Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Report

The following report contains research on Carlos Giménez, a Republican candidate in Florida’s 26th district. Research for this research book was conducted by the DCCC’s Research Department between February 2020 and April 2020. By accepting this report, you are accepting responsibility for all information and analysis included. Therefore, it is your responsibility to verify all claims against the original documentation before you make use of it. Make sure you understand the facts behind our conclusions before making any specific charges against anyone.

Carlos Giménez

Republican Candidate in
Florida’s 26th Congressional District

Research Book – 2020
Last Updated April 2020

Prepared by the DCCC Research Department
# Table of Contents

Table of Contents ........................................................................................................... 1  
Key Findings .................................................................................................................. 3  
Thematics ......................................................................................................................... 8  
Corrupt Carlos Giménez ............................................................................................... 9  
Giménez Looked Out For His Donors ......................................................................... 34  
Giménez Is A Strong Trump Supporter ....................................................................... 50  
Giménez Is Bad For Health Care ................................................................................. 57  
Giménez Failed To Lead In Midst Of Disaster ............................................................. 62  
Giménez Is Too Extreme On Immigration .................................................................. 89  
Giménez Is An Enemy Of Public Transportation ....................................................... 93  
Giménez Is Bad For Residents Of Miami-Dade ............................................................ 98  
Giménez Is Bad For Miami-Dade’s Water .................................................................... 107  
Key Visuals ...................................................................................................................... 113  
Personal & Professional History ................................................................................. 121  
Biography ......................................................................................................................... 122  
Personal Finance ........................................................................................................... 133  
Political Career .............................................................................................................. 142  
Family Lobbying ............................................................................................................ 154  
Contracts And Taxpayer Funds To Donors ................................................................. 168  
Ethics ............................................................................................................................... 183  
Relationships .................................................................................................................. 201  
Donald Trump ................................................................................................................ 203  
Issues ............................................................................................................................... 211  
Budget Issues .................................................................................................................. 212  
Crime & Public Safety Issues ....................................................................................... 220  
Disaster Relief Issues – Hurricane Reponse ............................................................... 226  
Disaster Relief Issues – COVID-19 .............................................................................. 230  
Education & Arts Issues ............................................................................................... 265  
Election Law & Campaign Finance Issues .................................................................. 270  
Energy Issues .................................................................................................................. 276  
Environmental Issues ................................................................................................. 277  
Equal Rights & Workplace Fairness ............................................................................. 287
Financial Protections & Wall Street ...................................................... 290
Foreign Policy Issues ........................................................................... 291
Gun Issues .............................................................................................. 296
Health Care Issues .................................................................................. 298
Housing Issues ....................................................................................... 305
Infrastructure & Transportation Issues .................................................. 308
Labor & Working Families ...................................................................... 314
Immigration & Border Issues ................................................................. 319
LGBT Issues ............................................................................................. 325
State & Local Issues ................................................................................ 327
Tax Issues .................................................................................................. 340
Trade & Outsourcing Issues ................................................................. 342
Veterans & Military Family Issues ......................................................... 343
Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures ........................................ 344
Appendix II – Campaign Finance .......................................................... 355
Appendix III – Paid Media Summary ..................................................... 356
Key Findings

Corrupt Carlos Giménez

Giménez’s sons were lobbyists and worked for companies that had county interests, and received taxpayer funded contracts. C.J. and Julio Giménez were registered lobbyist with county business interests. Julio Giménez was an executive and lobbyists of a company that received nearly $5 million in taxpayer subsidies at his father’s request. Giménez was in favor of bringing an unpopular Formula 1 race to Miami while his other son, C.J., was a lobbyist for the race; Giménez threatened to veto any opposition to the race.

Giménez had close ties with the firm that built the collapsed FIU bridge that killed six people. Giménez’s sons worked for the firm that built the collapsed FIU pedestrian bridge that killed six people, and his wife was cousins with the firms’ owners. The firm was known to have strong political connections and contributed at least $7,250 to Giménez’s campaigns.

Giménez was in favor of awarding county contracts to the company responsible for the deadly bridge collapse at FIU which was blamed on poor construction. Giménez continued to legislate in favor of the construction firm responsible for the deadly bridge collapse at FIU that killed six people. Giménez wanted to extend a $130 million airport contract to the firm responsible for the collapse. A state lawmaker introduced a bill to require airport authorizes to hold public hearings for public contracts in response to Giménez’s contract extension.

Giménez profited off taxpayers. Over his time as mayor of Miami-Dade County, Giménez received more than $1 million in salary, in addition to more than $1 million in pension payments from his firefighter pension. Despite claiming he would cut his salary in 2011, as he approached the end of his tenure as mayor, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a $150,000 raise to earn over $300,000 a year; he settled for $250,000 a year. According to the Miami Herald, the raise would “allow Giménez to significantly boost pension payments as he prepares to leave the mayor’s office.” In 2006, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a raise in the county commission. Giménez was able to keep his taxpayer funded Mercedes Benz, even after he slashed $400 million in jobs and spending from the county’s budget. Giménez took ten taxpayer funded trips to at least eight different countries.

Giménez had close ties to a city commissioner accused of public corruption and opposed police investigations into corruption. Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo was accused of inappropriately using city funds. Giménez had endorsed Carollo’s campaigns, his daughters-in-law worked for Carollo’s PAC, Carollo was a consultant for Giménez in 2015, and Gimenez was appointed City Manager by then-Mayor Carollo in 1997. Giménez also opposed police investigations into cases of public corruption.

Giménez Looked Out For His Donors

Giménez’s campaigns received much of its contributions from business interests and he raised alarms about whether he would be vulnerable to pressure from donors. Much of Giménez’s political donations came from developers, construction firms, and real-estate lawyers and has raised alarms about whether he would be vulnerable to lobbyists.

Giménez consistently awarded lucrative county contracts to his donors. Giménez recommended CH2M Hill for an $8.8 million county contract; CH2M Hill contributed to Giménez’s $28,500 Super PACs Common Sense Now! and Miami-Dade Residents First. Giménez recommended CES Consultants for a $825,000 county contract; CES Consultants contributed $5,000 to Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PAC. Giménez voted in favor of increasing a county contract with Pro Sound by $276,483.82; Pro Sound contributed $1,000 to Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC. Giménez voted in favor of awarding Budget Construction Co. a $1,155,000 county contract; Budget Construction Co. contributed $5,000 to Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC.
Giménez awarded Odebrecht millions of dollars’ worth of no-bid government contracts; Odebrecht was found guilty of offering bribes to politicians in return on no-bid contracts. Giménez awarded Odebrecht hundreds of millions of dollars’ worth of no-bid county contracts while Odebrecht was one of his top contributors. Odebrecht was caught securing lucrative government contracts by offering bribes to politicians. Odebrecht’s executive and politicians were found guilty in a cash-for-contracts corruption investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Giménez consistently supported measures that benefitted the Miami Dolphins, one of his top donors. Giménez supported subsidizing renovations for the Dolphins Stadium, wanted the Marlins to continue playing leasing fees to the Dolphins, and was strongly in favor of granting the Dolphins permission to host an unpopular Formula 1 race.

Giménez supported his top donor’s casino project resort in Miami. Giménez supported his top donor’s casino project in Miami after he had cracked down on gaming machines in stores because he said that they could be used for gambling.

Giménez was in favor subsidizing the construction of the SkyRise tower with taxpayer funds; the project was being developed by his donors. Giménez was in favor of building the SkyRise tourist attraction with taxpayer help. The project was being developed by one of his earliest campaign contributors.

Giménez allowed construction sites to continue work during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, despite warnings that many construction workers had fallen ill – and has taken hundreds of thousands from construction interests.

Giménez refused to debate. Giménez declined to appear in several debates against his opponents and refused to appear in debates after he had agreed to take part in them.

Giménez Is A Strong Trump Supporter

Despite having called on Trump to step down as the Republican nominee after the Access Hollywood tape was released in 2016...

...but after his election, Giménez quickly wrapped his arms around President Trump. Giménez attended Trump’s inauguration in 2017. By 2019, Giménez refused to answer reporters’ questions about his positions on Trump’s impeachment. In January 2020, Giménez announced his run for Congress in a tweet containing gratitude for a Trump visit to Doral, and Trump returned the favor with his endorsement that same day.

Giménez faced an ethics probe to determine if Trump improperly lobbied him during a round of golf. Trump expressed his interest in buying the county-owned course while golfing with Giménez. C.J. Giménez said that he also talked to his father about Trump’s proposals. After Giménez recused himself from Trump’s attempted purchase, Trump sent him a letter about the course, and he directed Trump to county administrators. Giménez solicited donations from Trump for his reelection campaign after they discussed the potential golf course takeover.

Giménez encouraged the President to host the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral resort. Giménez said that he spoke with Trump about hosting the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral Resort. Giménez said that he would assist Trump in “any way possible” to host G-7 at Trump’s resort.

Giménez Is Bad For Health Care

Giménez made it harder for Miami-Dade residents to access health care, and opposed certain sections of the Affordable Care Act. Giménez made it harder for Miami-Dade County residents to enroll in Affordable Care Act
exchanges by eliminating the county’s Healthcare Planning Department in October 2013, the same day that enrollment started. Gimenez did not endorse an $830 million voter-approved bond for Jackson Memorial Hospital System; in 2020, the hospital credited the bond for its ability to treat coronavirus patients. In 2009, Gimenez voted in favor of the Affordable Care Act consistent with NACO’s reform principles which included eliminating certain sections of the ACA.

Gimenez’s health insurance policies hurt workers. Gimenez required county employees to double their salary contributions for health insurance, even after a $42 million surplus in the county’s health insurance account. Gimenez was against overhauling county employees’ health insurance and cutting premium costs. Gimenez urged the county commission to hire a collection agency to aggressively pursue patients who could not pay for ambulance rides.

Gimenez Failed To Lead In Midst Of Disaster

Gimenez dangerously downplayed the danger of COVID-19, and praised the leadership of President Trump and Governor DeSantis. Gimenez warned against overreacting to the coronavirus and “unnecessary panic.” Gimenez repeatedly insisted that “we should live our lives normally” and that “the risk is low.” Gimenez dangerously downplayed the danger of COVID-19, and praised the leadership of President Trump and Governor DeSantis. Gimenez warned against overreacting to the coronavirus and “unnecessary panic.” Gimenez repeatedly insisted that “we should live our lives normally” and that “the risk is low.”

Gimenez failed to take crucial actions to enforce social distancing and stem the deadly spread of the coronavirus. Gimenez dragged his feet on implementing a stay-at-home order in Miami-Dade, arguing it would be “confusing” and “panic-inducing,” and repeatedly defended Florida’s dangerous lack of a statewide stay-at-home order. A Kinsa health study found that coronavirus cases were increasing faster in Miami-Dade than in counties that had implemented social distancing measures sooner. Gimenez said that curtailing public events was not necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus, even saying that it was not necessary to cancel the Ultra Music Festival because mostly young people attended. Gimenez supported allowing cruises to dock in Miami; thousands of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship in Miami without medical screening. As throngs of spring breakers descended on Florida, Gimenez kept Miami-Dade’s beaches open and defended Florida’s decision to keep beaches open statewide. When Miami’s Republican mayor asked Trump to stop flights to Miami from international and domestic COVID hotspots, Gimenez told Trump to disregard the plea.

Gimenez did not support paid sick leave for essential employees who were at risk for the virus. Miami-Dade County did not require its contractors, including at MIA and the Metrorail, to give employees paid sick leave – meaning sick workers might come to work and spread the virus. Before the pandemic, Gimenez’s administration argued requiring contractors give paid sick leave would be expensive and would scare off potential bidders.

Gimenez failed to display leadership in times of Hurricane response. Gimenez used a conversation with the President during Hurricane Dorian to speak about the possibilities of hosting the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral resort. Gimenez was criticized for failing to order food, water, and ice deliveries for residents affected by Hurricane Irma. During Hurricane Irma, many Miami-Dade shelters either failed to open or had long lines; Gimenez was responsible for opening shelters. Gimenez said that bottled water wasn’t required to get through a storm and praised the county’s water system. Gimenez told county residents standing in line for water in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma to “go home” and drink the tap water.”

In 2018, Gimenez ordered to reopen Miami’s beaches despite “Red Tide” being present.

Gimenez Failed To Lead In Midst Of Disaster

Gimenez Is Too Extreme On Immigration

Gimenez abandoned Miami-Dade’s position as a sanctuary community to comply with Trump’s immigration requests; he was the only big-metro-mayor to do so. Gimenez supported gutting Miami-Dade county’s positions
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 6

As a “sanctuary” to comply with Trump’s immigration requests, Giménez said that undocumented immigrants who committed minor offenses would be held by the county for ICE to pick up and said that his decision was purely financial.

Giménez claimed that the Homestead immigrant children’s detention center was a “pretty well-run facility” while it was under scrutiny for sexual exploitation of minors and employee drug abuse. Giménez praised the Homestead immigrant children’s detention center after a worker had plead guilty for sexually exploiting a minor and an employee faced felony drug charges.

The GEO Group contributed at least $8,000 to Giménez; The GEO Group was the country’s largest private prison operator for immigrant detainees. The GEO group contributed $8,000 to Giménez and was the country’s largest private prison operator for immigrants. The GEO group was heavily criticized for failing to treat immigrants humanely in its facilities.

**Giménez Is An Enemy Of Public Transportation**

Giménez failed to live up to a campaign promise at the direction of his lobbyist campaign finance chair. Giménez opposed expanding Miami’s Metrorail system into South Dade after making Metrorail expansion a campaign promise. Giménez’s campaign finance chair was a lobbyist who accompanied him to meetings for the deal and played an “insider’s role” in defeating the expansion plan. Giménez’s campaign finance chair was partners with construction companies that lobbied for county contracts and contributed $25,750 to Giménez’s campaigns.

Giménez supported unpopular public transit fare hikes and was in favor of privatizing the Tri-Rail, Metrorail, and light rail transit systems. Giménez repeatedly voted in favor of unpopular public transportation fare hikes. Giménez was in favor of privatizing Miami-Dade’s public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, and light rail transit systems.

**Giménez Is Bad For Residents Of Miami-Dade**

Giménez was bad for education. Giménez supported removing Head Start from the country’s supervision because he said “educating young people” was “not the core mission” of the county. Giménez supported budgets that closed public libraries when libraries were many residents’ only resource to borrow books, participate in literacy programs, and provided internet services.

Giménez was an enemy of affordable housing and the homeless. Giménez said that he was in favor of rising prices on affordable housing and was opposed to expanding the Omni Community Redevelopment Districts which captured $2 billion over 20 years and aided affordable housing construction. Giménez said that feeding the homeless helped “homeless individuals remain homeless,” and was in favor of closing a homeless shelter because he said that it had a “negative effect on development.”

Giménez supported measures that hurt Miami-Dade’s first responders. Giménez threatened to lay off 400 police workers if unions didn’t agree to pay concessions and urged police unions to give up pay raises, benefits, hikes, and bonuses. Giménez was opposed to the firing of a police chief who was accused of clearing dozens of police shooting and oversaw officers who planted guns at crime scenes; Giménez was also opposed to the creation of a county police oversight review board.

Giménez supported the construction of a monorail built by Chinese companies, but Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott opposed the plan due to espionage concerns. Giménez supported the construction of a monorail system developed by a Casino and a Chinese transportation company. Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott opposed Giménez’s proposal due to Chinese espionage concerns.
Giménez tried to prevent people from voting. Giménez refused to open early voting sites at every college campus, even after a district judge ruled that his refusal showed a “stark pattern of discrimination.” Giménez was also against extending early-voting hours, despite voter complaints of long lines at polling locations.

**Giménez Is Bad For Miami-Dade’s Water**

Giménez wanted to use sewage water to cool down a nuclear power plant which lead to “long-lasting terrible algae blooms.” Giménez was in favor of using sewage water to cool down the Turkey Point nuclear power plant; critics warned that the plan would lead to “long-lasting terrible algae blooms.”

Giménez supported a county budget that took away $25 million from sewage funds. Giménez supported a county budget that took away $25 million from sewer funds even after broken pipes spilled 47 gallons of waste into Miami waterways and farmlands.

Giménez was slow to respond to maximum water contamination levels or arsenic in homes. Giménez suggested to residents, whose homes had maximum water contamination levels or arsenic, that they would have to pay over $5,000 to hook up to public water lines. Giménez refused to look for alternate funding sources unless residents supported the installation process first.

Giménez wanted to build an unnecessary $1 billion toll highway that harmed the Everglade’s waterways. Giménez was in favor of the construction of a new toll highway. The $1 billion highway plan would save drivers just 6 minutes and harmed the Everglades.

Giménez wanted to expand the county’s urban development boundary into the Everglades. Giménez was in favor of expanding Miami-Dade’s urban development boundary into the Everglades.

Giménez’s claim that Miami had the “nation’s highest-rated tap water” was rated false by PolitiFact. PolitiFact rated Giménez’s claim that Miami had the “Nation’s highest-rated tap water” false.

Giménez was in favor of disqualifying the use of federal funds to cover sand replacement for county beaches. Giménez was in favor of buying foreign sand to replenish Miami’s beaches. The move would disqualify the possibility of using federal funds to cover off Miami’s sand.
Thematics
Corrupt Carlos Giménez

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez’s sons were lobbyists who got taxpayer funded contracts.

✓ Julio Giménez was an executive of a company that received nearly 45 million in taxpayer subsidies at Carlos Giménez’s request.

✓ C.J. Giménez was a lobbyist for an unpopular Formula 1 race that Carlos Giménez was in favor of and he threatened to veto any opposition.

✓ Giménez had close family ties to the company that built the collapsed FIU bridge that killed six people.

✓ Giménez’s sons worked for MCM and his wife was cousins with the owners. MCM has contributed at least $7,250 to Giménez.

✓ Giménez was in favor of awarding contracts to the company responsible for the deadly bridge collapse at FIU after the disaster was blamed on poor construction.

✓ In response to Giménez extending a county airport contract with MCM, a state lawmaker introduced a bill to require airport authorities to hold public hearings for public contracts.

✓ Giménez profited off taxpayers.

✓ Over his time as mayor of Miami-Dade County, Giménez received more than $1 million in salary, in addition to more than $1 million in pension payments from his firefighter pension.

✓ Despite claiming he would cut his salary in 2011, as he approached the end of his tenure as mayor, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a $150,000 raise to earn over $300,000 a year; he settled for $250,000 a year.

  ✓ Miami Herald: the raise would “allow Giménez to significantly boost pension payments as he prepares to leave the mayor’s office.”

✓ In 2006, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a raise in the county commission.

✓ Giménez was able to keep his taxpayer funded Mercedes Benz, even after he slashed $400 million in jobs and spending from the county’s budget.

✓ Giménez took ten taxpayer funded trips to at least eight different countries.

✓ Giménez frequently accepted tickets to exclusive events.

✓ In 2020, Giménez reportedly accepted two $4,000 Super Bowl tickets from the Miami Dolphins as gifts; he accepted only one ticket after he received scrutiny for the gifts.

✓ Giménez voted in favor of allowing the county commission to solicit gifts on behalf of nonprofit organizations.

