




Memorandum



Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General
A State of Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accredited Agency
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To: The Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
The Honorable Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

From: Mary Cagle, Inspector General 

Date: December 11, 2014

Subject: South-Dade Grant Recipient Pleads Guilty to Defrauding County, Homestead CRA,
and Others, Ref. IG12-35

Hilda Hall-Denis (Hall-Denis), a recipient of Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) funds administered through Miami-Dade County's Department of Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD), pled guilty yesterday to one count of Organized Scheme to Defraud, a second degree felony, and three counts of Identity Theft, all third degree felonies. Hall-Denis, who was arrested this July following a joint investigation by the Miami-Dade Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, was sentenced to 4 ½ months in jail.

The charges against Hall-Denis, who was the President and Executive Director of the Business Technology Development Corporation (BTDC), centered on her fraudulent representations and misuse of grant funds from PHCD, the Homestead Community Redevelopment Agency (Homestead CRA), and the State of Florida, Division of Blind Services. As part of her sentence, Hall-Denis was ordered to pay restitution to PHCD, the Homestead CRA, and former employees.

The OIG appreciates the cooperation of Miami-Dade County's Public Housing and Community Development Department.

Attachment

cc: Russell Benford, Deputy Mayor
Alex Ferro, Mayor's Chief of Staff
Michael Liu, Director, Public Housing and Community Development
Rick Ammirate, Director, Homestead Community Redevelopment Agency
Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit & Management Services
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor