

Office of Superintendent of Schools  
Board Meeting of April 9, 2003

March 19, 2003

Financial Affairs  
George M. Burgess, Chief Financial Officer

**SUBJECT: SPECIAL TAX CO-COUNSEL**

**COMMITTEE: BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Mr. Jesse J. McCrary, Jr., Esquire has been forced by ill health to take inactive status with the Florida Bar and to close his law office. As a result, Mr. McCrary is unable to continue as Greenberg Traurig's co-counsel with respect to the Miami-Dade County School Board and has so informed staff.

During the selection process by which Mr. McCrary was appointed co-counsel, the next highest rated firm was Edwards & Carstarphen, a black female law office, represented by Ms. M.L. Carstarphen which has acted as co-counsel for the District in a number of transactions.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida appoint Edwards & Carstarphen as special tax co-counsel for the duration of the term assigned to McCrary and Associates, which expires on November 1, 2003.

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