12 So yes, I could have a report, if you
13 gentlemen and ladies leave me an address where I can
14 write, I would be very happy to write.

15 Now, I have a problem when I write
16 articles for the newspapers. They don't get
17 printed.

18 When I go before the Commissions or when I
19 go up to different organizations and request for
20 funds for the handicapped or funds, they tell me,
21 "No, all the funds have been allocated," and I sent
22 out the proposals January 1, and all the monies have
23 been allocated for the year, including corporations
24 and banks.

25 But for you, yes, I would have the report

1 ready.

2 MR. BINKLEY: Well, you've given a
3 statement here today that we have a transcript of,
4 but you talked about all the ~~energies~~ ^{interviews} you made with
5 the people and research you had done, and I wondered
6 if that was being reduced to a report for your
7 agency or your organization.

8 MS. FERRER: Well, it will be written for
9 my organization.

10 The only thing I cannot disclose the names
11 of the people I interviewed unless they agree to,
12 and they might agree to, and I would be most happy
13 then to present the report.

14 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We would appreciate
15 it.

16 MR. SANTOS: Are the members of this
17 committee or Commission aware of all the different
18 players in the community in Dade County; you know,
19 your non-groups, your different Chambers and things
20 like that?

21 MR. DOCTOR: As an old sergeant of mine
22 used to say, we have a working knowledge of.

23 MR. SANTOS: Of the non-group and the --

24 MR. DOCTOR: Yes.

25 MR. SANTOS: You know, Unidos, which is

1 the Hispanic non-group; you know, the various other,
2 I guess --

3 MR. BINKLEY: We've identified over twenty
4 organizations. It's going to be incorporated in a
5 report we'll eventually make.

6 The proliferation and number of
7 organizations in this community is just almost
8 overwhelming compared to other places in the United
9 States with which we're familiar.

10 And you sent us a list of, it's 28 or 30,
11 Hispanic organizations alone. Not all of them are
12 related to civil rights, community relations, and
13 that sort of thing, but all of them have a specified
14 goal of something toward improving the community.

15 And we're amazed as a group at the
16 potential, and I can say this only as an individual,
17 disappointed in the results.

18 That's why I was asking you about some of
19 your questions there.

20 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We'd like to thank you
21 very much. You've been very helpful.

22 I'm glad you volunteered to take the end
23 spot, because you've provided a nice perspective
24 scope kind of a discussion that caps the day.

25 MS. FERRER: Thank-you.

1 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We appreciate your
2 coming.

3 I should mention it is our custom, as I've
4 just been informed, that at the close of a meeting
5 if someone in the audience desires to make a short
6 statement, you're free to do that.

7 If you so, I'd like for you to come to the
8 microphone.

9 MS. NITZBERG: This area, I've lived down
10 here twenty years. I've lived in El Portal and I
11 lived in Miami.

12 My father worked for Dade County
13 Automobile Inspection, and I used to work at the
14 Fountainbleau and Dade County School Board.

15 And I just came back from working for the
16 Department of the Navy in White Oak.

17 But within the last eight years during the
18 cutbacks of the federal and state government, there
19 has been areas of job service that has been closed
20 in this area.

21 There used to be one in North Bay Village.
22 The one at 1350 Northwest 12th Avenue, where I
23 worked in '86, was all various job service offices,
24 have closed.

25 That's the agency governed by the federal

1 government sent down to the states to employ and
2 train people.

3 The one that was at 1350 is now in Little
4 Havana, and that office is over -- I can't tell you
5 how many unemployed people or displaced people from
6 other areas.

7 The same problems that are here in Dade
8 County Florida, and I lived -- White Oak is
9 Montgomery County.

10 Every state has the same unemployment
11 problems, Black and Hispanic and white.

12 There's been a lot of businesses during
13 the past eight years that are no longer.

14 So the opportunities for employment,
15 people are just blaming one another for jobs.

16 I sent out, before I left the DC area,
17 which was on Christmas Day, and I tried for federal
18 jobs -- I'm 46, also.

19 I've got 90 something in my federal tests.
20 I took tests for the State of Florida, which is
21 still running. That was back in '86.

22 I thought my jobs would be in Tallahassee,
23 but I worked for the Department of Navy.

24 There's a lot of people looking for work.
25 Some are less experienced, and everybody is blaming

1 this and that.

2 It's not just the people who want the
3 jobs. It's a two-way street. It's the employer
4 too.

5 But some of the, as I said, job service
6 agencies, were closed. We used to have a lot down
7 here, and those resources are not here.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Would you identify
9 yourself one more time for the record, please?

10 MS. NITZBERG: My name is Nitzberg,
11 (spelling) N-i-t-z-b-e-r-g.

12 And plus, I was mugged last month on Miami
13 Beach.

14 MR. BINKLEY: Could you give your
15 complete name, please?

16 MS. NITZBERG: Nancy Ray Nitzberg. Do you
17 want my social security number?

18 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you much.

19 MR. PERKINS: My name is David L. Perkins.
20 I am a news reporter of Metro Dade County and the
21 Black community of Dade County.

22 Throughout Dade County, I am involved with
23 about 26 different organizations in Dade County.

24 Within the last fifteen or twenty years in
25 Dade County, our city and county government system

1 have actually went out of control.

2 Then they wants the police department to
3 back them up on any instances that may occur.

4 Like when the grants are to come in, they
5 will send the agencies out into these communities,
6 talking about redeveloping in these locations.