✓ Giménez had close ties to a Miami Commissioner accused of public corruption and opposed police investigations into corruption.
Santiago Column: Giménez’s Sons Were Registered Lobbyist For Companies With County Business Interests. “Mayor Carlos Giménez’s lobbyist sons have a right to make a living as they see fit. But they shouldn’t be able to get away with constantly making a buck off representing clients with county business before their father. It’s a blatant conflict of interest -- and nepotism in plain sight. The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Santiago Column: “It’s A Blatant Conflict Of Interest, And Nepotism In Plain Sight.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez’s lobbyist sons have a right to make a living as they see fit. But they shouldn’t be able to get away with constantly making a buck off representing clients with county business before their father. It’s a blatant conflict of interest -- and nepotism in plain sight. The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them. The sons, both registered lobbyists with the county, keep popping up as employees of contractors or representatives of entities seeking to do business with county government.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Santiago Column: Giménez’s Sons Kept “Popping Up As Employees Of Contractors Or Representatives Of Entities Seeking To Do Business With County Government.” “The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them. The sons, both registered lobbyists with the county, keep popping up as employees of contractors or representatives of entities seeking to do business with county government.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

HEADLINE: Santiago Column: “The Ethics Of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez And His Lobbyist Sons Stink.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Miami Times: “The Mayor Has Run Miami-Dade County As If It Were Under A Monarchy.” The mayor has run Miami-Dade County as if it were under a monarchy form of government and the Board of County Commissioners must vote as he (the King) pleases. And now, Giménez has threatened to veto the 7-6 county commission vote from Oct. 29 that prohibited Formula one racing in Miami Gardens. The mayor’s re-engagement in the process is biased and based largely on a newly issued opinion by the Commission on Ethics and Public Trust that has insanely ruled that Giménez faces no conflict of interest in wielding his immense power against the will of the district commissioner, the municipality under her purview and the overwhelming majority of the people themselves. Do you think that a Black mayor could veto the will of the Hispanic majority, have their sons on deals like the mayor has had with the blessing of the Ethics Commission? No, a Black mayor would come under intense scrutiny from that same strategically positioned Commission on Ethics that opens the door for one class of people and shuts the door on another.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami Times: “Has Anyone Else Noticed That Whenever The Mayor’s Son Presents An Item Before The County Commission, It Gets Passed With No Problem, Regardless Of Whom It Affects?” “Is it just me, or has anyone else noticed that whenever the mayor’s son presents an item before the County Commission, it gets passed with no problem, regardless of whom it affects? To illustrate the point, let’s take an inventory of a few projects that the mayor’s sons were a part of and how the County Commission acted on them. There’s the David Beckham stadium and the $5 million subsidy to Homestead steel mill deals. Then there’s Related Urban’s Liberty Square/Lincoln Gardens deal known as Liberty City Rising in which Miami-Dade County Chairwoman Audrey Edmonson suffered a crushing defeat. But this defeat was a particularly bitter pill for the community because it essentially vacated a federal rule that created single-member districts in Miami-Dade County. And now, Giménez is poised to unleash the
sweeping power of his office again, this time against Commissioner Barbara Jordan and the Miami Gardens residents - as he terms out of office.” [Miami Times, 10/6/19]

**Miami-Herald: Santiago Column: Giménez Was An Ethically Challenged, Chameleon That Considered Money First Over People.** “Residents, led by former commissioner Betty Ferguson, have filed suit alleging that the races violate county and city noise ordinances. ‘This fight is not over,’ Jordan said during a rally on the ground floor of County Hall, shortly after a majority of commissioners, divided along racial lines, voted against her legislation to keep F1 from coming to Miami Gardens. And that’s how it’s done, how you force ethically challenged, chameleon Giménez and his cohorts to consider people instead of money first.” [Miami Heard, Santiago Column, 2/21/20]

**Giménez’s Son, C.J., Was A Lobbyist For David Beckham Who Sought To Bring An MLS Franchise And Stadium To Miami; Giménez Refused To Recuse Himself From Potential County Deals**

**Santiago Column: Giménez’s Son Was A Lobbyist For The David Beckham Group Which Sought To Bring An MLS Franchise And Stadium To Miami.** “Son Carlos J. Giménez is a lobbyist for the David Beckham group -- and Mayor Giménez has waltzed all over town from the onset of the campaign to bring Major League Soccer to Miami with Beckham and his investors in the quest to build a stadium -- on public land, of course. Father and son. Beckham stardom. Big money.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

**Giménez Said That His Son’s Employment By The Beckham Group Did Not Prevent Him For Leading The County’s Talks With The Group.** “Giménez has met with Beckham partner Marcelo Claure about a potential Miami headquarters for the $5 billion Latin American hedge fund that Claure runs for his employer, SoftBank. The Beckham group employs one of Giménez’s sons, C.J. Giménez, as a lobbyist in the city of Miami for the Melreese proposal. Giménez said his son’s employment by the Beckham group does not prevent him from leading the county’s talks with the Beckham group for other deals tied to the MLS venture. ‘My son is being paid as a lobbyist to deal with the city of Miami,’ Giménez said. ‘It has nothing to do with Miami-Dade County.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/19]

**Giménez: “My Son Is Being Paid As A Lobbyist To Deal With The City Of Miami [...] It Has Nothing To Do With Miami-Dade County.”** “Giménez has met with Beckham partner Marcelo Claure about a potential Miami headquarters for the $5 billion Latin American hedge fund that Claure runs for his employer, SoftBank. The Beckham group employs one of Giménez’s sons, C.J. Giménez, as a lobbyist in the city of Miami for the Melreese proposal. Giménez said his son’s employment by the Beckham group does not prevent him from leading the county’s talks with the Beckham group for other deals tied to the MLS venture. ‘My son is being paid as a lobbyist to deal with the city of Miami,’ Giménez said. ‘It has nothing to do with Miami-Dade County.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/19]

**Giménez’s Son, C.J., Lobbied To Bring The Headquarters Of SoftBank To Miami While His Father Was Also Courting The Bank To Establish Their Headquarters In The County**

**Giménez’s Son Lobbied To Bring The Headquarters Of SoftBank To Miami.** “While his son works as a city lobbyist for the Miami Freedom Park project, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez played golf with one of the venture’s partners, offered to fly to Japan to meet with another and volunteered to pitch a third on establishing a Miami headquarters. ‘Let’s have a meeting with Mike Finney from the Beacon Council,’ Giménez wrote to David Beckham’s lead local partner, Jorge Mas, in a March 7 text message. ‘When are you available? You’ll really like Mike.’ The county mayor was answering a Mas question about who should ‘spearhead’ a presentation to Marcelo Claure, the Beckham partner and former Sprint CEO who is now heading up a $5 billion Latin American investment fund for Sprint’s owner, Softbank. Giménez and Mas are both trying to get SoftBank’s Latin America fund to open headquarters in Miami, and the texts show new details about the mayor’s role.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

**Giménez Played Golf With Softbank’s Partner And Offered The Bank A Pitch To Establish Their Headquarters In Miami.** “While his son works as a city lobbyist for the Miami Freedom Park project, Miami-
Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez played golf with one of the venture’s partners, offered to fly to Japan to meet with another and volunteered to pitch a third on establishing a Miami headquarters. ‘Let’s have a meeting with Mike Finney from the Beacon Council,’ Giménez wrote to David Beckham’s lead local partner, Jorge Mas, in a March 7 text message. ‘When are you available? You’ll really like Mike.’ The county mayor was answering a Mas question about who should ‘spearhead’ a presentation to Marcelo Claure, the Beckham partner and former Sprint CEO who is now heading up a $5 billion Latin American investment fund for Sprint’s owner, Softbank. Giménez and Mas are both trying to get SoftBank’s Latin America fund to open headquarters in Miami, and the texts show new details about the mayor’s role.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

HEADLINE: “Beckham Partner Has Friend In Miami-Dade’s Mayor And A Lobbyist In The Mayor’s Son.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

C.J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist For A Company That Contracted Most Of The Red-Light Camera Programs In Miami

Giménez’s Son Was A Registered Lobbyist For A Company That Contracted Most Of The Red-Light Camera Programs In Miami. “Miami-Dade County is forging ahead with a plan for a controversial red-light camera program despite concerns that it could swamp the traffic court system. And the technology company that dominates the business can boast a valuable advocate: the mayor’s lobbyist son. Carlos Giménez Jr., the son of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, is listed as a lobbyist for American Traffic Solutions, the company that contracts with most of the red-light camera programs in South Florida, records show.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/11]

Giménez Said That He Would Directly Not Oversee Red-Light Camera Plans To Avoid Conflicts Of Interest. “The county has yet to award, or advertise for, a contract to any company. The younger Giménez, a lawyer-lobbyist for Becker & Poliakoff, registered to lobby earlier this year for ATS with the city of Miami, which contracts with the Arizona-based company for its camera program. The mayor says he will not oversee the plan directly. ‘In an effort to avoid any appearance of impropriety, I will delegate oversight of this issue to the deputy mayor overseeing public safety, regardless of which companies show interest in the program,’ Giménez said in a statement.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/11]


2017: Giménez Was A Board Member Of The County’s Toll Board; C.J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist To The Board At The Time Of His Father’s Appointment

2017: Giménez Was A Board Member Of The County’s Road Toll Board. “Miami-Dade’s mayor will take a seat on the county’s unpopular toll board at a time when elected officials want the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority to use its surging revenue to help pay for new rail projects. The surprise move by the County Commission on Tuesday installs Mayor Carlos Giménez as one of nine MDX board members, along with Commissioner Audrey Edmonson. The County Commission fills five of the seats, and broke with past practice Tuesday by naming one of its own and the mayor instead of civilians. Appointees by the Florida governor fill the other four seats.” [Miami-Herald, 2/7/17]

Giménez’s Son Was A Registered Lobbyist To The Board At The Time Of His Father’s Appointment; He Recused Himself After His Father’s Appointment. “One of Giménez’s sons, Carlos J. Giménez, is registered to lobby MDX board members and administrators on behalf of contractor MCM, according to the most recent registration data on the agency’s website. He filed his registration form in late 2015 at a time when MCM was bidding on MDX projects it did not win, MDX spokesman Mario Diaz said. Board members must recuse themselves from items with ties to family members, and that would include the mayor’s son, Diaz said. On Wednesday, Hernández said the younger Giménez withdrew his lobbying registration from MDX that day, hours after the mayor’s appointment. ‘C.J. Giménez cannot lobby Miami-Dade County or the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority as long as his father is mayor or is on the board of the MDX,’ he said. C.J. Giménez did not respond to a request for comment.” [Miami-Herald, 2/7/17]
Giménez’s Son Was An Executive Of A Company That Received Nearly $5 Million In Taxpayer Subsidies At Giménez’s Request

May 2019: Julio Giménez Was The Owner Of A Steel Company That Sought To Build A Steel Mill In Homestead

Julio Giménez Was A Co-Owner Of Miami-Steel LLC. “Miami-Dade Steel LLC, co-owned by Gustavo Lopez, Shana Cox and Julio Giménez, who is the son of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, wants to purchase the 123-acre site at 28451 S.W. 127th Ave. The land would be sold to the company for $16.81 million. The developer has 18 months to conduct due diligence on the property, but Julio Giménez said they aim to complete the process and close on the land in 12 months.” [South Florida Business Journal, 5/8/19]

The County Commission Approved A Land Deal That Allowed Miami-Steel LLC To Build A Mill In Homestead; Giménez’s Son Had Lobbied The County To Approve The Deal. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday unanimously approved a land deal for partners that include a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, and swatted back a suggestion that officeholders’ relatives should be banned from doing business with the county. The vote reserves 123 acres of county-owned land near Homestead for Julio Giménez and partners. The partnership wants to spend nearly $300 million developing a mini steel mill that uses electric-powered machinery to convert scrap metal into rebar and other raw building materials. Miami-Dade Steel LLC has about 18 months to raise the money and obtain permits before having to pay the $16.8 million needed to purchase the land. The county mayor recused himself from the proposal, allowing top aides to handle negotiations with the steel group, which has pledged to create more than 200 well-paying jobs there.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/19]

HEADLINE: “County’s Mayor’s Son Wins Approval For Land Sale. Commissioners Won’t Ban Family Deals.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/19]

HEADLINE: “County Oks Deal For Steel Mill Co-Owned By Mayor’s Son.” [South Florida Business Journal, 5/28/19]

HEADLINE: “Steel Mill With Mayor’s Son As Owner On Track For $5 Million Miami-Dade Subsidy.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

Sept. 2019: Giménez Recommended That The County Grant His Son’s Steel Mill A $5 Million Subsidy, Even After He Had Recused Himself From Negotiations

Sept. 2019: Giménez Recommended The County To Grant His Son’s Steel Mill A $5 Million Subsidy After He Had Recused Himself From County Negotiations. “The administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez is recommending county commissioners approve a $5 million subsidy package for a $224 million steel mill proposed for the Homestead area by a company partially owned by one of the mayor’s sons. Linked to future hiring, the money for the ‘micro’ mill would be paid out over 10 years if the Esteel facility meets hiring and investment requirements included in the county agreement. The county program is available to all businesses either expanding or moving to Miami-Dade, but applications can be rejected by the administration or County Commission.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

Giménez Op-Ed: Julio Registered As A Lobbyist On A Project That Involved A Proposed Steel Mill And “I Immediately Recused Myself.” “My son Julio is a construction executive who has not been directly involved in any county projects until this year, when he registered as a lobbyist in July on a project that involves a proposed steel mill. I immediately recused myself and assigned a deputy mayor to deal directly with that project and, as required by the County Charter, had the commission chair decide on whether the project ever goes before commissioners.” [Miami-Herald, Giménez Op-Ed, 12/19/18]
**2017: Giménez Formally Recused Himself From The Miami-Steel LLC County Negotiations.** “Giménez formally recused himself in 2017 when son Julio Giménez began pursuing a county-owned site for the factory, which would use electric-powered machinery to convert scrap metal into rebar and other raw building materials. The recommendation for the $4.9 million incentive package released Thursday night came from Jack Osterholt, one of four deputy mayors under Giménez.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

**Oct. 2019: Giménez’s Son Steel Mill Was Awarded $4.9 Million In County Subsidies, The Largest Award Of Its Kind In The County’s History**

“Miami-Dade commissioners on Thursday briskly approved a $4.9 million subsidy package for a $224 million electric steel mill proposed by a partnership that includes a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, the largest award of its kind that the county has on record. The proposal to rebate a portion of Esteel’s construction and equipment costs passed without discussion, including the two No votes from Esteban “Steve” Bovo and Daniella Levine Cava. Mayor Giménez, who formally recused himself from decisions on son Julio Giménez’s steel venture in 2017, was not present for the vote.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

Giménez’s Deputy Mayor, Jack Osterholt, Recommended That The County Commission Approved The $4.6 Million Award To Giménez's Son's Steel Mill. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Thursday briskly approved a $4.9 million subsidy package for a $224 million electric steel mill proposed by a partnership that includes a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, the largest award of its kind that the county has on record. […] The recommendation to approve the award came from Jack Osterholt, a deputy mayor under Giménez. There was no presentation before the vote. Julio Giménez, a construction executive, paired with Leroy Jones, a longtime county vendor, to lobby for the steel project, which is sponsored by Commissioner Dennis Moss, who represents the Homestead area. Another partner is Gustavo Lopez, who described himself as a steel-mill investor. He has not responded to interview requests.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

HEADLINE: “Steel Mill Owned In Part By Mayor’s Son Wins $4.9 Million Subsidy, No Questions Asked.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Bringing An Unpopular Formula 1 Race To Miami While His Son C.J. Was A Lobbyist For The Race; Giménez Threatened To Veto Any Opposition To The Race**

**Giménez Repeatedly Vetoed Ordinances That Opposed The Unpopular Formula 1 Race**

**Giménez Said That He Would Veto Ordinances To Prohibit The Formula 1 Race.** “Miami-Dade County will not be dropping the green flag on Formula One racing anytime soon after commissioners passed a resolution and an ordinance Tuesday that may become roadblocks in the way of the event. The actions came in response to protests by Miami Gardens residents who are strongly opposed to bringing an annual Formula One race to Hard Rock Stadium and a public road outside it. Commissioners passed a resolution that was amended extensively after hours of public hearing and debate from residents, Hard Rock employees, business owners and F-1 fans. The resolution would give commissioners the power to prohibit road closures related to racing events near or in residential areas. […] But Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said there’s a “good possibility” that he would veto those two measures. The ordinance still needs to come back to the commission for a second vote. Giménez said he has to take action on the resolution within 10 days after that. […] Right now, Giménez said he has leverage with his veto power. There are enough commissioners against the items that opponents couldn’t gather the two-thirds vote needed to override his veto, he said. ‘Nobody is going to be 100 percent happy, but we need to come to a middle ground,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

**Nov. 2019: Giménez Vetoed An Effort To Prevent The Race From Taking Place That Residents Called An Unwelcome Addition To Their Neighborhoods.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez issued a rare veto Friday to rescue a planned Formula One auto race around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, a proposed event
residents have called an unwelcome addition to their neighborhoods. Giménez said he wanted to give race opponents more time to reach a compromise with the Miami Dolphins and their owner Stephen Ross, who has been trying to bring the race to the Miami area under a 10-year deal. The first race would be run at Hard Rock in 2021 and held annually after that. The mayor had recused himself from decisions related to the race because one of his sons, C.J. Giménez, was a paid lobbyist for the event. Giménez jumped into the fray when Formula One faced unexpected opposition last month from the county commissioner representing Miami Gardens, Barbara Jordan. Giménez’s office said the mayor’s son stopped representing the Ross-backed entity pursuing the race in March.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/19]

Giménez: “I Believe It Is Premature To Attempt To Block An Event Of The Magnitude Of Formula One Outright, […] I Respectfully Urge The Board To Uphold My Veto.” “While I remain sensitive to residents’ concerns in Miami Gardens, I believe it is premature to attempt to block an event of the magnitude of Formula One outright,’ Giménez said. ‘I respectfully urge the board to uphold my veto and allow my office more time to continue this dialogue with all parties.’” [South Florida Business Journal, 11/8/19]

Feb. 2020: Giménez Vetoed Another Anti-F1 Ordinance Which Would Have Required City Approval Of A Race. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez backed the plan by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to bring an F1 Grand Prix to Hard Rock each May, and in November vetoed a prior Jordan resolution designed to stymie the race plans. He was ready to veto Jordan’s second piece of anti-F1 legislation on Wednesday, which would have required city or county approval of a race already allowed by Miami-Dade zoning rules for the stadium. Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “Mr. Mayor, Throughout This All Of This Process, You Have Been My Biggest Disappointment.” “Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “You Convinced Me You Were The Best Thing Since Sliced Bread […] Mr. Mayor, You’re A Chameleon.” “Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “You Need To Come With A Warning Label: Buyer Beware.” “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez backed the plan by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to bring an F1 Grand Prix to Hard Rock each May, and in November vetoed a prior Jordan resolution designed to stymie the race plans. He was ready to veto Jordan’s second piece of anti-F1 legislation on Wednesday, which would have required city
or county approval of a race already allowed by Miami-Dade zoning rules for the stadium. Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]


