

SPEAKER BIOS ~ JANUARY 2022

SPECIAL GUESTS WELCOME & COMMENTS



Honorable Daniella Levine-Cava Mayor, Miami-Dade County (invited)



Honorable José "Pepe" Díaz, Chairman, Miami-Dade County BCC (invited)

GUEST PRESENTATIONS



Kevin Guthrie Director Florida Division of Emergency Management



Irela Bagué Chief Bay Officer Miami-Dade County (invited)



James F. Murley Chief Resilience Officer Miami-Dade County

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GUEST PRESENTATIONS



Irela Bagué is Miami-Dade County's first Chief Bay Officer (CBO). The CBO focuses on water quality issues, policies, and appropriations related to the health and recovery of Biscayne Bay. She acts as an advisor to the County Mayor and County Commission and a liaison between County departments, County boards, external agencies, stakeholder groups, and local, state, and federal governments.

Previously, Ms. Bagué chaired Miami-Dade County's Biscayne Bay Task Force, leading the development of a final report listing a series of recommendations to improve Biscayne Bay's health and sets a path forward for long term recovery and restoration.

Bagué is a former Governing Board Member of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), where she held the position of Vice-Chair. During her time at SFWMD, she was responsible for kicking off the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, establishing policy for water resources development, flood control, and water quality protection, including serving as Chair of the Miami River Commission leading the Miami River dredging project. She is a longtime advocate of Everglades and Biscayne Bay restoration, climate change and promotes ethnic diversity and inclusion in the environmental movement. Before rejoining the County government, Ms. Bagué served as President & CEO of Bagué Group, a full-service consulting firm with over 20 years of experience in Florida with expertise in strategic communications, water policy, sustainability, climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.

Ms. Bagué serves as Chair of the Resilience Committee of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and recently served as the acting Executive Director for Resiliency Florida and Chair of the City of Coral Gables Sustainability Advisory Board.

Pamela Sweeney is from Miami and currently serves as the County's Chief Water Scientist, managing the County's Water Resources Section within Miami-Dade County Division of Environmental Resources Management's Water Resources Division. Prior to her new role, Pamela served as the Section Manager for the Restoration and Enhancement Section where she oversaw the County's surface water quality and submerged aquatic vegetation monitoring programs, the monitoring and conservation of coral reef resources, and responses to emergent events- programs that are integral to understanding the health of Biscayne Bay and southeast Florida's coral reef tract. Pamela began her tenure with the County having managed the County's coastal and wetlands resources regulatory programs. Before joining County service in 2015, Pamela served as the manager of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves program for most of her 10-year tenure where she oversaw the management of 70,000 acres of submerged lands, from the headwaters of the Oleta River to Card Sound. In her tenure, Pamela spearheaded the drafting of the aquatic preserves' first-ever management plan which brought stakeholders together to develop a comprehensive plan for the future management of the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves as well as served as vice chair of the Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team. Pamela worked alongside other agencies and community partners to start an adopt-an-island program, an eco-tour program, and provide educational opportunities for children, teachers, law enforcement and the public to promote an understanding and appreciation of both the bay's beauty and challenges to its continued resilience. Pamela remains committed to working in community to achieve a shared vision of a restored and vibrant Biscayne Bay for this and future generations.

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Pamela has also served as an instructor at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science and has been recognized as a "Luminary of Equality" for her work over the years as a community organizer working to advance the rights of people who are LGBT.



Kevin Guthrie has more than 30 years of experience in Public Safety and Emergency Management in the state of Florida, including 14 years of experience dedicated to emergency management. He spent 23 years as a Police Officer and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. He served as the Public Safety and Emergency Management Director for the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners. He then served as the Assistant County Administrator for Public Safety for Pasco County, in this position he was responsible for all Emergency Services, Fire/Rescue and the 911 Communications Center Departments.

In October 2018, Governor Rick Scott appointed Guthrie as Chief of Staff for the Florida Division of Emergency Management. In January 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis appointed him as Deputy Director of FDEM. Guthrie's primary focuses as Deputy Director included coordinating efforts among all State agencies, Counties and Municipalities in dealing with natural and man-made disasters to ensure that all of Florida is prepared and ready to respond. During the state of Florida's COVID-19 response, Guthrie served as the Deputy State Coordinating Officer and the State Emergency Response Team Chief.

Guthrie has won numerous awards for his efforts and success in emergency management, including the Chad Reed First Responder Award from Governor Rick Scott and the Presidential Call to Service Award from President Barack Obama.

Guthrie holds a Master of Arts in Human Services from Liberty University and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Columbia College. Guthrie is also a certified Master Exercise Practitioner by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



James F. Murley is the Chief Resilience Officer for Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County, together with the Cities of Miami and Miami Beach, launched their Resilient 305 Strategy in May 2019. Jim previously served as Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Lawton Chiles and was appointed Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission by Governor Charlie Crist. Additionally, he served as Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, spent over 10 years with Florida Atlantic University overseeing research on urban and environmental issues, and served as Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council. Jim is a founding member of the American Society for Adaptation Professionals and Resiliency Florida, a Board member of The Florida Ocean Alliance and the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association. He serves as Mayor Levine Cava's designee on

the Miami River Commission. He is also a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

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