7 Once our city and county governments get
8 those grants, these communities were the poor people
9 on social security, welfare, AFDC, or just an
10 ordinary small job, they aren't getting it.

11 Only thing they doing is helping all the
12 foreigners to come in, it's true, except for the
13 Haitians -- they want to send them back -- and
14 Nicaraguans that's coming, and the Jamaicans -- they
15 want to also send them back.

16 Within the last fifteen years, crime rates
17 are increased, not one percent, not three or four
18 percent, but seven percent in crime.

19 And most of the crimes that are now being
20 committed is there behind drugs.

21 Once a person get hooked onto drugs, there
22 is no job available for him or her.

23 Then they will go out, break into your
24 home, into your car, rob you up and down the street,
25 anything that they possibly can, just for that drug

1 money.

2 Every day, 24 hours a day, the police
3 departments will be contacted about these problems.

4 A lot of the time, the police acts as if
5 they has no time. We're at the location. When they
6 get there, a lot of the drug dealers or drug pusher
7 or the drug addict are gone somewhere else, hiding,
8 ducking and dodging.

9 You can give them the correct address of a
10 lot of these locations, any poor locations out here
11 in Dade County; they acts like they don't have time
12 to even get there.

13 Every day you turn around it's been more
14 killings right here in Overtown, Liberty City,
15 Carol City, Coconut Grove, and stuff. These
16 killings are only because of the drugs that have
17 been floated in.

18 The way that they're coming in here,
19 plane, ships, and boats, a lot of the law
20 enforcement know that these drugs are coming in.

21 Do they destroy them drugs once they get
22 their hands on them, our law enforcement? No.

23 It winds up, we got polices that are going
24 within the police pound, picking up drugs, bringing
25 them into communities, like they're going to make a

1 drug bust.

2 This is not making any drug bust. This is
3 just a harassing with the public.

4 Only one way to make the drug busts is
5 once they get them drugs, write up those reports,
6 make sure those persons are given 25, 30, 40, and
7 50 years.

8 Until then, it's coming to be more
9 problems.

10 Also, when you go down there to complaint
11 about their policemen brutality or disrespect, they
12 want you to go to their police department internal
13 review board.

14 They doesn't call the officer in or
15 officers in at that time to solve the problem.

16 They go behind a citizen's back, pretend
17 that they done investigated, and everything has been
18 solved.

19 The same officer will take your name, your
20 age, and everything, and pass it around to his best
21 associates.

22 Next thing you know, they come and
23 harassing with you if they see you riding down the
24 street or walking down the street.

25 This has been going on too long.

1 Not only that, we has got polices that is
2 also dealing with drugs in Dade County. They're
3 bringing it out of the police pound.

4 We got polices that is going on the bay
5 picking like they going to be getting if off any
6 boats and stuff and going to put it in the pound. A
7 lot of them drugs they do not put in the pound.
8 They takes it right back out there in Hialeah or
9 Miami Beach and other locations that these drugs are
10 now being put by law enforcement in the police
11 system. This I know for a fact.

12 When it comes down for our jobs and
13 business in Overtown or any poor communities,
14 there's none actually available.

15 If you before the city of before our
16 county begging for that assistance or even begging
17 down there for these grants so we can redevelop and
18 re-fix up into these Black communities or any poor
19 communities, they're always saying, "Sorry, ain't
20 nothing available."

21 But every time your foreigners come in,
22 they go out of the way and put up thousands and
23 thousands and thousands of dollars just to help
24 them.

25 This is one of the reasons why that's it's

1 costing riots also to keep on occurring.

2 We don't need riots. We don't need drugs
3 in our community. We need peace, happiness. We
4 need job, business, educational, to be put in our
5 location.

6 Now I appreciate it, not only just for
7 today to your investigation and listen at the
8 public, but I will appreciate it if you will can
9 even send special agencies, like we did once before,
10 had special agencies down here to write up reports
11 every three or four months, every five or six months
12 if nothing else, but come at least two or three
13 times a year to make sure that these things are done
14 correctly.

15 And when I see the County Commissioner and
16 Manager receive these grants into Dade County,
17 please make sure that you all will get a note
18 showing where every brown coin has been put because
19 it's going to cause more problems in the future. We
20 don't need it.

21 If they is not going to help the public,
22 why keep bringing these foreigners in?

23 Our Black and poor communities have been
24 fed up. We don't need these problems.

25 And I appreciate it if you would take it

1 under deeply consideration from what you all have
2 also heard about this police system and our City and
3 County Managers assistance in Dade County.

4 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you, Mr.
5 Perkins.

6 MR. PERKINS: Any questions, if you have,
7 I can answer.

8 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: We are going to
9 consider ourselves adjourned at this point.

10 MR. PERKINS: All right.

11 CHAIRMAN MOORHEAD: Thank-you much.

12 (Whereupon, the proceedings were adjourned
13 at 5:55 o'clock, p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF FLORIDA)

) SS.:

COUNTY OF BROWARD)

I, GLENDA WARREN, Notary Public in and for the State of Florida at Large, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did report the foregoing proceedings; that the foregoing pages numbered 1 through 204, inclusive, constitute a true and accurate record thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 25th day of February, 1989, in the City of Fort Lauderdale, County of Broward, State of Florida.

Glenda Warren

GLENDA WARREN

Notary Public

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA
MY COMMISSION EXP. APR. 23, 1992
BONDED THRU GENERAL INS. UND.