HEADLINE: “Miami Gardens To Giménez’s Veto: ‘This Isn’t Over.’” [Miami Times, 11/13/19]

COLUMN HEADLINE: “His Son Was A Formula One Lobbyist. Mayor Is Now Pushing Unpopular Racing. It’s Wrong.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]


Residents Opposed The Race Over Harmful Pollution; Giménez Rejected Claims Of Health-Related Concerns

Miami Gardens Residents Opposed The Race Over Pollution And Called It Nuisance. “Residents opposing the event call it a nuisance, bringing excessive noise and air pollution to a city that’s already regularly exposed to the disruption that comes with an NFL stadium that’s increasingly adding events to its calendar, such as April’s two-week Miami Open tennis tournament. The Dolphins, joined by the administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez, reject claims of health concerns related to F1 cars’ exhaust and engine noise and call the race a welcome boon to the local economy.” [Miami-Herald, 1/21/20]

Miami Gardens Residents Filed A Lawsuit Alleging That The Races Violated County And City Noise Ordinance. Residents, led by former commissioner Betty Ferguson, have filed suit alleging that the races violate county and city noise ordinances. ‘This fight is not over,’ Jordan said during a rally on the ground floor of County Hall, shortly after a majority of commissioners, divided along racial lines, voted against her legislation to keep F1 from coming to Miami Gardens. And that’s how it’s done, how you force ethically challenged, chameleon Giménez and his cohorts to consider people instead of money first.” [Miami-Herald, Santiago Column, 2/21/20]

Miami Heard: Giménez Rejected Claims Of Formula 1 Pollution Health Related Concerns. “Residents opposing the event call it a nuisance, bringing excessive noise and air pollution to a city that’s already regularly exposed to the disruption that comes with an NFL stadium that’s increasingly adding events to its calendar, such as April’s two-week Miami Open tennis tournament. The Dolphins, joined by the administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez, reject claims of health concerns related to F1 cars’ exhaust and engine noise and call the race a welcome boon to the local economy.” [Miami-Herald, 1/21/20]


Giménez Claimed To Have Recused Himself From Formula 1 Race Negotiations Due To His Son Being A Lobbyist On Behalf Of Formula 1, But He Continued To Discuss The Race With The Miami Dolphins

2019: C.J Giménez Lobbied On Behalf Of Formula 1 To Bring A Race To Miami While Giménez Supported It As Mayor. “Until March of this year, Giménez’s lobbyist son, C.J, was getting a paycheck from Formula One,
Ross pressed for and suddenly weighed in heavily on motor racing events in Miami. The group’s controversial proposal to turn downtown Miami into a raceway included the use of county-run PortMiami facilities. Giménez appropriately recused himself, acknowledging that his son’s involvement posed a conflict of interest for him. County commissioners review, approve, and deny port deals, and as the top county administrator, the mayor gets to shepherd projects, and approve or veto commissioners’ decisions. That’s a lot of power. In a memo to county commissioners on May 14, 2018, Giménez wrote that he was removing himself from Formula One matters and turning over decisions for his deputy mayor to handle “out of an abundance of caution.” That choice of words was a flashing yellow light, a warning sign that Giménez wasn’t all in on staying out of the issue.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]

Santiago: “Giménez Desperately Needs One Of Those Bright Yellow ‘Ethics For Dummies Manuals.’”

“Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez desperately needs one of those bright yellow ‘Ethics for Dummies’ manuals. Because the ever-pleasing Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, which doesn’t even seem to find a conflict of interest where there is patently one with Giménez and his lobbyist sons, isn’t cutting it.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]

Giménez Formally Recused Himself In May 2018 And Unrecused Himself In Oct. 2019 Because His Son Was No Longer A Lobbyist For Formula 1. “Internal emails released as part of a public-records request showed the Dolphins lobbyists hoped to win the F1 subsidy agreement in July from the county commission. But that effort stalled, quickly followed by a commission push to block the yearly race from coming to Miami Gardens altogether. On Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his veto of a commission resolution opposed by the Dolphins that would ban the road closures needed to run the race at Hard Rock. The emails extend the timeline of Giménez’s office helping advance F1 at a time when Giménez had publicly recused himself from the matter due to a son, C.J. Giménez, being hired as a race lobbyist when the event was trying to use city and county land to hold the event in downtown Miami. Ross, a billionaire real estate developer based in New York, has the rights to extend the F1 circuit to Miami if he can win governmental approval for the event. The county mayor issued a formal recusal memo on May 14, 2018, citing his son’s lobbying work. Late last month, Giménez issued a new memo lifting that recusal, saying his son no longer worked for Formula One. The subject of the memo was Giménez’s opposition to the commission effort to block Formula One from coming to Miami Gardens, an event opposed by a group of neighbors complaining of noise, traffic and air pollution. Giménez’s office said the younger Giménez stopped his lobbying work in March 2019. A source close to the Dolphins said Friday that the younger Giménez, who helped with the 2017 campaign of Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo, was hired to win Miami approvals and was dropped after the race shifted to Miami Gardens.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/19]

Giménez Claimed To Have Recused Himself From Formula 1 Race Negotiations Due To His Son Being A Lobbyist On Behalf Of Formula 1, But He Continued To Discuss The Race With The Miami Dolphins.

“If the Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez whose outright corruption has rendered him morally and ethically bankrupt. On May 14, 2018, the mayor recused himself from participating in any decision-making tied to Formula One petitions because his son CJ was lobbying on behalf of Formula One racing at the time. But public records show that on Oct. 21, the mayor had a meeting with a ‘Steve Ross’ whom this writer believes to be Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, two days prior to the Miami Gardens Council meeting where the members unanimously rejected Formula One in their city. One week later, on Oct. 28, Giménez sent a memo that rescinded his recusal and suddenly weighed-in heavily on motor racing events in Miami-Dade County. Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ yanked the chain of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez and influenced his involvement in the event’s relocation bid to Miami Gardens.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Giménez Disused With The Miami Dolphins The State Of The Formula 1 Race Beyond The Timeline Of Giménez’s Recusal. “Internal emails released as part of a public-records request showed the Dolphins lobbyists hoped to win the F1 subsidy agreement in July from the county commission. But that effort stalled, quickly followed by a commission push to block the yearly race from coming to Miami Gardens altogether. On Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his veto of a commission resolution opposed by the Dolphins that would ban the road closures needed to run the race at Hard Rock. The emails extend the timeline of Giménez’s office helping advance F1 at a time when Giménez had publicly recused himself from the matter due to a son,
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Miami Times: Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ Yanked The Chain Of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez And Influenced His Involvement In The Event’s Relocation To Miami Gardens.” “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez whose outright corruption has rendered him morally and ethically bankrupt. On May 14, 2018, the mayor recused himself from participating in any decision-making tied to Formula One petitions because his son CJ was lobbying on behalf of Formula One racing at the time. But public records show that on Oct. 21, the mayor had a meeting with a ‘Steve Ross’ whom this writer believes to be Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, two days prior to the Miami Gardens Council meeting where the members unanimously rejected Formula One in their city. One week later, on Oct. 28, Giménez sent a memo that rescinded his recusal and suddenly weighed-in heavily on motor racing events in Miami-Dade County. Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ yanked the chain of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez and influenced his involvement in the event’s relocation bid to Miami Gardens.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Was A Top Dolphins Ally In The F1 Fight.” “Giménez is a top Dolphins ally in the F1 fight who has already vetoed one of Jordan’s ordinances designed to stop the race. On Monday, his office said he accepted one $4,000 ticket from Ross for Super Bowl 54. A county commissioner this week confirmed he accepted free tickets, too. The county’s top ethics lawyer last week cleared Giménez to accept tickets from Ross.” [Miami-Herald, 2/5/20]

Miami Times: “Giménez Is Acting Like A Dictator”

Giménez: “Nobody Is Going To Be 100 Percent Happy.” “Barbara Jordan brought two measures before the Miami-Dade County Commission Tuesday aimed at making it harder for Formula One races to be held in and around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Right now, Giménez said he has leverage with his veto power. There are enough commissioners against the items that opponents couldn’t gather the two-thirds vote needed to override his veto, he said. ‘Nobody is going to be 100 percent happy, but we need to come to a middle ground,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

HEADLINE: “Carlos Giménez Is Acting Like A Dictator.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami Times: “Giménez Veto Sent ‘A Clear Message To The Black Community: We Don’t Care What Your County Commissioner Says, Or Your City Council, Or Your Grassroots Coalition.’” “This is bad. This is really, really bad. I mean this is worse than I could have imagined for Blacks of every walk of life in Miami. On Tuesday, Nov. 19, the Board of County Commissioners embarrassed the rank and class of Miami Gardens by sustaining Mayor Carlos Giménez’s veto of their votes to protect Miami Gardens from racing. By doing so, Giménez sent a clear message to the black community: We don’t care what your county commissioner says, or your city council, or your grassroots coalitions. We are in charge. This was one of the worse votes taken in the history of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. A vote so bad that it’s almost certain to ignite a cultural divide that Miami hasn’t seen in decades. A vote that spat in the face of the pride of Black Miami by essentially ignoring every ounce of its local government and grassroots activism collectively. An unprecedented consensus against a race in their backyard, disregarded in a theft of democracy - by a show of force that exposed a corrupt government. This is Miami-Dade County. Carlos (Fidel Castro) Giménez continues to insist that he speaks for Miami Gardens residents, in full knowledge of the fact that there isn’t an iota of support for this race in Miami Gardens. Is everybody wrong, Carlos? In his veto message, he even bewailed the commission auditor’s rebuke of the race in the city, while asking for more time to ‘negotiate.’ But as Commissioner Barbara Jordan warned the Dolphins, the county and all other enemies of the community, its time to, "Get Ready!" [Miami Times, 11/20/19]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Runs Over Jordan With Veto.” [Miami Times, 11/20/19]
Giménez’s Had Close Ties With The Firm That Built The Collapsed FIU Bridge Which Killed Six People

Giménez’s Sons Worked For The Firm That Built The Collapsed FIU Pedestrian Bridge Which Killed Six People

Giménez’s Sons Were Lobbyists And Executives For MCM, The Firm Who Built The FIU Bridge That Collapsed. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said he spoke by phone with Munilla in the hours after the collapse while the mayor was in Hong Kong during a trade mission. One of Giménez’s sons, lobbyist C. J. Giménez, has registered to lobby for MCM in the past, and his other son, Julio, used to work for the company as a construction executive.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

HEADLINE: “FIU Marks One Year Since Bridge Collapse That Killed Six People.” [WLRN, 3/15/19]

Giménez Had Family Ties To The Owners Of The Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse

Giménez’s Wife’s Cousins Were The Owners Of The Construction Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU. “In past years, the company has hired both of Giménez’s sons -- Julio as a construction executive and C.J. as a registered lobbyist. The Munillas and the Giménezes have family ties -- the mayor’s wife, Lourdes, is a cousin to the Munilla brothers, and C.J. Giménez has offered the firm pro bono communications advice after the bridge collapse, according to someone who has spoken to him.” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Giménez’s Son Offered Free Communications Advice To The Faulted Construction Firm After The Pedestrian Bridge Collapse At Florida International University. “In past years, the company has hired both of Giménez’s sons -- Julio as a construction executive and C.J. as a registered lobbyist. The Munillas and the Giménezes have family ties -- the mayor’s wife, Lourdes, is a cousin to the Munilla brothers, and C.J. Giménez has offered the firm pro bono communications advice after the bridge collapse, according to someone who has spoken to him.” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Giménez: “The Munilla Brothers Have Known My Son Since He Was Born. They Call Him And Ask Him For Advice.”  "The Munilla brothers have known my son since he was born. They call him and ask him for advice,” Giménez said from China, where he is leading a county trade mission. "My son is a 40-year-old attorney. I don’t really know what he is doing for MCM,” Giménez said. “They are calling him, and asking him for advice. He’s given them free advice.”” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Julio Giménez Was A Former Construction Executive At The Faulted Construction Company. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said he spoke by phone with Munilla in the hours after the collapse while the mayor was in Hong Kong during a trade mission. One of Giménez’s sons, lobbyist C. J. Giménez, has registered to lobby for MCM in the past, and his other son, Julio, used to work for the company as a construction executive.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

Aug. 2019: Giménez And His Family Vacationed In Chicago With MCM’s Owner, According To An Instagram Post. “Giménez, and his wife, Lourdes, were in Chicago Sunday with MCM partner Pedro Munilla and his wife, Madeline, according to an Instagram post from a mutual friend who said she showed the couples around the Windy City. Lourdes Giménez is a Munilla cousin, and both Giménez sons have worked for the company in past years.” [Miami-Herald, 8/1/19]

Giménez: “I Try To Keep My Distance, [And Separate] My Activities And Those Of My Relatives […] I’m Very Aware Of Where The Lines Are Drawn.”

MCM And The Munilla Family Have Contributed At Least $7,250 To Giménez

- 2003-2012: The Munilla Family Has Contributed At Least $7,250 To Giménez Campaigns For County Level Office

Miami-Herald: Giménez And MCM Had Strong Political Connections

- Miami-Herald: Giménez And MCM Had Strong Political Connections. “General contractor MCM -- Munilla Construction Management -- filed for bankruptcy after the accident, although the firm, which has strong political connections to Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, has continued to win county work. ‘The MCM Family is heartbroken for those who were affected by the failure of the FIU pedestrian bridge. Throughout this very difficult time, our MCM family has prayed for the families who lost loved ones and everyone involved,’ the firm said in a statement. ‘We are a family-owned and operated company with a 35-year history. This is the first time in our over three decades of operation that we have ever experienced anything like this tragic accident. We will continue to work closely with all parties to resolve ongoing legal and financial issues in an expeditious manner.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/22/19]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Awarding Contracts To The Company Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU After The Disaster Was Blamed On Poor Construction

Giménez Continued To Legislate In Favor Of The Construction Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU That Killed Six People

The Deadly FIU Bridge Collapse Was Blamed On Flawed Design. “During a hearing Tuesday on last year’s deadly Florida International University pedestrian footbridge collapse, the National Transportation Safety Board concluded that the bridge’s ‘catastrophic failure’ stemmed from a flawed design with ‘significant errors.’ All of the major parties involved in the project -- from the university to the Florida Department of Transportation and the project’s engineers and contractors -- came in for harsh criticism during the public hearing, something they have largely avoided as the NTSB conducted a closed-doors investigation over the past 19 months while victims and their families demanded answers.” [Miami-Herald, 10/22/19]


HEADLINE: “Did Construction Technique Lead To FIU Pedestrian Bridge Collapse?” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]
HEADLINE: “Meet MCM And FIGG, The Two Firm’s Behind FIU’s Collapsed Pedestrian Bridge.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Extending A $130 Million Airport Contract To The Construction Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU

Giménez Was In Favor Of Extending A $130 Million Airport Contract To The Construction Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU. “Mayor Carlos Giménez is asking county commissioners to ratify an extension through August 2020 for Munilla Construction Management for its 2011 contract to run various projects at the government-owned airport. The contract covers about $130 million worth of work, of which roughly $86 million has been completed. An Giménez memo said the administration granted the extension administratively in March, and that the extra time is needed to seek competitive bids to replace MCM. It’s not known how long it would take Miami-Dade to seek another contractor, or if anything would prevent MCM from pursuing the business again. Commissioners would begin that process in September after approving bid documents, followed by a second vote to approve a replacement contractor, MIA spokesman Greg Chin said. The Giménez memo said the extension won’t add costs to the original MCM contract, which is still dipping into the $40 million covered under a 2017 expansion of the work that was approved by the commission.” [Miami-Herald, 7/23/19]


In Response To Giménez Extending A County Airport Contract With MCM, A State Lawmaker Introduced A Bill To Require Airport Authorities To Hold Public Hearings For Public Contracts

In Response To Giménez Extending A $40 Million County Contract With MCM, A State Lawmaker Introduced A Bill To Require Airport Authorities To Hold Public Hearings For Public Contracts. “Miffed that the Miami-Dade County Commission renewed an airport contract with a company that built the pedestrian bridge that collapsed at Florida International University in 2018, a Miami lawmaker is advancing a bill requiring local airport authorities to abide by new ethics rules or lose state transportation money. […] The bill, HB 915, would require airports to hold a public hearing for every contract valued at more than $65,000 and be forbidden from approving those contracts as part of a consent agenda -- with no discussion. […] In February 2019, a year after the fatal FIU bridge collapse, Mayor Carlos Giménez’s administration extended MCM’s $40 million contract to complete a series of small airport construction projects. In July, he asked county commissioners to ratify keeping the company at the airport through August 2020. Giménez’s wife, Lourdes, is a cousin to the Munilla brothers who run the company, and both of the Giménez sons have worked for MCM in the past.” [Miami-Herald, 1/15/20]


Giménez Profited Off Taxpayers

2012-2018: Giménez Earned At Least $1 Million In Salary As The Mayor of Miami-Dade County

Over his eight years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez had earned at least $1,060,739 in taxpayer-funded salary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mayoral Salary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$153,106</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$149,998</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTE: The DCCC obtained Giménez’s Florida Ethics Commission required financial disclosures dating back to 2013, covering the years 2012 to 2018. His exact salary payment in 2011 is unknown.

