



May 2, 2014

The Honorable Denise O'Donnell
Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

Dear Director O'Donnell:

I write to express my full support of Miami-Dade County's application for a Fiscal Year 2014 Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) grant. The BCJI grant would provide much-needed resources to plan and implement strategies to reduce crime within Miami-Dade's highest crime area, the Northside District.

I represent the Northside District which includes the Census Designated Places of Pinewood, Brownsville, Gladeview, West Little River, and Westview. The Northside District has the highest number of homicides, forcible rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, larcenies, and auto-thefts in the county. In 2013 alone, more than 42 homicides, 127 forcible rapes, and 1,224 aggravated assaults took place in the Northside District. The MDPD plans to use BCJI grant funds to plan and implement a comprehensive, coordinated, and data-driven strategic action plan to reduce crime. MDPD also plans to use area-specific strategic approaches to combat crime, including enforcement, prevention, intervention, and revitalization.

I strongly believe that funding Miami-Dade County's BCJI grant application will significantly improve community safety and crime prevention within my district and throughout the Northside District. Improved public safety is critical to my constituents' well-being and also to efforts that aim to spur job creation and provide ladders of opportunity.

Within all applicable rules and regulations, I urge you to approve the aforementioned Miami-Dade County application for BCJI funding.

Sincerely,

Frederica S. Wilson,
Member of Congress