

Office of School Board Attorney  
Johnny Brown, Board Attorney

**SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANT SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES, MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND  
MARKETING**

The full-time professional staff of the Board Attorney's Office consists of eight attorneys, exclusive of the position of School Board Attorney. The resignation of Mr. James Montalvo effective October 3, 2002 and the extended leave of Ms. Pamela Young Chance have created two vacancies that need to be filled. The Board Attorney recommends the employment of two Assistant School Board Attorneys, Ms. Marci Rosenthal and Mr. Joel Bello.

Ms. Rosenthal graduated from the University of Miami School of Law, cum laude, in 1996. Upon graduation, Ms. Rosenthal accepted a two year federal clerkship with the Honorable Jose A. Gonzalez, Jr. of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. She then was a litigation associate for two years at McKenna and Cuneo in Washington, D.C. before accepting in 2000 an attorney position with the United States Department of Education in Washington, D.C. Ms. Rosenthal will be a valuable addition to the Board Attorney's Office, filling the position vacated by the resignation of Mr. James Montalvo.

Mr. Joel A. Bello graduated cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law in May, 2002. He has been a law clerk in the Board Attorney's Office since March 2001 and prior to that clerked for Leesfield, Leighton, Rubio & Mahood from September 2000 to March 2001. Mr. Bello was a special education teacher for Miami-Dade County Public Schools and was selected Beginning Teacher of the Year in 1999-2000. Mr. Bello will be a valuable addition to the Board Attorney's Office.

Ms. Rosenthal is recommended for employment effective October 24, 2002, for the period through June 30, 2003, at an annual salary of \$72,000. Mr. Bello is recommended for employment effective October 24, 2002, for the period through June 30, 2003, or upon the return from leave of Ms. Young-Chance, at an annual salary of \$40,000.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve and authorize the execution of employment agreements with the following:

- 1) Marci Rosenthal as Assistant Board Attorney for the period October 24, 2002 through June 30, 2003, at an annual salary of \$72,000.
- 2) Joel A. Bello as Assistant Board Attorney for the period October 24, 2002 through June 30, 2003 or upon the return from leave of Ms. Young-Chance, at an annual salary of \$40,000.