Despite Claiming He Would Cut His Salary, Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A $150,000 Raise To Earn Over $300,000 A Year; He Settled For $250,000 A Year

Jul. 2011: Giménez Said That He Would Cut His Mayoral Salary By 50%, And Eliminate His Monthly Car Allowance

Jul. 2011: Giménez Said That He Would Cut His Mayoral Salary By 50% And Eliminate His Monthly Car Allowance. “After he released his proposed budget July 13, the Herald reported: ‘The mayor’s plan calls for cutting his own office budget by 20 percent. Giménez took office on July 1 announcing he had, on his own initiative, cut his $310,000 salary and benefits package in half and eliminating a controversial $600-a-month car allowance.’” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

Giménez Would Receive $160,000 A Year, Instead Of His $310,000 Salary. “To recap, personnel forms clearly show that Giménez will receive $160,000 a year -- about $150,000 for salary and $10,000 for executive benefits -- numbers that jibe with a Giménez’s pay stub. Yes, the commission most ultimately approve the mayor’s new salary, but we see no reason why they would be compelled to pay Giménez more than he wants. So, we rate this Promise Kept.” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Slashes His Paycheck.” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

2017: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise To Earn $324,000 A Year

2017: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise To Earn $324,000 A Year. “The mayor of New York, America’s largest and most expensive city to run, earns about $225,000 a year to serve as the municipal government’s top administrative officer. A proposal to give Miami-Dade’s mayor a raise would have Carlos Giménez earning up to $324,000 a year, nearly 50 percent more than Bill de Blasio makes running NYC. In fact, a proposal narrowly approved by a county committee this week and endorsed through a spokesman for Giménez could make Miami-Dade’s chief executive one of the highest paid big-city mayors in the country. Research by Giménez’s office and a 2017 survey by the American City Business Journals found that San Francisco’s mayor, the late Edwin Lee, earned the most of the nation’s large-city mayors. The Miami-Dade survey said Lee earned $365,200 in salary and fringe benefits.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/17]

Giménez Made $150,000 A Year. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday balked at Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposal to double his pay to just over $300,000, saying they needed more time to weigh the sensitive task of undoing the mayor’s own decision to slash his compensation when he first won office six years ago in the midst of a budget crisis. ‘One lesson is: No good deed goes unpunished,’ Giménez said as commissioners prepared a vote to defer the decision on a new compensation formula that would have paid the two-term mayor far more than the $150,000 he currently makes as the county’s top executive officer.” [Miami-Herald, 12/19/17]

The New Compensation Formula Would Have Doubled Giménez Pay To Just Over 300,000. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday balked at Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposal to double his pay to just over $300,000, saying they needed more time to weigh the sensitive task of undoing the mayor’s own decision to
slash his compensation when he first won office six years ago in the midst of a budget crisis. ’One lesson is: No good deed goes unpunished,’ Giménez said as commissioners prepared a vote to defer the decision on a new compensation formula that would have paid the two-term mayor far more than the $150,000 he currently makes as the county’s top executive officer.” [Miami-Herald, 12/19/17]


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**Giménez Settled For $250,000**

**Giménez Arranged For A Pay Increase Set To Increase About 67% To $250,000.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez arranged for a pay increase that took effect Monday, with his longtime salary of $150,000 set to increase about 67 percent to $250,000. County commissioners authorized the new $250,000 salary when they approved the mayor’s proposed budget last month. Giménez’s budget chief, Jennifer Moon, told commissioners before the Sept. 20 vote that ‘the mayor may opt to receive a salary up to that amount.’ On Monday night, Giménez issued a statement saying he would take the full $250,000.” [Miami-Herald, 10/2/18]

**Giménez’s Proposed Raise Allowed Him To Significantly Boost His Pension Payments As He Prepared To Leave The Mayor’s Office Due To Term Limits**

**Giménez’s Proposed Raise Allowed Him To Significantly Boost His Pension Payments As He Prepared To Leave The Mayor’s Office Due To Term Limits.** “The raise would kick in immediately, and allow Giménez to significantly boost pension payments as he prepares to leave the mayor’s office under the county’s term-limit rules in 2020. Miami-Dade pension payments are based on the highest years of compensation, and retired employees receive a portion of that average pay each year. The years are based on budget cycles, so Giménez would receive a raise within the 12 months that began Oct. 1.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/17]

**Giménez: “I Kind Of Pushed For This Because I Think A Process Is Necessary”**

**Giménez: “I Kind Of Pushed For This Because I Think A Process Is Necessary.”** “On Dec. 4, Giménez began a delicate push for the commission to endorse giving him a raise. He first released a memo asking commissioners to establish a process for deciding how much he should make. At a commission meeting the next day, Giménez told commissioners he wanted a decision by Jan. 1. ’I kind of pushed for this because I think a process is necessary,’ Giménez told commissioners Dec. 5. ‘I have voluntarily, I guess, not accepted a million dollars over the last six years. I did it because I thought it was the right thing to do. Because it was an example I had to set. But times are different.’” [Miami-Herald 12/13/17]

**2006: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise In The County Commission**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise In The County Commission.** “Create a county commission with, say, six at-large seats and seven from districts. That would lessen the parochialism that now pervades the commission and still allow for minorities to be elected. Pay commissioners a reasonable full-time salary and require that it be their full-time job. Commissioner Carlos Giménez proposes $114,000 annually (half the mayor’s salary) plus reasonable benefits. Break out a couple of the county’s largest departments (Port of Miami, Housing Agency) from the manager’s portfolio and provide oversight with citizen boards similar to the Public Health Trust that runs Jackson Memorial Hospital.” [Miami-Herald, Putney Column, 12/6/06]

**While Serving As Mayor, Giménez Received More Than $1 Million In Taxpayer Funded Pension From Miami Fire Fighters And Police Officers' Trust**

According to Florida Commission of Ethics filings, over his six years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez collected $929,634 from Miami Firefighter and Police Trust.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Pension Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>~$126,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$1,056,434.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


NOTE: The DCCC obtained Giménez’s Florida Ethics Commission required financial disclosures dating back to 2013, covering the years 2012 to 2018. His approximate 2011 pension payment was reported by the Miami Herald. The above table overviews pension payment amounts while Giménez served as Mayor; as noted by the Miami Herald, Giménez has collected pension payments since 2000.

NOTE: Waiting for FOIA responses on pension benefits that he will be eligible to claim once he leaves the mayor’s office.

2011: Giménez’s City Of Miami Firefighter Pension Alone Pays Him More Than $126,800 A Year

Giménez’s Firefighter Pension Alone Pays Him $126,800 A Year. “Giménez, 57, is already receiving about $126,800 a year from Miami’s firefighter pension fund, according to records. During 25 years in the city of Miami, Giménez worked as a firefighter, trained as a paramedic and rose to fire chief. He started collecting on his pension in 2000 when he retired from the fire department and was appointed Miami’s city manager. He does not receive a pension for his work as manager, according to his campaign. When Giménez turns 62, he can receive a nominal sum — about $90 a month — from the county for his six years as a $6,000-a-year commissioner.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

2011: Giménez Was Criticized By His Mayoral Opponent For Accepting Two Government Pensions At The Same Time, Plus His Commission Salary

Giménez Was Criticized By His Mayoral Opponent For Accepting Two Government Pension At The Same Time, Plus His Commission Salary. “The most interesting moment thus far in an otherwise lackluster campaign was a dust-up at the last debate between Robaina and Giménez over the Marlins stadium deal. Robaina insists he didn’t support it, even though there’s video posted on YouTube, showing him, on March 23, 2009, urging Miami-Dade commissioners to approve it. Giménez did not and offered to show the video to one and all. Robaina lashed back, accusing Giménez of accepting two pensions from the city of Miami plus his commission salary as an unseemly act of greed. Giménez contributed to his pensions and is legally entitled to every penny.” [Miami-Herald, 4/19/11]

In 2000, Giménez Received A Lump Sum Payment Of $400,000 For A Retirement Account, And A $125,000 A Year Pension From The City Of Miami For The Rest Of His Life As Part Of His Contract

Giménez Received A Lump Sum Payment Of $400,000 For A Retirement Account, And $121,000 A Year Pension From The City Of Miami Until Dies. “The compensation package awarded to new City Manager Carlos Giménez Thursday will give him a lump sum payment of about $400,000 for a retirement account, and $121,000 a year from a pension until he dies - about what he would have received if he had retired from his previous job as fire chief four years from now. Commissioners upset with almost $400,000 in severance pay that has been awarded to the past two fired city managers, Donald Warshaw and Ed Marquez, agreed to a compensation package Thursday
that did not include severance. It does, however, include a one-time $70,000 payment from the city’s general revenue fund that will be added to his last year’s salary as fire chief, which was $122,000. It is that $192,000 figure that enables Giménez’s pension to reach $121,000 when he retires. The Miami Fire and Police Trust Fund from which Giménez draws his pension calculates pensions with a formula that includes an employee’s year of highest earnings and years of service.” [Miami-Herald, 5/27/00]

2002: Giménez Was Earning $125,000 A Year From His Firefighter Pension. “I believe that everyone should be treated the same,’ Gonzalez said. ‘I don’t see the reasoning why certain groups can have privileges and rights that other groups can’t have,’ Gonzalez points to City Manager Carlos Giménez, a former fire chief who now earns about $200,000 a year in salary and benefits, plus $125,000 a year from a fire pension. Two other former firefighters, Frank Rollason and Dennis Wheeler, are also collecting city pensions and salaries. They are among six city employees who collect a pension and a salary. Another example Gonzalez uses is Police Chief Raul Martinez, who retired from the police department in 1999 to work as an assistant city manager, then went back to the department as chief. He also collects a police pension and a salary.” [Mimai Herald, 6/9/02]


Giménez Urged The City Of Miami To Use His Miami Fire And Police Trust Fund Pension Formula Which Included An Employee’s Year Of Highest Earnings And Years Of Service. “The Miami Fire and Police Trust Fund from which Giménez draws his pension calculates pensions with a formula that includes an employee’s year of highest earnings and years of service. Giménez worked for the city’s fire department for 25 years, the last nine years as its chief. He is eligible for the $121,000 pension as soon as he fills out the necessary forms. He also earns $100,000 a year as city manager. That salary will increase to $140,000 next year.” [Miami-Herald, 5/27/00]

2000: Giménez told the City Of Miami That He Planned To Retire As Fire Chief In “Four Years,” And Convinced Them To Allow Him Keep Collecting His Lump Fire Department Pension As City Manager. “Giménez worked for the city’s fire department for 25 years, the last nine years as its chief. He is eligible for the $121,000 pension as soon as he fills out the necessary forms. He also earns $100,000 a year as city manager. That salary will increase to $140,000 next year. Had Giménez retired as fire chief now, and not taken the city manager job, he would have received a lump sum payment of $274,000 in a retirement account and been awarded $81,000 a year for the rest of his life. But that was not Giménez’s plan. The new city manager said his intention was to retire in four years. With raises, more time serving the city, and a 5 percent kicker after retirement, he would have had basically the same retirement package as he has now. ‘That’s what I told the commission, It’s what I would have gotten had I stayed as fire chief for four years,’ he said. According to Dania Orta, assistant administrator for the City of Miami Fire and Police Retirement Trust, Giménez’s calculations are correct.” [Miami-Herald, 5/27/00]

Giménez Was Able To Keep His Taxpayer Funded Mercedes Benz, Even After He Slashed $400 Million In Jobs And Spending From The County’s Budget

Giménez Was Able To Keep His Taxpayer Funded Mercedes Benz, Even After He Helped Slash $400 Million In Jobs And Spending From The County’s Budget. “When County Hall’s budget ax fell last year, the mayor and commissioners slashed more than $400 million in jobs and spending. Yet one perk was preserved: Their taxpayer-subsidized luxury cars. The public picks up most of the tab for Commissioner Joe Martinez’s 2010 Lexus GX460, Audrey Edmonson’s 2010 Cadillac SRX and Carlos Giménez’s 2009 Mercedes Benz ML 350. […] In November 2008, the county paid $27,839 for Giménez’s three-year lease on a 2009 Mercedes Benz ML350W4.” [Miami-Herald, 5/23/10]


“Giménez’s: “I’m Not A Flashy Guy, What You See Is What You Get.” “If elected, Giménez said, he will run the county in the same matter-of-fact manner that he takes to the campaign. He plans to be more open with the commission and the public, in an effort to ‘restore confidence’ in county government. ‘I think in this community I have a pretty good reputation,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m not a flashy guy. What you see is what you get.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

### Giménez Took Ten Taxpayer Funded Trips To At Least Eight Different Countries

#### Feb. 2019: Giménez Traveled To Israel To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Party With County Funds

Feb. 2019: Giménez Traveled To Israel To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Party With County Funds. “One option under review involves ‘personal’ transit pods that would run along an overhead track using magnetic-levitation -- essentially suspended just below the structure. The experimental system out of Israel wasn’t considered in the preliminary 168-page report Parsons submitted in August for the beach corridor. Consultants added ‘personal rapid transit’ at the request of the county. Mayor Carlos Giménez traveled to Israel and met with executives at Skytran, a company trying to launch the technology.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/19]

#### Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Spain To Meet With European Soccer Executives Paid For With Public Funds

Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Spain To Meet With European Soccer Executives Paid For With Public Funds. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, four senior officials and their spouses are on a trip to Europe this week, and the itinerary includes tours of foreign ports and a meeting with management of the Real Madrid soccer franchise in Spain. Giménez said in an internal memo he would be out of the office for 13 days, relinquishing day-to-day authority in county affairs to Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp through Wednesday, Jan. 16. The nine-day itinerary for the county-funded trip shows the last stop scheduled for Friday, Jan. 11. That’s when Giménez, port director Juan Kuryla and the rest of the small delegation plan to attend a signing ceremony in Geneva for a deal negotiated with the Swiss-based MSC cruise and cargo line, which has ships at the county port in Miami and wants to expand operations there.” [Miami-Herald, 1/8/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade’s Mayor Is On A County Trip To Europe. Soccer Is On The Agenda.” [Miami-Herald, 1/8/19]

### Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Switzerland To Meet With Port And Shipping Executives Paid For With Public Funds

Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled On A 13-Day Trade Mission To Spain And Switzerland Paid For With Public Funds. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, four senior officials and their spouses are on a trip to Europe this week, and the itinerary includes tours of foreign ports and a meeting with management of the Real Madrid soccer franchise in Spain. Giménez said in an internal memo he would be out of the office for 13 days, relinquishing day-to-day authority in county affairs to Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp through Wednesday, Jan. 16. The nine-day itinerary for the county-funded trip shows the last stop scheduled for Friday, Jan. 11. That’s when Giménez, port director Juan Kuryla and the rest of the small delegation plan to attend a signing ceremony in Geneva for a deal negotiated with the Swiss-based MSC cruise and cargo line, which has ships at the county port in Miami and wants to expand operations there.” [Miami-Herald, 1/8/19]
Mar. 2018: Giménez Traveled To China To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Partly With County Funds

“Eight months after he shook up Miami-Dade’s transit debate by proposing a high-tech ‘virtual train’ bus as an alternative to expanding Metrorail, Mayor Carlos Giménez is leading a delegation to visit the Chinese company that hopes to start selling the vehicles. The CRRC Corporation’s train factory in Zhuzhou is the highlight of the first full-day in China for the traveling group of 50-plus elected officials, county administrators, lobbyists, developers and Miami-Dade contractors touring China and Japan on a 14-day trip that begins Tuesday. […] The trip is funded by a mix of county and private dollars, including money from tax-funded organizations. Alex Ferro, Giménez’s chief of staff, said the mayor and commissioners’ travel is funded by a county-controlled charity, the Trade Mission Center of the Americas. Housed in a county office building, the nonprofit’s most recent public tax returns list Edmonson, Diaz and a senior county administrator as its only board members.” [Miami-Herald, 3/12/18]

Jun. 2017: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris Paid Partly With Public Funds

“Miami-Dade expects to spend about $3,500 dispatching an officer to France from Saturday through Wednesday, when Giménez and County Commissioner Jean Monestime will be attending the Paris Air Show. The industry event is held every other summer, and is a popular stop for county officials and business executives. Giménez has been trying to launch a smaller-scale version of the air expo in the Miami area, with a focus on Latin American aviation deals. Paris is one stop on Giménez’s three-week European tour with his wife, Lourdes, whose travel is not covered by the county, Hernández said. The mayor also is paying for lodging during nights not connected to the official itinerary. Miami-Dade is covering his two days in Ireland that started Monday with the signing of a ‘sister city’ agreement with Cork County and a two-day visit to Italy that includes meetings with MSC Cruises, which has ships at the county’s PortMiami. Hernández said Giménez’s official travel will cost about $5,000, paid for by Miami-Dade’s International Trade Consortium, an arm of county government that organizes trips abroad and promotes international commerce.” [Miami-Herald, 6/12/17]

Jun. 2014: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris For The Paris Air Show Paid Partly With Public Funds

“London, Dubai, and India already hold their own major shows, and Mexico started this year. That would leave Miami to either steal market-share from established shows or find a way to justify another stop on the industry calendar. This will be Giménez’s second trip to Paris as part of the air-show push. He and wife, Lourdes, paid their own air fare, but the Miami-Dade trade mission is picking up a $1,500 tab for four nights of lodging for
the mayor while he is in Paris, according to spokesman Michael Hernández.” [Miami-Herald, 6/14/15]

Jun. 2013: Giménez Traveled To France For The Paris Air Show Paid Mostly With Taxpayer Funds

Jun. 2013: Giménez Travel To France For The Paris Air Show Paid For Mostly With Taxpayer Funds. “From Spain, Giménez will head to France as part of a four-day trip organized by the Beacon Council to the Paris Air Show, where the economic development agency will be an exhibitor. The county has been pushing for years for its own commercial aviation expo — preferably at the Homestead Air Reserve Base, though the idea has been repeatedly blocked by federal regulatory hurdles. The county will be on the hook for the cost of the mayor’s flight from Barcelona to Paris (the cost was unavailable Thursday) and for one county staffer’s airfare, hotel and credentials for the show — more than $1,800 not counting the plane ticket. The Beacon Council, which is mostly funded by county dollars, will pay for the mayor’s lodging and air show credentials.” [Miami-Herald, 6/6/13]

Jun. 2013: Giménez Traveled To Spain Looking To Promote Miami-Dade As A Business Destination; His Expenses Were Paid By The County’s Economic Development Unit

Jun. 2013: Giménez Traveled To Spain Looking To Promote Miami-Dade As A Business Destination; His Expenses Were Paid By The County’s Economic Development And International Trade Unit. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez will travel to Spain on Saturday as part of large delegation looking to promote the county as a business destination. More than 25 people will make the week-long trip to Madrid and Barcelona, including Commissioner Javier Souto and a half-dozen county staffers. The travel expenses for Giménez and the county employees, estimated at more than $2,800 each, will be paid for by a nonprofit set up to fund these sorts of trips. Souto’s expenses will be paid for out of his taxpayer-funded office budget. The other delegates from outside county government will pay their own way. […] The Spain trip was organized by the county’s economic development and international trade unit, part of the department of regulatory and economic resources, as a ‘business development mission.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/6/13]

Apr. 2012: Giménez Traveled To Haiti On Taxpayer Funds To Meet With Business Leaders In A Bid To Bolster Trade And Commerce

Apr. 2012: Giménez Traveled To Haiti To Meet With Business Leaders In A Bid To Bolster Trade And Commerce. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez plans to visit Haiti Monday and Tuesday with County Commissioner Jean Monestime in a bid to bolster trade and commerce between the county and the island nation, which is striving to recover from the devastating 2010 earthquake. Giménez and Monestime, who in 2010 became the first Haitian-American elected to the county commission, will meet with business leaders in Port-au-Prince.” [Miami-Herald, 4/22/12]

Giménez Frequently Accepted Tickets To Exclusive Events

2007: Giménez Wanted The Miami Marlins To Provide County Commissioners With Suites And Infield Seats In Exchange For County Financing On A New Stadium

Giménez Wanted A New Marlins Stadium To Provide County Officials With Two Free Suites And 22 Infield Seats At Every Home Game In Exchange For County Financing. “Miami-Dade County commissioners on Thursday deferred voting on a financing plan for a proposed $525 million stadium in Little Havana for the Florida Marlins until their first meeting in January. […] There was late discussion Thursday on the ball club that focused mainly on a Miami-Herald story that noted part of the baseball agreement called for Miami and Miami-Dade officials to receive two free suites and 22 infield seats at every home game. […] Commissioner Carlos Giménez suggested cutting the number of seats but believed it was probably a good idea to keep a suite for special events.” [Miami-Herald, 12/21/07]
Giménez Said That He At Least Wanted The Marlins To Keep Suites Available For County Commissioners To Entertain Guests. “The preliminary plan calls for the Marlins to give city and county officials two suites and 22 infield box seats at every Marlins home game, for free. The same or similar seats would be available at cost to government officials should the team make the playoffs. The plan was similar to one enacted by Major League Baseball’s recently relocated franchise, the Washington Nationals, and its district commissioners. Yet after the report ran, some commissioners went to pains to say they may be reluctant to pocket freebies. Commissioner Natacha Seijas said she would prefer to pay her own way. Commissioner Carlos Giménez said his preference would be for the Marlins to keep a suite available for the city or county to buy, should they need it for a special event. ’We can always purchase it for the day,’ said Giménez, adding that otherwise, the club could use it for entertaining guests or kids from the Boys and Girls Club.” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

