

# Memorandum



**Date:** January 8, 2021

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

**Subject:** Appointment of Chief Bay Officer

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In accordance with Resolution No. R-887-20, sponsored by Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and unanimously adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on August 31, 2020, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Miami-Dade County's first Chief Bay Officer, Ms. Irela Bagué, who will join my team effective Monday, January 11, 2021. As Chief Bay Officer, Ms. Bagué will advise me and the Board on all issues relating to Biscayne Bay, and she will also act as a liaison between County departments, County boards, external agencies, stakeholder groups, and local, state and federal governments.

Chief Bagué comes to the County as the President and CEO of Bagué Group, a full-service consulting firm with more than 20 years of experience in Florida, specializing in strategic communications, water policy, sustainability, climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience. She is the Chair of the County's Biscayne Bay Task Force, Vice-Chair of the Resilience Committee of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and she serves on the City of Coral Gables Sustainability Advisory Board, Resilient Utility Coalition, and Florida Water Advocates. She also hosts Resilient Forward, a podcast promoting solutions to our most challenging environmental issues and frequently writes for the Sun-Sentinel South Florida 100 editorial section.

As a former Governing Board Member of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), Chief Bagué was responsible for kicking off the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, establishing policy for water resources development, flood control and water quality protection, including the dredging of the Miami River. She is a longtime advocate of Everglades and Biscayne Bay restoration, climate change, and she promotes ethnic diversity and inclusion in the environmental movement.

As a proud champion of the environment and water warrior, I am excited about the important work that Chief Bagué will do as part of my administration and am confident that her specific focus on water quality issues, policies and appropriations will help lead to the future health and recovery of Biscayne Bay and a more resilient Miami-Dade County for current and future generations.

Please join me in welcoming Chief Bagué to Miami-Dade County and congratulating her on her new role.

c: Honorable Carlos J. Martinez, Public Defender  
Honorable Bertila Soto, Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit  
Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, State Attorney  
Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts  
Honorable Pedro J. Garcia, Property Appraiser  
Lazaro Solis, Deputy Property Appraiser  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff  
Department Directors  
Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney  
Felix Jimenez, Inspector General  
Jose J. Arrojo, Executive Director, Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs  
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor  
Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board