

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-100 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA HONORING ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY ON ITS
50th ANNIVERSARY

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK:** STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

St. Thomas University has a rich history that dates back to 1946 when the Augustinian Friars founded the Universidad Catolica the Santo Tomas de Villanueva in Havana, Cuba. In 1961 several of the friars fled to Miami and in the following year founded Biscayne College. The college was accepted as a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and first accredited by the Commission on Colleges in 1968. Biscayne College earned university status in 1984 after the addition of 10 Master degree programs and the opening of the School of Law and prompted the name change to St. Thomas University.

Revised

Today, the University serves over 4,000 students under the leadership of its President, Monsignor Franklyn M. Casale, who has been at the helm since his appointment in April 1994. St. Thomas offers a wide array of academic programs, including a School of Theology and Ministry. Its rich academic offerings, coupled with its athletic programs, offer students a world-class educational experience in a small campus, where students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds strive to excel.

Monsignor Casale inspires the students and faculty of St. Thomas University through community work which includes serving on the Board of Directors of Carrfour Corporation, which establishes housing for the homeless, and countless other worthy organizations.

St. Thomas University School of Law continues to raise the bar on academic excellence: this year's graduates achieved the highest pass rate of all law schools on the February 2012 Florida Bar Examination with a score of 91%.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. MARTA PÉREZ: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-100 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, honoring St. Thomas University on its 50th anniversary.