HEADLINE: “Free Baseball Tickets A Delicate Matter” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

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2006: Giménez Accepted $1,2000 Worth Of Tickets To The Vizcayan Ball From The Miami Performing Arts Center

Giménez Accepted $1,2000 Worth Of Tickets To The Vizcayan Ball From The Miami Performing Arts Center. ‘Jose ’Pepe’ Diaz, Audrey Edmonson, Carlos Giménez, Sally Heyman and Rebeca Sosa were comped $16,500 worth of tickets to the opening night of the Performing Arts Center. Diaz accepted $1,245 worth of tickets to sporting events; Giménez accepted $1,200 worth of tickets to the Vizcayan Ball; Commissioner Javier Souto accepted $565 worth of airfare and hotel rooms for a trip to Brazil; and Sosa got two massages worth $300 aboard a cruise ship.” [Miami-Herald, 10/26/07]


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2006: Giménez Said That He Refused Any Gift Over $100, Including Sports And Concert Tickets

Giménez Said That He Refused Any Gift Over $100, Including Sports And Concert Tickets. “Commissioners who didn’t file offered various reasons for not doing so. Seijas said she hasn’t received anything valued over 100 bucks. ‘I don’t know what kind of gift baskets you’re getting,’’ she said to her fellow commissioners. ‘All I get are cheapy ones.’” Giménez said he refuses any gift over $100, including sports and concert tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 6/26/06]

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2020: Giménez Reportedly Accepted Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From The Miami Dolphins As Gifts; He Accepted Only One Ticket After He Received Scrutiny For The Gifts

2020: Giménez Accepted Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From The Miami Dolphins As Gifts. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez accepted a gift of two $4,000 Super Bowl tickets from Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, according to an ethics report, a gift made at a time when the congressional candidate is helping the real estate mogul bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. The planned gift was revealed in a memorandum from Jose Arrojo, the executive director of Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. It was obtained by el Nuevo Herald through a public records request. The memo concluded Giménez was free to accept the tickets, since they weren’t offered in exchange for favorable treatment from the mayor. The memo states that ‘Mr. Ross has offered to gift, and Mayor Giménez has accepted, two event tickets valued at $8,000.’ The report does not say whether Ross actually gave the tickets to Giménez. Giménez’s office did not respond to inquiries about the mayor’s plans for the tickets. Late Friday, a senior Giménez advisor sent an email to Arrojo disputing his memo’s wording. Legislative Affairs director Nicole Tallman wrote in the 9:59 p.m. email that ‘the Mayor did not accept the tickets prior to the issuance of the ethics opinion, as indicated in your opinion.’ Arrojo wrote back that the opinion remains the same "the transaction [Giménez] is considering."” [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]
HEADLINE: “Dolphins Owner’s Super Bowl Gift To County Mayor Carlos Giménez; Two $4,000 Tickets.”  [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

HEADLINE: “Fighting The Dolphins On F1, Commissioner Demands Info On Free Super Bowl Tickets.”  [Miami-Herald, 2/5/20]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Accepted A Gift Of Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From Miami Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross, According To An Ethics Report”

Miami-Herald: “Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross Gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez A Pair Of $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets.”  “Giménez has been an ally of Ross in county government, negotiating a subsidy deal in 2014 worth up to $5.75 million a year for the Dolphins and vetoing county legislation that would hamper his efforts to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. The planned gift was revealed in a memorandum from Jose Arrojo, the executive director of Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. It was obtained by el Nuevo Herald through a public records request. The memo concluded Giménez was free to accept the tickets, since they weren’t offered in exchange for favorable treatment from the mayor. The memo states that ‘Mr. Ross has offered to gift, and Mayor Giménez has accepted, two event tickets valued at $8,000.’ The report does not say whether Ross actually gave the tickets to Giménez. Giménez’s office did not respond to inquiries about the mayor’s plans for the tickets. Late Friday, a senior Giménez advisor sent an email to Arrojo disputing his memo’s wording. Legislative Affairs director Nicole Tallman wrote in the 9:59 p.m. email that ‘the Mayor did not accept the tickets prior to the issuance of the ethics opinion, as indicated in your opinion.’ Arrojo wrote back that the opinion remains the same "the transaction [Giménez] is considering.””  [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

Miami-Herald: “Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross Gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez A Pair Of $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets.”  “Giménez has been an ally of Ross in county government, negotiating a subsidy deal in 2014 worth up to $5.75 million a year for the Dolphins and vetoing county legislation that would hamper his efforts to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. The planned gift was revealed in a memorandum from Jose Arrojo, the executive director of Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. It was obtained by el Nuevo Herald through a public records request. The memo concluded Giménez was free to accept the tickets, since they weren’t offered in exchange for favorable treatment from the mayor. The memo states that ‘Mr. Ross has offered to gift, and Mayor Giménez has accepted, two event tickets valued at $8,000.’ The report does not say whether Ross actually gave the tickets to Giménez. Giménez’s office did not respond to inquiries about the mayor’s plans for the tickets. Late Friday, a senior Giménez advisor sent an email to Arrojo disputing his memo’s wording. Legislative Affairs director Nicole Tallman wrote in the 9:59 p.m. email that ‘the Mayor did not accept the tickets prior to the issuance of the ethics opinion, as indicated in your opinion.’ Arrojo wrote back that the opinion remains the same "the transaction [Giménez] is considering.””  [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

Giménez Admitted To Have Accepted One $4,000 Ticket After He Received Scrutiny For The Gift

Giménez Admitted To Have Accepted One $4,000 Ticket After He Received Scrutiny For The Gift.  “After staying mum on the subject for three days, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez’s office said Monday he accepted one $4,000 ticket to the Super Bowl from Dolphins owner Stephen Ross and bought a second for his wife. Ross also offered $3,000 tickets to county commissioners ahead of a vote this week on his plan to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. At least one commissioner accepted the offer. Giménez’s press secretary, Patricia Abril, released a statement Monday saying the mayor ‘accepted one ticket for himself, as he had official duties to perform at the event... The mayor wanted his wife to go with him to the event, and he paid for her ticket.’ Giménez’s office said the mayor paid Ross by check for the second ticket for Lourdes Giménez. The statement came after el Nuevo Herald obtained a county ethics memo Friday saying Giménez had accepted an offer from Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to get two free tickets worth $4,000 each. The county’s top ethics lawyer last week cleared Giménez to accept the Ross tickets, saying the $8,000 gift did not qualify as the kind of "quid pro quo” offer that would trigger a violation of Miami-Dade law.”

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor: I Accepted A Super Bowl Ticket From Dolphins Owner, Paid For 2nd.”  [Miami-Herald, 2/3/20]
Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Solicit Gifts On Behalf Of Nonprofit Organizations

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Solicit Gifts On Behalf Of Nonprofit Organizations. In July 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-11.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DÁDE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CODE OF ETHICS ORDINANCE (‘ETHICS ORDINANCE’); AMENDING DEFINITION OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO INCLUDE DOMESTIC PARTNER, STEPCHILDREN AND STEPPARENTS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC PARTNER AND CONTRACT STAFF; AMENDING DEFINITION OF EMPLOYEE; PROVIDING THAT CONTRACT STAFF MUST COMPLY WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ETHICS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING THAT COMMISSION STAFF MAY SOLICIT GIFTS ON BEHALF OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AMENDING JURISDICTION OF ETHICS COMMISSION TO INCLUDE CONTRACT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS; INCREASING FINES WHERE PERSON INTENTIONALLY VIOLATES ETHICS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 101676].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-48, Vote 101904, 4/6/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Giménez Had Close Ties To A Miami Commissioner Accused Of Public Corruption And Opposed Police Investigations Into Corruption

Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo Was Accused Of Inappropriately Using City Funds

Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo Was Accused Of Using City Funds To Buy A Paella Dinner And Other Supplies For Diaz De La Portilla’s Campaign For County Commission. “Miro was for years one of Carollo’s closest allies. But the pair infamously had a falling-out after Miro claimed he witnessed Carollo use city funds to buy paella and other supplies for Diaz de la Portilla’s 2018 county commission campaign — actions that, if true, are transparent violations of the law. Miro then alerted the authorities about his boss’ conduct and has repeatedly claimed he was fired in retaliation for cooperating with law enforcement.” [Miami New Times, 10/17/19]

HEADLINE: “Ex-Carlolo Aide Said In Court The Miami Commissioner ‘Engaged In A Felony.’” [Miami New Times, 10/17/19]

Giménez And His Family Endorsed Carollo’s Campaign For Miami Commissioner

Giménez And His Family Endorsed Carollo’s Campaign For Miami Commissioner. “The seeds of a split between Carlos Giménez and Francis Suarez came weeks after Suarez’s lopsided win in the November 2017 mayor’s race. In a campaign for an open seat on the City Commission, Giménez and family backed former Miami Mayor Joe Carollo. Suarez’s father, County Commissioner Xavier Suarez, rallied support for Alfonso ‘Alfie’ Leon.” [Miami-Herald, 10/31/18]

Giménez’s Daughter-In-Laws Were Consultants Of Carollo’s Political Committee

Giménez’s Daughter-In-Laws Were Consultants Of Carollo’s Political Committee. “ECOs, similar to a political action committees but with different rules, can refer to a candidate or issue only ‘without expressly advocating the election or defeat.’ Seems that ‘say no to’ and adding the punch number advocates defeat. But it’s no surprise, first, because it’s Joe Carollo, who cares very little about those technicalities and, second, because his alleged mailer consultant is Tania Cruz, the daughter-in-law of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who is relatively new at this. […] And she ain’t the only one in her family on Carollo’s payroll. Barby Rodríguez
Giménez, the other daughter-in-law married to the bad boy son, got paid $14,269 for ‘consulting’ also. If you add it all up, the Giménez clan has been paid at least $175,000 by Carollo since last year.” [Political Cortadito, 10/16/18]

HEADLINE: “Joe Carollo Pays Carlos Giménez Clan More Than $175K In Total.” [Political Cortadito, 10/16/18]

Carollo Was A Consultant For Giménez’s 2015 Reelection Campaign

Carollo Was A Consultant For Giménez’s 2015 Reelection Campaign. “It was a race that revived decades of political scores and allegiances: The elder Suaréz was ousted as Miami mayor in 1997 by Carollo, who later appointed Giménez as his city manager. As Giménez geared up for reelection in 2015, one of his first hiring moves was a $6,000 monthly consulting fee for Carollo.” [Miami-Herald, 10/31/18]

Giménez Was Appointed City Manager By Then-Miami Mayor Carollo

Giménez Was Appointed City Manager By Then-Miami Mayor Carollo. “It was a race that revived decades of political scores and allegiances: The elder Suaréz was ousted as Miami mayor in 1997 by Carollo, who later appointed Giménez as his city manager. As Giménez geared up for reelection in 2015, one of his first hiring moves was a $6,000 monthly consulting fee for Carollo.” [Miami-Herald, 10/31/18]

Giménez Opposed Police Investigations In Cases Of Public Corruption

Giménez Sponsored A Bill To Ban County Police From Investigating Cases Of County Public Corruption; The FBI Opposed Giménez’s Proposal

Giménez Sponsored A Bill To Ban County Police From Investigating Cases Of County Public Corruption. “Miami-Dade County commissioners took the first step today to prevent the county police department from overseeing investigations into wrongdoing at County Hall. The ordinance, provided last week by Commissioner Carlos Giménez, was the first shot at curbing the authority of County Mayor Carlos Alvarez since the public enhanced his powers in a referendum vote Tuesday. Alvarez now oversees most of the county’s department directors, including police Director Robert Parker. Commissioners voted 10-2 today in favor on the first reading of an amended item that was proposed by Giménez that would make the Florida Department of Law Enforcement the lead agency in any investigation of a public official. It was amended slightly from the measure Giménez submitted last week. The initial ordinance would have forced the Miami-Dade County Police Department out of the loop in any investigation; the amended ordinance says the department can still investigate, but only under the direct supervision of FDLE or another agency. Giménez said the move was not directed at Alvarez but was an attempt to prevent a mayor who now oversees the police department from using the unit for political gain.” [Miami-Herald, 1/25/07]

Miami-Herald: Miami-Dade County Commissioners Passed A Controversial Ordinance That Stripped The Police Department’s Public Corruption Unit Of Many Of Its Powers To Investigate Corruption.

“Miami-Dade County commissioners unanimously passed a controversial ordinance today that strips the police department’s public corruption unit of many of its powers to investigate corruption at County Hall. Now, an outside law enforcement agency will take the lead on any investigation involving the mayor or any of the 13 commissioners, though the county police department will make its resources available. The new law also authorizes Police Director Robert Parker to negotiate agreements with agencies like the state attorney’s office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI. The ordinance, proposed by Commissioner Carlos Giménez, originally called for the county’s police department to step aside during any investigation into county employees or elected officials. Giménez was concerned that among the powers the county mayor’s office gained in the January ‘strong mayor’ vote was authority over the police director. Giménez was worried investigations could be politicized.” [Miami-Herald, 3/8/07]

Miami-Herald: Giménez’s Measure Would Have Left The County’s Corruption Unit Completely Out Of The Investigative Loop. “Amos Rojas Jr., who heads up the Miami field office for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, said he’s worried about funding and personnel. Giménez said his plan would call for county money to go to the FDLE, although there are no specifics yet. Giménez’s measure in its original form -- which would have left the corruption unit completely out of the investigative loop -- had officials at some federal agencies shaking their heads. The U.S. Attorney’s Office and the FBI shunned the proposal.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/07]

Miami FBI Was Against Giménez Proposal Because County Detectives Could Provide Critical Evidence In Local Corruption Cases That Developed Into Federal Probes. “Although several in the policing community are upset with Giménez’s plan, State Attorney Katherine Fernández Rundle has remained neutral, and Amos Rojas, the man in charge of the FDLE’s field office, said he’s concerned about funding and personnel. Giménez has said his plan would call for county money to go to FDLE, although there are no specifics yet. The Giménez plan does not sit well with Jonathan Solomon, who heads the FBI’s regional field office in Miami. He said Miami-Dade detectives provide critical evidence in local corruption cases that can develop into federal probes.” [Miami-Herald, 1/25/07]

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Miami Police Investigating Corrupt City Officials Because Of A Potential Conflict Of Interest

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Miami Police Investigating Corrupt City Officials Because Of A Potential Conflict Of Interest. “Six weeks ago, Miami Mayor Joe Carollo suggested that a police sergeant received a $20,000 pay increase as a reward for writing a politically embarrassing memo that said the mayor had sought an investigation into Cuban spies at City Hall. Sgt. Bob Fielder lost the pay increase this week. Police Chief Raul Martinez returned Fielder’s salary to $58,367 a year by rescinding a promotion given by his predecessor William O’Brien and the former city manager, Donald Warshaw. Martinez said Wednesday that he took the action after City Manager Carlos Giménez asked Martinez whether Fielder ought to remain in his post as a special assistant to the police chief. His job was to investigate corruption in Miami. Martinez said Giménez told him that he did not want Miami police carrying out investigations of city officials because of potential conflicts of interest. Giménez said he discussed Fielder’s status with Carollo, but received no directive from the mayor on what to do.” [Miami-Herald, 7/27/00]
Giménez Looked Out For His Donors

**Significant Findings**

- Giménez’s campaign received much of its contributions from business interests that raised alarms about whether he would be vulnerable to pressure from donors.
  - A majority of Giménez’s political donations came from developers, construction firms, and real-estate lawyers.

- Giménez consistently awarded lucrative contracts to his donors.

- Giménez awarded Odebrecht millions of dollars’ worth of no-bid contracts; Odebrecht was found guilty of offering bribes to politicians in return of no-bid contracts.
  - 2005-2016: Giménez awarded Odebrecht hundreds of millions of dollars’ worth of no-bid government contracts; Odebrecht was one of Giménez’s top contributors.
  - 2001-2016: Odebrecht was caught securing lucrative government contracts by offering bribes to politicians and executives and politicians were found guilty in a cash-for-contracts corruption investigation by the Department of Justice.

- Giménez repeatedly supported measures that benefitted the Miami Dolphins, one of his top donors.

- Giménez supported his top donor’s casino resort project in Miami.
  - In 2011, Giménez had cracked down on video gaming machines because he said that they could be used for gambling.

- Giménez was in favor of subsidizing the construction of the SkyRise Tower with taxpayer funds; the project was being developed by one of his campaign donors.

- Giménez allowed construction sites to continue work during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, despite warnings that many construction workers had fallen ill – and has taken hundreds of thousands from construction interests.

