

Dr. Marta Perez, Board Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR THIRTY WORKDAYS TO ASSISTANT BOARD ATTORNEYS WHOSE CONTRACTS WERE NOT RENEWED**

The newly appointed School Board Attorney has recommended at this School Board Meeting that the Board Attorney's Office be reorganized and restructured. Part of that reorganization provides that a majority of the assistant School Board Attorneys not have their employment contracts renewed. This information was presented to the Board at Thursday's committee meeting after the publication of the agenda for the November 16 School Board Meeting. The five attorneys whose contracts are not to be renewed were provided less than thirty days written notice of unemployment.

In May, 2005, the School Board acted to renew the assistant Board Attorneys' contracts for a period of 90 days until September 30, 2005 and then at its September Meeting, the Board again extended the assistant Attorneys' contracts for 60 days until November 30, 2005. The new Board Attorney said publicly that she would work with all the attorneys to evaluate them before making an employment decision affecting contract renewal. It is reasonable that the attorneys in the Board Attorney's office relied on the actions of the Board and its new attorney in anticipation of another contract renewal of some duration at least consistent with the thirty day notice provision in their existing contracts.

To meet legal requirements and to be fair, this item recommends that the five attorneys, whose contracts were not renewed, receive their salaries for an additional thirty workdays beyond November 30, 2005.

This agenda item does not appear in the regularly published agenda. There is good cause to vary from the published agenda because the Board members just received the Board Attorney's recommendation for restructuring and there is not another Board Meeting prior to the time for contract non-renewal.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MARTA PEREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize payment for 30 workdays to the five assistant Board Attorneys whose contracts were not renewed.

**GOOD CAUSE  
B-11**