- Giménez refused to debate.
  - In 2016, Giménez declined to appear in several debates against his opponent for Mayor.
  - In 2011, Giménez refused to appear in several debates with his opponent after he had agreed to take part in them.
Much Of Giménez Mayoral PAC Donations Came From Developers. “Some Miami-Dade residents received robo-calls last week attacking county mayoral candidate Carlos Giménez over his political committee, Common Sense Now, which has raised $277,000, much of it in donations from developers. The phone message chides Giménez, a former Miami-Dade commissioner, for the ‘special interest slush fund,’ and cites a recent article in the Miami New Times.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/11]

One Of Giménez Top Mayoral Donors Was Miami Builder Coastal Construction Group. “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end. Donors include Miami builder Coastal Construction Group, which wrote a check for $10,000. Developer Martin Z. Margulies, a financial backer of the campaign to unseat Alvarez, contributed $2,500. Giménez’s PAC has paid $11,314 to political consulting firm BYG Strategies.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

One Of Giménez Top Mayoral Donors Was Developer Martin Z. Marguelis. “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end. Donors include Miami builder Coastal Construction Group, which wrote a check for $10,000. Developer Martin Z. Margulies, a financial backer of the campaign to unseat Alvarez, contributed $2,500. Giménez’s PAC has paid $11,314 to political consulting firm BYG Strategies.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez’s PAC Received Thousands Of Dollars from Developers, Construction Firms, And Real Estate Lawyers.” “Giménez began preparing to run for mayor in 2010, when he opened a political committee called Common Sense Now to raise his public profile. The committee has raised $279,000, including thousands of dollars from developers, construction firms and real-estate lawyers – players in the County Hall power structure that Giménez has sought to stand above. Among the donations: $2,000 from Baker Construction, a contractor on the Florida Marlins stadium that Giménez so adamantly opposed.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez Received $1,000 From A Developer Known To Mismanage County Spending And Delay Construction Projects

Giménez Received $1,000 From A Developer Known To Mismanage County Spending And Delay Projects. “Key county commissioners vowing to rid the Miami-Dade Housing Agency of widespread misspending have reaped thousands of dollars in campaign donations from developers and consultants involved in some of the agency’s most troubled building projects, The Miami-Herald has found. The flow of money to commissioners -- dating back years -- underscores the ties between county leaders and companies whose overdue loans and delayed projects have outraged Miami in recent weeks and sparked local, state and federal investigations. […] Commissioner. Barbara Jordan received $500 from Rivero and his associates; so did Audrey Edmonson. Rivero contributed $250 to Commissioner Katy Sorenson in 2001. Commissioner Rebeca Sosa received $1,250 from donors affiliated with Delant Construction; Carlos Giménez received $1,000.” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/06]

Giménez’s Campaign Received Significant Contributions From Prominent Business Interests, And Raised Alarms About Whether Or Not He Would Be Vulnerable To Pressure From Lobbyist

Giménez’s Campaign Received Significant Contributions From Prominent Business Interests, And Raised Alarms About Whether Or Not He Would Be Vulnerable To Pressure From Lobbyist. “Suarez has gone after Giménez, who has raised substantial sums from influential figures in Miami. Giménez, who has raised more than $366,000, has contributions from prominent business interests, including car dealer Alan Potamkin and high-powered attorney Stanley Price. Suarez, who raised about $183,470, questioned whether his opponent would be vulnerable to pressure from lobbyists. ‘We should establish disclosure fees to limit lobbyists’ influence [and] start electing commissioners who are honest,’ Suarez said.” [Sun Sentinel, 10/25/04]
Civic Activist: “It Seems [Giménez’s] Very Comfortable With Special Interests.” “We should establish disclosure fees to limit lobbyists’ influence [and] start electing commissioners who are honest,’ Suarez said. Political observers say Suarez has a point. ‘It seems he’s very comfortable with special interests,’ civic activist Santiago Leon said of Giménez. ‘There’s no room for that on the board of commissioners.’ Giménez did not address the question of whether he would be influenced by lobbyists, but said laws should limit such pressures on elected officials. ‘Public figures must be honest and make changes,’ said Giménez, who sought to put the onus for scrutinizing lobbyist influence on the media. ‘In the past there were a lot of backroom deals,’ Giménez said. ‘When the media is asleep bad things happen.’” [Sun Sentinel, 10/25/04]

**Giménez Consistently Awarded Lucrative County Contracts To His Donors**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Giménez Recommended CH2M Hill For An $8.8 Million County Contract; CH2M Hill Contributed To Giménez’s $28,500 Super PACs Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Residents First</strong></th>
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<td><strong>2011-2016: CH2M Hill INC. Contributed $28,500 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Residents First PACs.</strong> [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]</td>
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<td><strong>Feb. 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Pro Sound INC. By $276,483.82.</strong> In February 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 TO PROJECT NO. I112A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE (PASI) PROJECT AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WITH PRO SOUND, INC., TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC ADDRESS AND FIRE ANNUNCIATION SYSTEM FOR CONCOURSE E-SATELLITE AND CONCOURSE G; INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY $276,483.82.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-129-07, Vote 070073, 2/6/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]</td>
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Dec. 2010: Pro Sound INC. Contributed $1,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Awarding Budget Construction Co. A $1,155,000 County Contract; Budget Construction Co. Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC

Jun. 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Awarding Budget Construction Co. INC. A $1,155,000 County Contract. In June 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT AWARD RECOMMENDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,155,000.00 BETWEEN BUDGET CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE PEOPLE’S TRANSPORTATION PLAN (PTP) PROJECT ENTITLED INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT CONTRACT (PROJECT – CICC 7360-0/08 REQUEST FOR PRICE QUOTATION (RPQ) NO. 20090106).” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-683-10, Vote 092662, 6/15/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2011: Budget Construction Co. INC. Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

Giménez Awarded Odebrecht Millions Of Dollars’ Worth Of No-Bid Contracts; Odebrecht Was Found Guilty Of Offering Bribes To Politicians In Return Of No-Bid Contracts

2005-2016: Giménez Awarded Odebrecht Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars’ Worth Of No-Bid Government Contracts; Odebrecht Was One Of Giménez’s Top Contributors

Giménez Awarded No-Bid Contracts To Odebrecht And Associates While They Contributed At Least $58,000 To Giménez

2015-2016: Odebrecht Construction INC. Contributed $41,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PACs. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/15/20]

2015: Odebrecht Contributed $15,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PAC. “It was the debut report from Miami-Dade Residents First, the Giménez political action committee formed in early January to get a jump start on raising the campaign cash needed for 2016. […] A quick scan of the Miami-Dade Residents First report shows the biggest checks came from companies and individuals with business before the county, and from large developers. Odebrecht USA, a major contractor at MIA recently awarded a $65 million no-bid contract extension, gave $15,000 on Jan. 29.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

2015: Odebrecht Construction INC. Contributed $1,000 To Giménez’s Campaign Committee. [Miami-Dade Ethics Commission, accessed 4/9/20]

2012-2016: Parsons Construction INC. Contributed $16,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami Resident’s First PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/15/20]

2015: Giménez Awarded Odebrecht USA A $65 Million No-Bid Contract For Work At The Miami Airport. “It was the debut report from Miami-Dade Residents First, the Giménez political action committee formed in early January to get a jump start on raising the campaign cash needed for 2016. […] A quick scan of the Miami-Dade Residents First report shows the biggest checks came from companies and individuals with business before the county, and from large developers. Odebrecht USA, a major contractor at MIA recently awarded a $65 million no-bid contract extension, gave $15,000 on Jan. 29.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

May 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parson-Odebrecht By $2,557,135.80. In May 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 10 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. CM@RISK (POJV) AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $2,557,136.80; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE CHANGE ORDER AND TO PERFORM ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO ENFORCE ITS TERMS.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-R-473-10, Vote 100886, 5/4/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Oct. 2009: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parsons-Odebrecht By $13.06 Million. In October 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 9 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. (POJV) AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR A VALUE OF ZERO ADDITIONAL DOLLARS, PROVIDING FOR A NON-COMPENSABLE TIME EXTENSION, AND MODIFYING VARIOUS CONTRACT TERMS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE CHANGE ORDER AND TO PERFORM ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO ENFORCE ITS TERMS; DELEGATING TO THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO, SOLELY IN THE EVENT OF A COURT JUDGMENT AGAINST POJV BY HENSEL PHELPS CONSTRUCTION CO., PAY POJV UP TO THE MAXIMUM ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF $13.06 MILLION; AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBSTITUTION OR INCLUSION OF COUNTY AS PARTY DEFENDANT TO LAWSUIT BY ZURICH AGAINST POJV. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-1130-09, Vote 092632, 10/6/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]


Jul. 2008: Giménez Voted In Favor Of A $342,278,032 Parsons-Odebrecht Contract With Miami International Airport. In September 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING MIA MOVER APM SYSTEM, MDAD PROJECT NO. J104 AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WITH PARSONS-ODERBRECHT JOINT VENTURE; IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $ 342,278,032.15; AUTHORIZING MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SAME AND TO EXERCISE TERMINATION PROVISIONS THEREOF AND THOSE DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY IDENTIFIED IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PROCURE VARIOUS COMPONENT ITEMS AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS THERETO SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY, AND WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING WITH RESPECT TO SUCH PROCUREMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE AND SECTION 5.03(D) OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CHARTER; AND FINDING SUCH WAIVER TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND WAIVING BID PROTEST PROCEDURES.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-735-08, Vote 081751, 7/1/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Sept. 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Waving Competitive Bidding And Authorizing Negotiations With Parsons-Odebrecht For A County Contract. In September 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION REGARDING MIA MOVER AUTOMATED PEOPLE MOVER (“APM”) SYSTEM, PROJECT NO. RFP-MDAD-04-04/J104A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, REJECTING ALL PROPOSALS, WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING, AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATIONS WITH PARSONS ODEBRECHT, JOINT VENTURE, WITH BOMBARDIER-PCL, LLC AND WITH SLATTERY SKANSKA, INC., AND DIRECTING MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO RECOMMEND A CONTRACT WITH ONE OF THEM TO THIS BOARD.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-945-07, Vote 072080, 9/4/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]
May 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parsons-Odebrecht By $503,459,716. In May 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE NORTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 WITH PARSONS/ODEBRECHT JOINT VENTURE (POJV); APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED CONTRACT BETWEEN POJV AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY $503,459,716; EXTENDING THE CONTRACT TIME BY 393 CALENDAR DAYS; SETTLING A STAFFING RELATED DELAY CLAIM FOR $8,800,000; AND APPROVING PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BONDS IN AN AMOUNT LESS THAN THE FULL CONTRACT PRICE.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-624-07, Vote 071542, 5/22/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Mar. 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parsons-Odebrecht By $49,000,000. In March 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 8 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY UP TO $49,000,000, AND OTHERWISE TO MODIFY VARIOUS CONTRACT TERMS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SAME.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-367-07, Vote 070757, 3/22/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]


Feb. 2006: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Guaranteeing Payments To Parsons-Odebrecht In The Event Of An Audit On A County Contract. In February 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 TO PROJECT NO. H010A FOR SOUTH TERMINAL PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WITH PARSONS ODEBREGHT JOINT VENTURE; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO IDENTIFY AN ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCE IN THE EVENT IT IS NECESSARY FOR AN AUDIT OF THE SOUTH TERMINAL PROGRAM [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 060037].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-149-06, Vote 081751, 2/7/06; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Jun. 2005: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Waiving Formal Bid Procedures To Grant Parsons-Odebrecht County Contracts. In June 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BID PROCEDURES AND PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2-8.1(B) CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH PARSONS/ODEBRECHT JOINT VENTURE (POJV) FOR A MANAGING GENERAL CONTRACTOR CONTRACT FOR THE NORTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AUTHORIZING AVIATION DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANNEXES AND WORK ORDERS; AUTHORIZING COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME AND EXERCISE CANCELLATION AND OTHER PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN; AND WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-377-04; REQUESTING INSPECTOR GENERAL TO PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND DIRECTING COUNTY MANAGER TO REPORT ON CONTRACT STATUS [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 051584] [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 8A1A AND 8A1E].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-738-05, 6/8/05; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]
Odebrecht Was A Brazil-Based Construction Company Specialized In Mass Transit Systems And Public-Works Projects. “Brazil-based Odebrecht is Latin America’s largest construction company, specializing in large-scale public-works projects. Odebrecht has won contracts to build mass transit systems in Rio de Janeiro, Quito, Panama City and Caracas. It has constructed highways, ports, dams and airports — including Miami International Airport. It built facilities for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil and infrastructure for Brazil’s state-owned oil company, Petrobras.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

**Odebrecht Constructed The Miami International Airport.** “Brazil-based Odebrecht is Latin America’s largest construction company, specializing in large-scale public-works projects. Odebrecht has won contracts to build mass transit systems in Rio de Janeiro, Quito, Panama City and Caracas. It has constructed highways, ports, dams and airports — including Miami International Airport. It built facilities for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil and infrastructure for Brazil’s state-owned oil company, Petrobras.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]


**Odebrecht Secured Government Contracts By Offering Bribes To Influential Politicians.** “Why have prosecutors linked this Brazilian company to so many instances of corruption? In theory, governments award contracts for these types of massive construction projects through an open and competitive bidding process. This bidding process is important to keep costs down and to ensure that the most qualified firms receive government-funded contracts. In practice, bidding for these public-works contracts is far from competitive. Odebrecht’s standard procedure has been to secure lucrative contracts by offering kickbacks to influential politicians, according to press reports. Between 2001-2016, Odebrecht paid $788 million in bribes — for 100 projects in 12 countries, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

**2001-2016: Odebrecht Paid $788 Million In Bribes According To The U.S. Department Of Justice.** “In practice, bidding for these public-works contracts is far from competitive. Odebrecht’s standard procedure has been to secure lucrative contracts by offering kickbacks to influential politicians, according to press reports. Between 2001-2016, Odebrecht paid $788 million in bribes — for 100 projects in 12 countries, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

**BBC: Odebrecht Paid Off Politicians To Secure Lucrative Contracts Aboard.** “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn. The construction giant paid off politicians, political parties, officials of state-owned enterprises, lawyers, bankers and fixers to secure lucrative contracts in Brazil and abroad.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

**Miami-Herald: Money Destined For Politicians’ Pockets Was Managed By Executives Who Operated In Miami.** “Although Odebrecht has a major Miami-based subsidiary, which has built arenas, highway improvements and airport expansions, that subsidiary has not been linked to any of the illicit payments. However, some of the money destined for politicians’ pockets was managed by executives of the parent company who operated for a time out of South Florida. […] Fernando Migliaccio, based in Miami, was an important figure in Odebrecht’s S.A.’s Division of Structured Operations, which handled the processing of corrupt payments to politicians.” [Miami-Herald, 6/25/19]
2016: Odebrecht Executives And Politicians Were Found Guilty In A Cash-For-Contracts Corruption Investigation By The Department Of Justice

2016: Odebrecht Admitted Guilt In A Cash-For-Contracts Corruption Scandal In 12 Countries. “After Brazilian multinational Odebrecht admitted guilt in a cash-for-contracts corruption scandal in 12 nations, it vowed to change its ways. But Brazil’s authorities are still wrestling with an encrypted computer system used to run the firm’s illicit payment system. The federal police building in Curitiba, in the southern state of Parana, has hardly been out of the news. In June 2015, the now-convicted former chief executive, Marcelo Odebrecht, was brought here.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

Odebrecht’s Chief Executive And Brazilian President Lula Da Silva Were Convicted On Corruption Charges. “After Brazilian multinational Odebrecht admitted guilt in a cash-for-contracts corruption scandal in 12 nations, it vowed to change its ways. But Brazil’s authorities are still wrestling with an encrypted computer system used to run the firm’s illicit payment system. The federal police building in Curitiba, in the southern state of Parana, has hardly been out of the news. In June 2015, the now-convicted former chief executive, Marcelo Odebrecht, was brought here. More recently, the HQ received former president Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, jailed for corruption on charges related to the wider Lava Jato (Car Wash) investigation based here.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

Odebrecht Was Forced To Pay A Record-Breaking $3.5 Billion Fine. “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

The Case Was Brought By The US Department Of Justice With Brazil And Switzerland. “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn.” [BBC, 4/22/18]


HEADLINE: “The Largest Foreign Bribery Case In History.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

HEADLINE: “Brazil's Odebrecht Fined At Least $2.6BN For Bribery.” [BBC, 12/21/16]


Giménez Consistently Supported Measures That Benefitted The Miami Dolphins, One Of His Top Donors

Miami-Herald: Giménez Has Been An Ally Of Miami Dolphins Owner Steve Ross In County Government. “Giménez has been an ally of Ross in county government, negotiating a subsidy deal in 2014 worth up to $5.75 million a year for the Dolphins and vetoing county legislation that would hamper his efforts to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock. His administration also agreed to pay $4 million in Super Bowl expenses, including covering $1 million worth of hotel rooms for NFL players this week. Rodney Barreto, chairman of the Super Bowl Host Committee, is an owner of the Coral Gables lobbying firm, Floridian Partners, which represents the Dolphins in
county talks. Steve Ross, Dolphins owner Stephen Ross gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez a pair of $4,000 Super Bowl tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

The Miami Dolphins Were Amongst Giménez’s Top Campaign Contributors. “Duty Free Americas, which runs shops at county-owned Miami International Airport, secured fourth place with $55,000 in donations, and the Miami Dolphins, which negotiated a stadium-subsidy package with Giménez last year, rounded out the Top 5 with just under $51,000 in donations.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

Giménez Supporting Subsidizing Renovations For The Dolphins’ Stadium

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using County Funds For The Renovation Of The Dolphins’ Stadium With A Tax Increase On Hotels. “Giménez endorsed a plan late Monday to provide the Dolphins with about $7.5 million a year to help fund the renovation, if county voters approve raising mainland hotel taxes to 7 percent from 6 percent. At a special meeting at noon Wednesday, commissioners will vote to set a May 14 countywide referendum, and to approve the deal pending voter ratification.” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/13]

2011: Giménez Voted In Favor The Dolphins Stadium Project. In March 2011, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO APPLICATION REQUESTING AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN FILED FOR CONCURRENT PROCESSING WITH PROPOSED CHANGES TO ‘DOLPHIN CENTER NORTH’ DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE; INSTRUCTING THE COUNTY MANAGER WHETHER OR NOT TO TRANSMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS; REQUESTING FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO REVIEW THE APPLICATION; RESERVING THE RIGHT TO TAKE FINAL ACTION AT A LATER DATE; AND DECLARING INTENT TO CONDUCT ONE OR MORE SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC HEARINGS.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-187-11, Vote 110379, 3/3/11; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2009: Giménez Voted In Favor The Development Of The Dolphin Stadium Project. In December 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING ISSUANCE OR REISSUANCE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE CURRENT PAR OUTSTANDING OF THE AUTHORITY’S OUTSTANDING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS (DOLPHINS STADIUM PROJECT), SERIES 1985 BONDS, SERIES 2000 BONDS, SERIES 2006 BONDS AND SERIES 2007 BONDS, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WERE USED TO FINANCE OR REFINANCE ALL OR A PART OF THE COSTS OF THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF LANDSHARK STADIUM AND RELATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS THERETO FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOUTH FLORIDA STADIUM LLC.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. MORE SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC HEARINGS.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-1378-09, Vote 092943, 12/1/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Giménez Said That He Wanted The Marlins To Continue Paying Leasing Fees To The Miami Dolphin To Continue Playing Games At Their Stadium Rather Than The Marlins Build Their Own Stadium

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of The Marlins Continuing To Pay The Dolphin’s Leasing Fees To Play Games At Their Stadium Rather Than Them Build Their Own Stadium. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez says the Marlins should go back to the drawing board, cut a deal with the Dolphin Stadium folks and secure a lease for five more years. Ideally, he said, the Orange Bowl site would be turned into a professional soccer stadium, which the county has $50 million it can float in bonds. (Florida International University built a nice one for less than that.) And then the city and county could look at a downtown site for a stadium, he said, and even then, the taxpayers’ exposure shouldn’t be for more than about a third of the cost.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/09]
Residents Of Miami Gardens And Critics Of The Nearby Formula 1 Race Said That It Would Cause Heavy Traffic, Noise, And Negative Health And Environmental Impacts. “That’s when organizers started thinking about Hard Rock Stadium and its surrounding property, which are all owned by Stephen Ross. He’d cover the costs, including a $40 million custom track that would mostly run through the stadium grounds and make the race eligible for a marquee-event grant under a 2014 agreement with the county. Denise White, a Miami Gardens resident for more than 40 years, said there is already heavy traffic and congestion from events at the stadium. White and dozens of other residents echoed the same concerns about the noise, traffic interruptions and health and environmental impacts caused by breathing in the cars’ fumes. Other residents called the proposal "environmental racism," by disproportionately moving the event from an area of affluence to a poorer one filled with people of color who would be exposed to the effects. In 2017, a study partially funded by the Environmental Protection Agency found that people of color who would be exposed to harmful air pollution -- and suffer from it -- than white people across the U.S., according to The Guardian.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

Miami-Herald Editorial: Many Residents In The Predominantly African-American City Saw The Potential For Pollution, Traffic Jams, Street Closures, Gas Fumes And Ear-Piercing Noise. “Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, along with Giménez, sees the proposed racing extravaganza as a multimillion-dollar event to attract fans, tourists and revenue. Many residents in this predominantly African-American city, however, see the potential for pollution, traffic jams, street closures, gas fumes and ear-piercing noise. However, on Tuesday a county commission auditor’s report of these complaints described them as "flawed." These complaints about noise and pollution have not plagued the race in other cities. Still, the concerns are real. Credit
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 44

the county mayor for holding meetings recently with residents’ representatives and others to hear them out.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 11/20/19]


Giménez Was In Favor Of Providing The Miami Dolphins With $2.5 Million In Subsidies To Help Pay For The Formula 1 Race

Giménez Was In Favor Of Providing The Miami Dolphins With $2.5 Million In Subsidies To Help Cover For The Formula 1 Race. “In a July 12 email, the Dolphins executive in charge of lobbying, Marcus Bach-Armas, described ‘the F1 grant amendment being spearheaded by the Mayor’s Office.’ Moon, who also serves as budget director and was promoted to deputy mayor in July, said she was brought into the talks on a potential Formula One incentive payment in May. The $2.5 million yearly payout appeared to be settled by the Giménez administration. ‘We have agreed to $2.5 million for Formula One, no increase to the cap for now,’ Moon wrote county lawyer Monica Rizo on Oct. 1. While the agreement sets a $2.5 million payout as a starting point for Formula One, the payment could go higher under the terms in the most recent draft Moon sent Rizo on Oct. 9. The contract calls for both sides to agree on a firm to conduct an economic-impact analysis of Formula One after it came to Hard Rock for its second year in 2022.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/19]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade, Dolphins Negotiating $2.5 Million County Subsidy Tied To Formula One Race.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/19]

Miami-Herald: Giménez Was A Key Ally In The Dolphin’s Effort To Bring Formula 1 Racing To Their Stadium

Miami-Herald: Giménez Was A Key Ally In The Dolphin’s Effort To Bring Formula 1 Racing To Their Stadium. “The Dolphins’ lobbying team is fighting county legislation that would block Ross from bringing Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium, and Giménez is a key ally in that effort. He has already vetoed one anti-F1 ordinance, and another one the mayor opposes is scheduled for a final vote Tuesday.” [Miami-Herald, 2/3/20]

Giménez Supported His Top Donor’s Casino Resort Project In Miami

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Miami-Herald: Giménez Was In Favor Of Constructing A Massive Casino In Downtown Miami. “The tensions rose when Giménez was elected mayor in 2011 and said he wanted to rethink Miami-Dade’s economic-development strategy. That same year, Giménez and Nero ended up on opposite sides of the debate on Genting Group’s plan to build a massive casino in downtown Miami, with Nero a leading voice against the push and Giménez citing casinos as job creators.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/13]

2011: Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Casino-Style Gaming In Miami. “And they both threw their support behind allowing limited casino-style gaming in greater Miami. ‘We have to limit it in the areas that it exists,’ Robaina said. ’I’m OK with maybe one or two sites, but I’m not OK with having Las Vegas Two come down to Miami or Miami Beach,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 6/8/11]

One Of Giménez’s Top Donors Was A Malaysian Gaming Company That Wanted To Build A Casino Resort In Miami. “Leon Medical Center, a top HMO in the Miami area, came in first with $75,000 in total donations. Second place went to the $65,000 from Genting, the Malaysian gaming company that wants to build a casino resort on the old Miami-Herald site in downtown Miami. Turnberry, the developer hoping for a change in county zoning rules for a western shopping center, took third place with $60,000.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]
HEADLINE: “A Look Back At Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez’s Top Donors.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

2013: Giménez Supported Genting’s Project And Said That Casinos Were Job Creators

Mar. 2013: Giménez Supported Genting’s Project And Said That Casinos Were Job Creators. “The tensions rose when Giménez was elected mayor in 2011 and said he wanted to rethink Miami-Dade’s economic-development strategy. That same year, Giménez and Nero ended up on opposite sides of the debate on Genting Group’s plan to build a massive casino in downtown Miami, with Nero a leading voice against the push and Giménez citing casinos as job creators.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/13]

2011: Giménez Had Cracked Down On Video Gaming Machines Because He Said That They Could Be Used For Illegal Gambling

Giménez Was In Favor Of Forming A Task Force To Examine Video Amusement Machines Which Could Be Used For Illegal Gambling. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez wants to form a task force to examine the proliferation of ‘illegal’ video gaming machines in the county — taking aim at a cottage industry allied with Hialeah Mayor Julio Robaina, Giménez’ opponent in the race for county mayor. Giménez has drafted legislation that would create a task force of federal and local law enforcement agencies to examine video amusement machines — which can be easily used for illegal gambling, critics say — and suggest potential reforms.” [Miami-Herald, 4/7/11]

Jun. 2011: Giménez: “Are We Going To Sell Our Soul Because Of Revenue? I Don’t Think So.” “Robaina said at the debate that the machines can be used legally and defended issuing permits for the maquinitas on the grounds that it increases government revenue. 'The machines themselves are illegal,' Giménez said as Robaina shook his head. ‘Are we going to sell our soul because of revenue? I don’t think so.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/8/11]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Subsidizing The Construction Of The SkyRise Tower With Taxpayer Funds; The Project Was Being Developed By One Of His Campaign Donors

Giménez Was In Favor Of Subsidizing The Construction Of The SkyRise Tower With Taxpayer Funds; The Project Was Being Developed By One Of His Campaign Donors

Giménez Was In Favor Of Constructing The SkyRise Tourist Attraction With Taxpayer Help. “The Giménez launch could bring some awkward timing, depending on who his early donors are. He recently won a hard-fought fight to secure a $9 million economic-development grant for SkyRise Miami, a tourist attraction being developed by one of his earliest political patrons, Jeff Berkowitz. Jorge Luis Lopez, a Miami-Dade lobbyist close to Giménez, is representing Giménez donor Wayne Rosen in his own pursuit of a grant for a project Rosen is building in Palmetto Bay.” [Miami-Herald, 1/9/15]

The Project Was Being Developed By One Of His Earliest Campaign Contributors. “The Giménez launch could bring some awkward timing, depending on who his early donors are. He recently won a hard-fought fight to secure a $9 million economic-development grant for SkyRise Miami, a tourist attraction being developed by one of his earliest political patrons, Jeff Berkowitz. Jorge Luis Lopez, a Miami-Dade lobbyist close to
Giménez is representing Giménez donor Wayne Rosen in his own pursuit of a grant for a project Rosen is building in Palmetto Bay.” [Miami-Herald, 1/9/15]

SkyRise Dropped Its $9 Million County Subsidy Bid After Legal Challenges

SkyRise Dropped Its $9 Million County Subsidy Bid After Legal Challenges. “SkyRise Miami has dropped its pursuit of a $9 million subsidy from Miami-Dade, prompting a mayoral candidate to declare victory in her lawsuit against the proposed 1,000-foot observation tower and its claim on county dollars. Developer Jeff Berkowitz said he was unable to meet county requirements for the economic-development grant funded by property taxes, telling Miami-Dade administrators in a March 30 letter that ‘we ... regretfully hereby and permanently withdraw our application’ for the funding.” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/16]


Giménez Allowed Construction Sites To Continue Work Despite Warnings That Many Construction Workers Had Fallen Ill – And Has Taken Hundreds Of Thousands From Construction Interests

Giménez Allowed Construction Sites To Remain Open, Arguing They Were “Essential” Because They Created Jobs …

Giménez Allowed Construction Sites To Remain Open During The Coronavirus Outbreak, Arguing They Were “Essential.” “The Miami-Dade County skyline is always dotted with construction cranes. But right now, in spite of an order for all nonessential businesses to be closed and public gatherings being limited to 10 people or less due to the COVID-19 pandemic, construction sites around the county are still buzzing. The question is, why? Local10 News took that directly to Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who said currently, they are an exception to the rule, but that may not last much longer. ‘They are essential,’ said Giménez. ‘The order said they are essential and so they are allowed to run but they have to maintain social distancing.’” [Local10.com, 3/24/20]

Giménez Argued That Construction Sites Should Remain Open: “It’s Essential For The Jobs It’s Creating.” “Construction sites have been spared by Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who has declared much of the county’s economy non-essential in issuing emergency orders closing offices, restaurants, entertainment venues, salons, marinas and any business that doesn’t fall into what his decrees declare essential. During a video press conference Tuesday, Giménez was asked why the construction industry was deemed essential during the pandemic emergency. ‘It’s essential for the jobs it’s creating,’ he said. ‘Once we recover from this, we need to have construction continue.’” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]

… Even As A Top Miami Construction Exec Warned Giménez: “A Lot Of People Are Turning Positive To The Virus In Our Industry”

Century Homebuilders Head Sergio Pino Called For Giménez To Shut Down Construction Sites Amid The Coronavirus Pandemic: “A Lot Of People Are Turning Positive To The Virus In Our Industry.” “A builder is urging Miami-Dade County to stop all non-essential construction projects to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Sergio Pino, the head of Century Homebuilders, is voluntarily closing multiple job site in the county by next week after two of his workers tested positive for COVID-19. ‘A lot of people are turning positive to the virus in our industry,’ Pino said. Pino wrote a letter to Miami Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez warning him of the spread of the virus across the community through construction sites. ‘There are rules in our industry and I know most people try to enforce those rules in our industry, but it's very difficult,’ Pino said. ‘Instead of putting a bandaid on this issue. We are better off in my opinion to close down 10 working days and reopen with a fresh start in two weeks, three weeks, whatever it takes.’” [NBC Miami, 4/9/20]
March 31, 2020: Top Miami-Dade Developer Sergio Pino Called For Construction Sites To Close Amid Coronavirus Concerns. “One of Miami-Dade’s leading builders, Sergio Pino, issued a public plea Tuesday for the construction industry to shut down construction sites and prevent an outbreak of coronavirus among their workers. ‘The only way to stop the spread of this virus is by cutting its roots,’ Pino, president of Century Homebuilders, said in an email. Construction workers, he said, ‘continue to be exposed and have already been infected. This will result in a chain reaction across the board in all jobsites as long as they remain open.’ He called on fellow builders to ‘close simultaneously’ and halt the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by coronavirus. He said Century was considering shutting down its sites for 10 work days, but that the lack of an industry-wide closure ‘will defeat the purpose and this virus will continue to multiply from jobsite to jobsite and into our homes.’” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]

Giménez Suspended County Inspections Of Construction Sites, Because Most Permitting Staff Was In Self-Isolation

With Most Miami-Dade Permitting Staff In Self-Isolation, Giménez Suspended County Inspections Of Construction Sites. “After most of its permitting staff went into self-isolation because of multiple coronavirus cases within their ranks, Miami-Dade is suspending construction inspections and telling builders to hire their own engineers to review work for safety and code compliance. The measure, outlined in an emergency order from Mayor Carlos Giménez, means the idling of the county arm responsible for inspecting construction sites outside of city limits and areas in municipalities governed by Miami-Dade inspections, such as for county buildings and land. The order does not apply to city inspection units. The order dated March 28 includes new forms and instructions requiring builders to hire independent architects or engineers to inspect their work. The rules specify the engineer may not have a ‘financial stake’ in the project. Using emergency powers, Giménez has spared construction sites from orders that required businesses not deemed ‘essential,’ such as restaurants and bars, to close. Despite warnings of workers not following rules to keep six feet apart, Miami-Dade has allowed construction work to go on throughout the coronavirus crisis.” [Miami Herald, 3/30/20]

As Mayor, Giménez Has Taken $369,260 From Construction Interests

Over His Mayoral Career, Giménez Has Taken $369,260 From Construction And Development Interests. An internal analysis of data from Giménez’s three mayoral campaigns found Giménez had taken $369,260. Raw data available upon request. [Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2016; Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2012; Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2011]

Giménez Refused To Debate

2016: Giménez Declined To Appear In Several Debates Against His Opponent For Mayor

2016: Giménez Declined To Appear In Several Debates Against His Opponent For Mayor. “Incumbent Carlos Giménez on Wednesday declined another debate in the Miami-Dade mayoral race, this time rejecting a planned event by the League of Women Voters with a panel of reporters from the Miami-Herald, Miami Times, Univision and WLRN. Giménez’s campaign manager declined the invitation for the Sept. 28 debate in a brief email Wednesday that offered no explanation. The skipped event extends a pattern Giménez established in the seven-candidate mayoral primary, when the incumbent accepted only one invitation to appear alongside his main challenger, school-board member Raquel Regalado.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/16]

HEADLINE: “Carlos Giménez Declines Another Debate In County Mayoral Race.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/16]
Miami-Herald Editorial: “Giménez’s Hide-And-Seek Strategy Regarding Debates Has Come Across As Small And Peevish”

Miami-Herald Editorial: “Giménez’s Hide-And-Seek Strategy Regarding Debates Has Come Across As Small And Peevish.” “A good leader can engage in a debate frankly and thoroughly, knowing that at the end he and the other side must be closer, and thus emerge stronger,” former South African President Nelson Mandela once remarked. Mayor Giménez’s hide-and-seek strategy regarding debates has come across as small and peevish. And while it may turn out to be sound political advice in terms of winning reelection, it lacks the kind of leadership and transparency one would expect from an incumbent mayor.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 10/20/16]

EDITORIAL HEDLINE: “Mayor Carlos Giménez Should Have Agreed To More Debates.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 10/20/16]

2011: Giménez Refused To Appear In Several Debates With His Opponent After He Had Agreed To Take Part In Them

Giménez Refused To Appear In Several Debates With His Opponent For Mayor Of Miami-Dade. “Political debate season is apparently over for Miami-Dade mayoral candidate Carlos Giménez. After the former county commissioner was a no-show at a face-off Monday, his campaign canceled Giménez’s appearances in a series of events scheduled this week against opponent Julio Robaina. […] While candidates often engage in posturing before agreeing to debates, it is unusual for them to cancel once they have agreed to take part. […] Giménez’s campaign also canceled a Wednesday debate organized by Miami-Dade College and Miami’s Downtown Development Authority, and a Tuesday forum hosted by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Miami-Dade County Architects and Engineering Society.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]

One Organization Had Paid Several Thousand Dollars To Put A Debate Together Before Giménez Declined To Appear. “‘We are very upset,’ said Carlos Gil, president of the Cuban-American civil engineers. Gil said his organization found out about the change of plans only after it called Giménez to confirm details about whether the candidate would also be joining the groups for lunch. ‘It was a total disrespect to the entire engineering community,’ said Gil, adding that the organizations paid several thousand dollars to put the forum together. The forum, expected to draw about a hundred people, will still take place, he added, but only with Robaina.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]

Miami-Herald: ‘While Candidates Often Engage In Posturing Before Agreeing To Debates, It Is Unusual For Them To Cancel Once They Have Agreed To Take Part.’ “While candidates often engage in posturing before agreeing to debates, it is unusual for them to cancel once they have agreed to take part. […] Giménez’s campaign also canceled a Wednesday debate organized by Miami-Dade College and Miami’s Downtown Development Authority, and a Tuesday forum hosted by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Miami-Dade County Architects and Engineering Society.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]

Giménez Is A Strong Trump Supporter

**Significant Findings**

- Despite having called on Trump to step down as the Republican nominee after the Access Hollywood tape was released in 2016...
- ... Giménez attended Trump’s inauguration in 2017.
- ...and by 2019, Giménez refused to answer reporters’ questions about his positions on Trump’s impeachment.
- In January 2020, Giménez announced his run for Congress in a tweet containing gratitude for a Trump visit to Doral, and Trump returned the favor with his endorsement that same day.
- Giménez encouraged the President to host the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral resort.
  - Giménez said that he would assist Trump in “any way possible” to host G-7 at Trump’s resort.
- In 2015, Giménez faced an ethics probe to determine if Trump improperly lobbied him during a round of golf.

Despite Having Called On Trump To Step Down As The Republican Nominee After The Access Hollywood Tape…

After The Access Hollywood Tape, Giménez Said That He Wouldn’t Vote For Trump, Urged Trump To Step Down As His Party’s Nominee And Claimed He Voted For Clinton

Giménez Said That He Wouldn’t Vote For Trump In 2016. “Pushed into a run-off against a rival who has already denounced Donald Trump, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said for the first time Wednesday he was not planning to vote for the GOP nominee.” [Miami-Herald, 8/31/16]

Giménez Said That Trump Should Step Down As His Party’s Nominee. “Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee.” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez’s Decision Came After The Release Of The Access Hollywood Tape Where Trump Made Lewd Comments About Women. “The apparent snub may be evidence of a lasting grudge between Trump and Giménez, who tried to distance himself from his fellow Republican at a time when the 2016 presidential campaign overlapped with the mayor’s own reelection bid. During a televised debate with challenger Raquel Regalado in October of that year, Giménez called on Trump to drop out of the race because of Trump’s lewd comments about women captured by an Access Hollywood recording.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/18]

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election, But Came Short Of An Endorsement

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election. “Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR
CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “I’m Not Going To Endorse Anybody […] But Between Donald Trump And Hillary Clinton, […] Obviously, I Must Be Voting For Hillary Clinton.” “Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “He Wasn’t Happy I Didn’t Endorse Him. I Know That”

Giménez: “He Wasn’t Happy I Didn’t Endorse Him. I Know That.” “Asked if Trump was angry at him or ribbing him, Giménez said the conversation a few weeks after Election Day reflected Trump’s disapproval but was still fairly lighthearted. ‘He wasn’t happy I didn’t endorse him. I know that,’ Giménez said. ‘It was a friendly conversation. It was kind of joking.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/1/17]

…Giménez Attended Trump’s Presidential Inauguration

2017: Giménez Attended Trump’s Presidential Inauguration

2017: Giménez Attended Trump’s Presidential Inauguration. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez has told associates he plans to attend Donald Trump’s presidential inauguration after a fall campaign that saw the Republican mayor endorse Hillary Clinton and call on Trump to withdraw from the race.” [Miami-Herald, 1/13/17]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Republican Mayor Who Backed Clinton Plans To Attend Trump Inauguration.” [Miami-Herald, 1/13/17]

Giménez Refused To Answer Reporters’ Questions About His Positions On Trump’s Impeachment

Giménez Refused To Answer Reporters’ Questions About His Positions On Trump’s Impeachment

Dec. 2019: Giménez Refused To Answer Reporters’ Questions About His Positions On Trump’s Impeachment. “One of her big-name potential challengers, outgoing Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, won’t even talk about impeachment. ‘No comment,’ Giménez said, after a Tuesday County Commission meeting in downtown Miami. Told the impeachment question was related to an article about Mucarsel-Powell Giménez responded: ‘Who?’” [Miami-Herald, 12/4/19]

Miami-Herald: Giménez Won’t Even Talk About Impeachment. “One of her big-name potential challengers, outgoing Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, won’t even talk about impeachment. ‘No comment,’ Giménez said, after a Tuesday County Commission meeting in downtown Miami. Told the impeachment question was related to an article about Mucarsel-Powell Giménez responded: ‘Who?’” [Miami-Herald, 12/4/19]

Giménez Announced His Run For Congress Praising Trump And Received Trump’s Endorsement That Same Day
Jan. 23rd, 2020: Giménez Announced His Run For Congress In A Twitter Post Containing Gratitude For A Trump Visit At Trump Doral... Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his run for Congress Thursday in a Twitter post that led with gratitude for President Donald Trump, and hours later the president returned the favor with his endorsement of Giménez to take on freshman Democratic Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell in what’s expected to be one of the most expensive and hard-fought races in the country. [...] Giménez launched his campaign for Florida’s 26th Congressional District via tweet from a new campaign Twitter account at 2:24 p.m., hours before President Donald Trump was set to travel to Doral for an appearance at the Republican National Committee winter meeting, held at his own resort. ‘Welcome to Miami @realDonaldTrump. Thank you for all you’ve done for our economy & to fight socialism,’ Giménez tweeted in something of a departure from his normally moderate tone. ‘I look forward to standing w/ you against the radical left who are determined to turn the U.S. into Venezuela. I’m running!’” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

Jan. 23 2020: Giménez: “Welcome To Miami @realDoladTrump […] I’m Running!” GIMENEZ: “Welcome to Miami @realDonaldTrump. Thank you for all you’ve done for our economy & to fight socialism. I look forward to standing w/ you against the radical left who are determined to turn the U.S. into Venezuela. I’m running! Join the #FL26 fight here >>.” [Twitter, @CarlosGiménezFL, 1/23/20]

Jan. 23rd, 2020: Trump Endorsed Giménez’s Campaign For Congress. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his run for Congress Thursday in a Twitter post that led with gratitude for President Donald Trump, and hours later the president returned the favor with his endorsement of Giménez to take on freshman Democratic Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell in what’s expected to be one of the most expensive and hard-fought races in the country. ‘Carlos will win big, very exciting,’ read the message posted on Trump’s Twitter account at 9:52 p.m. “Great for Florida, great for USA! He has my complete and total Endorsement!” [Miami-Herald, 2/23/20]

Jan. 23rd 2020: Trump: Carlos Will Win Big, Very Exciting. Great For Florida, Great For USA! He Has My Complete And Total Endorsement! [Twitter, @realDonaldTrump, 1/23/20]

Miami-Herald: Giménez Greeted Trump At The Miami International Airport In A High-Profile Welcome Arranged By The White House

Miami-Herald: Giménez Greeted Trump At The Miami International Airport In A High-Profile Welcome Arranged By The White House. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez greeted President Donald Trump at Miami International Airport on Thursday in a high-profile welcome arranged by the White House as the Republican mayor runs for Congress three years after saying he was voting for Hillary Clinton. Giménez was at the bottom of the stairs and shook Trump’s hand when the president stepped off Air Force One at 5:40 p.m. at the county-run airport on his way to a Republican event booked at the president's Doral golf resort. Giménez’s official welcoming role for Trump came hours after he thanked Trump on Twitter while announcing his entry into the Republican primary for the District 26 seat held by one-term Democrat Debbie Mucarsel-Powell.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

Miami-Herald: Giménez Said He Spoke To Trump Himself During A Call The President Made To The Mayor When Hurricane Dorian Threatened Miami. “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]
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Giménez Said That He Would Assist Trump In “Any Way Possible” To Host G-7 At Trump’s Doral Resort

Giménez Said That He Would Assist Trump In “Any Way Possible” To Host G-7 At Trump’s Doral Resort. “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’’ [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Giménez Urged Trump To Still Host The G-7 Summit In Miami After Trump Withdrew His Plans To Hold It At His Golf Resort. With the news, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Republican who spoke to Trump personally about the summit this summer, urged the White House to stick with plans to hold it in the Miami area. In a text message with the Trump administration’s contact for local governments, Giménez suggested bringing world leaders to the county-owned Vizcaya Museum and Gardens. ‘I hope Miami will still be considered for G-7,’ Giménez wrote William Crozer, Trump’s deputy director of intergovernmental affairs. ‘It would be an honor. If there’s anything I can do, please let me know.’ Giménez, a potential congressional candidate in 2020, said Trump called him ahead of Hurricane Dorian in late August, and that the conversation included the president telling him the G-7 might be coming to Doral. In his text to Crozer, Giménez included a link to Vizcaya, a historic estate that’s attracted global events in the past. Bill Clinton brought the 1994 Summit of the Americas to the Miami area, and Ronald Reagan used it as a stop when Pope John Paul II visited the United States in 1987. ‘We hosted the conference of the Americas 20 years ago at Vizcaya,’ Giménez wrote in the text released by the mayor. ‘It is a spectacular venue and very good security wise... Reagan also met Pope John Paul there.’ ‘We can make it happen,’ Giménez wrote. ‘You won’t find a more spectacular venue in all America.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/20/19]

2015: Giménez Faced An Ethics Probe To Determine If Trump Improperly Lobbyed Him During A Round Of Golf

Giménez Faced An Ethics Probe To Determine If Trump Improperly Lobbyed Him During A Round Of Golf; The Miami-Dade Ethics Commission Cleared Giménez. “Miami-Dade’s ethics commission rejected a complaint by blogger that claimed Trump improperly lobbied Giménez during their round at the Crandon Park golf course in late 2013. Trump reportedly criticized the condition of the county-owned course and offered to buy it. Giménez said that wasn’t possible, but eventually was in talks with Trump’s organization about outsourcing management to the celebrity developer.” [Miami-Herald, 6/17/15]


In August 2013, Giménez Played Golf With Trump At A County Owned Golf Course, And Trump Expressed His Interest In Buying The Course. “Trump visited Crandon Park Golf Course in October 2013 to
play a round with County Mayor Carlos Giménez. Talk turned to Trump’s vision of rehabilitating the public facility; in fact, Trump wanted to buy the place.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 8/10/15]

Giménez’s Son Lobbied For Trump While Trump Was Discussing A Potential Takeover Of A County Owned Course With Giménez. “Giménez cited his son’s lobbying work in Doral for Trump, saying a recusal was necessary to remove any question about financial conflict for the golf-course mogul -- who also recently became a top contributor to the mayor’s reelection effort. The recusal announcement was made in a memo to county commissioners, saying Giménez had just learned that Miami-Dade received an unsolicited Crandon proposal from Trump. The document did not mention Giménez’s active role in the county’s talks with Trump, which aides detailed after inquiries from the Miami-Herald.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

C.J. Giménez Said That He Also Talked To His Father About Trump’s Proposals To Take Over The Golf Course. “The younger Giménez said in an interview he took Trump on as a client in 2013. While he said he strictly avoids county business, the younger Giménez said he did advise Russo on how he might craft a proposal for Crandon. ‘My role was extremely limited. Only in providing Mr. Russo guidance on legal and procedural issues,’ he said. ‘I had absolutely zero interaction with anyone at the county in this matter.’ He said he did talk to his father about Trump’s interest in submitting a proposal. His father was ‘just asking to see what the status is,’ the younger Giménez said. ‘I didn’t have a lot of information because I wasn’t involved. My response was Ed was working on it.’” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Mar.-Apr. 2015: After Giménez Recused Himself From Trump’s Attempted Purchase, Trump Sent Him A Letter About The Course; He Directed Trump To County Administrators


Trump And Giménez Shared Correspondence About Trump’s Desire To Purchase The County Owned Golf Course, And Giménez Directed Him To County Administrators. “On March 5, Trump signed a letter to Giménez proposing to renovate, ‘rebrand’ and operate the golf course. Trump asked how ‘to move this process forward.’ Attached was a project summary titled ‘Initial Offer.’ On April 15, Giménez wrote Trump that his framework was ‘intriguing.’ He directed Trump’s attention to the county’s Unsolicited Proposals Ordinance, which governs the processing of such projects. On July 2, following many meetings and emails between Trump’s project representative and county administrators, Trump signed a transmittal letter to the county’s parks director. The subject line: ‘Unsolicited Offer for Crandon Golf Course.’” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 8/10/15]

Giménez To Trump: “I Look Forward To Further Discussions Regarding Crandon Golf Course And Appreciate Your Interest In Improving The Game Of Golf In Our Community.” “I look forward to further discussions regarding Crandon Golf Course and appreciate your interest in improving the game of golf in our community,’ Giménez wrote to Trump, who bought the Doral Golf Resort in 2012.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Feb. 2015: Giménez Said That He Recused Himself From Trump’s Proposals To Take Over The Crandon Golf Course. “Giménez told CBS 4 reporter Jim DeFede on Feb. 15. ‘Out of an abundance of caution, I said ‘I’m going to recuse myself. You work with Jack Kardys.’ ‘The recusal issue first surfaced on Feb. 10, the day the Miami-Herald revealed Trump had submitted a detailed Crandon proposal to the county’s Parks Department in July. The next day, Giménez sent a memo to county commissioners formally recusing himself from the Crandon matter. ‘On Feb. 10, 2015, I became aware that Miami-Dade County received an unsolicited proposal from the Trump organization to assume management of the Crandon Golf Course in Key Biscayne,’ Giménez wrote in the Feb. 11 memo.” [Miami-Herald, 2/22/15]
Giménez Solicited The Donations After Trump Offered To Take Over The County Owned Crandon Golf Course. “Giménez solicited the donation after Trump, whose Doral resort is one of the largest hotels in Miami-Dade, was in talks with Giménez and his administration about taking over the county-owned Crandon Park golf course. The potential deal fizzled shortly before Trump entered the presidential race in June 2015. His harsh comments at the announcement about undocumented immigrants from Mexico prompted Giménez to return the donation.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

2015: Trump Was A Major Contributor To Giménez’s Reelection Campaign. “Giménez cited his son’s lobbying work in Doral for Trump, saying a recusal was necessary to remove any question about financial conflict for the golf-course mogul -- who also recently became a top contributor to the mayor’s reelection effort. The recusal announcement was made in a memo to county commissioners, saying Giménez had just learned that Miami-Dade received an unsolicited Crandon proposal from Trump. The document did not mention Giménez’s active role in the county’s talks with Trump, which aides detailed after inquiries from the Miami-Herald.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Giménez Retuned Trump’s Donations After He Launched A Bid For President

Jun. 2015: Giménez Retuned Trump’s Donations After Trump Launched His Presidential Bid With Controversial Comments About Illegal Immigrants From Mexico. “The would-be deal fizzled once the proposal became public in early 2015, on the heels of Trump making a $15,000 donation to Giménez’s reelection effort. Documents released at the time included a March 5, 2014, letter to the mayor in which Trump wrote he would like to pump millions into rehabbing the waterfront course and ‘MAKE IT GREAT!’ Giménez returned the donation in June, after Trump launched his presidential bid with controversial comments about illegal Mexican immigrants that brought him an official denunciation from the Miami-Dade County Commission.” [Miami-Herald, 8/31/16]
Giménez Made It Harder For Miami-Dade Residents To Access Health Care, And Opposed Certain Sections Of The Affordable Care Act

Giménez Made It Harder For Miami-Dade County Residents To Enroll In Affordable Care Act Exchanges By Eliminating The County’s Healthcare Planning Department

Giménez Opposed Gov. Scott’s Decision To Ban Affordable Care Act “Navigators” From Helping County Residents…

Giménez Opposed Gov. Scott’s Decision To Ban Affordable Care Act “Navigators” From Helping County Residents. “Miami-Dade, where a third of the residents are uninsured, may follow Broward and Pinellas counties in defying Florida’s ban on Obamacare navigators at county health departments. ‘We welcome the federal government doing that,’ Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, a Republican, told the Miami Herald’s Naked Politics blog. ‘From my understanding, it’s just helping people navigate the new laws. I don’t see any problems with that.’ Navigators, essentially counselors hired under Affordable Care Act (ACA) to assist the uninsured with signing up for the new expanded coverage, were prohibited at county buildings in Florida after Gov. Rick Scott (R) and other state officials cited concerns over identity theft.” [HuffPost, 9/25/13]

…but Eliminated The County’s Healthcare Planning Department, Which Closed The Same Day The Exchanges Open; Critics Said It Would Make Enrollment More Difficult

Miami-Dade County Announced It Would Eliminate Its Healthcare Planning Department On The Same Day That Affordable Care Act Exchange Enrollment Started For The First Time. “The federal government is
spending $67 million to eliminate confusion as consumers shop for coverage on the new health insurance exchanges mandated by the Affordable Care Act. Critics say Miami-Dade County is making it more difficult. The Associated Press reports Florida’s most populous county plans to eliminate its Healthcare Planning Department, the agency responsible for assisting residents ‘who may not know which health program or service best fits their needs’, on October 1 — the same day that the new state insurance exchange and open enrollment goes live.” [HuffPost, 9/18/13]

A Spokeswoman For Giménez Stated The Elimination Was Not Related To The Affordable Care Act, But The Strapped County Budget. “A spokeswoman for Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez (R) told the AP the department’s elimination is not tied to the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, noting that the move will save $728,000 from the strapped county budget. But the decision also follows a week after Florida’s department of health banned federally-funded Obamacare counselors, or “navigators,” from helping residents sign up for insurance on the grounds of county health departments.” [HuffPost, 9/18/13]

The Spokeswoman Said The Timing Was Because Of The Beginning Of The Fiscal Year, But Could Not Guarantee Other County Departments Would Absorb The Services. “A spokeswoman for Republican Mayor Carlos Gimenez’s office said the department is being cut because of limited resources and that the move will save $728,000, including five staff positions. The timing is the beginning of their fiscal year and not related to the new federal health law, spokeswoman Vanessa Santana-Peñate told The Associated Press. She said other departments in the county will try to absorb the services, but she added it's likely ‘we will have to partner with other agencies.’” [Associated Press, 9/18/13]

Gimenez Did Not Endorse An $830 Million Voter-Approved Bond For Jackson Memorial Hospital System; In 2020, The Hospital Credited The Bond For Its Ability To Treat Coronavirus Patients

2013: Gimenez Did Not Endorse A Referendum To Raise Property Taxes To Fund $830 Million For Upgrades And New Equipment And Facilities At Jackson Memorial. “Four months of campaign messages about the long-deferred needs of Jackson Health System and the urgency for the aging public hospital system to more effectively compete against South Florida’s private and not-for-profit hospitals paid off Tuesday. Miami-Dade voters approved a referendum to raise their property taxes and fund $830 million in upgrades and new equipment and facilities for Jackson. […] However, several high-profile elected officials, including Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, never fully endorsed the campaign — even if they publicly voiced support for using public funds to fill Jackson’s capital and long-term needs. Gimenez said Tuesday that he voted yes on the bond referendum, but he expressed reservations in a written statement this week explaining why he has not publicly endorsed the campaign. ‘While I am personally in favor of funding the modernization and improvements of facilities to the Jackson Health System, I still have questions on the long-term use of those funds in light of the Affordable Care Act,’” Gimenez said in the statement. ‘That said, if the voters approve the funding, I will ensure that we exercise the necessary due diligence so that the people’s money is well spent.’” [Miami Herald, 11/5/13]

July 2013: Asked If He Would Vote For A Property Tax Increase To Fund $830 Million Upgrades At Jackson Memorial, Gimenez Replied, “I Don’t Know Yet.” “Don’t count on Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez to help the public Jackson Health System make its pitch to voters for $830 million in taxpayer-funded upgrades. Gimenez told The Miami Herald last week that he has not decided if he will vote for the property-tax rate hike on the Nov. 5 ballot. ‘I don’t know yet,’ he said.” [Miami Herald, 7/14/13]

Miami’s Jackson Health System Credited An $830 Million Bond Approved By Voters In 2013 For Its Ability To Adequately Treat Coronavirus Patients. “In the worst-case scenario of a massive surge of patients infected by the novel coronavirus, Miami’s public hospital says it’s much better prepared than it would have been if county voters had not approved an $830 million ‘miracle’ bond issue in 2013. Aside from shortages of personal protective gear like N95 respirator masks, public health experts and healthcare professionals across the country have sounded alarms about hospital bed space and intensive care unit capacity for facilities likely to see a wave of patients suffering from COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, in the coming weeks. At Jackson Health System, Miami-Dade’s safety-net hospital, more than five years of supercharged capital spending has left the
healthcare network more flexible in its capacity, which could be crucial as it prepares to deal with a potential surge, hospital leaders said this week.” [Miami Herald, 3/20/20]

NOTE: Jackson Memorial Hospital billed a Miami resident over $3,000 for a coronavirus test. [Miami Herald, 2/24/20]

2009: Giménez Voted In Favor Of The Affordable Care Act Consistent With NACO’s Reform Principles Which Consisted Of Eliminating Key Sections Of The ACA

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Urging Congress To Pass The Affordable Care Ac Consistent With NACO’s Health Care Reform Principles. In June 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL HEALTH REFORM LEGISLATION CONSISTENT WITH NACO’S HEALTH CARE REFORM PRINCIPLES.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-892-09, Vote 091899, 6/30/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The National Association Of Counties Was Opposed To The ACA’s “Cadillac Tax” On The Most Expensive Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Plans Meant To Protect Consumers

The National Association Of Counties Was Opposed To The ACA’s “Cadillac Tax.” “On Feb. 23, the IRS issued a notice seeking comments as it prepares to develop regulations for the Affordable Care Act’s so-called “Cadillac tax” that is set to take effect in 2018, including on potential “excepted benefit[s]” that would not count toward the tax, Modern Healthcare reports.” [National Association of Counties, 3/24/15]

The “Cadillac Tax” Was A 40% Tax On The Most Expensive Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Plans. “The Cadillac tax levies a 40 percent tax on the most expensive employer-sponsored health insurance plans, those worth about $11,200 for individuals and $30,100 for families, starting in 2022. The tax on businesses would hit the part of the plan above the price threshold. It was supposed to go into effect in 2018 at a lower price threshold, but was delayed. Repealing the tax would cost the United States an estimated $197 billion over 10 years, according to an analysis by the Joint Committee on Taxation. The House bill, the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act of 2019, has more than 350 co-sponsors and is expected to pass with bipartisan support.” [Vox, 7/17/19]

2018: Tax Extenders Delayed ACA Excise Tax On Medical Device Manufacturers, Suspended The Health Insurer Fee For Two Years, And Delayed The Cadillac Tax From Taking Effect For One Additional Year. “Meanwhile, Brady would further delay the onset of several of the 2010 health care law’s taxes that Congress has already repeatedly pushed back, namely the excise tax on medical device manufacturers, a fee applied to health insurers and the so-called Cadillac tax on high-cost employer-sponsored health plans. Brady’s revised bill would extend the medical device tax suspension for five years, through 2024; suspend the health insurer fee for two years through 2021; and delay the Cadillac tax from taking effect for one additional year, through 2022.” [Roll Call, 12/11/18]


The National Association Of Counties Opposed The ACA Including Coverage For Volunteer Emergency Responders Through The Employer Mandate

The National Association Of Counties Opposed The ACA Including Volunteer Emergency Responders To It’s Employer Mandate. “The National Association of Counties (NACo) is pleased to report that today the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) announced that final regulations on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) employer mandate will exempt the hours of volunteer fire fighters and other local government and non-profit
emergency responders from triggering the coverage mandate which would require that they be provided affordable comprehensive health insurance. […] Under the ACA employers with 50 or more full time workers are required to offer affordable comprehensive health insurance to their employees or be subject to a penalty. Under the ACA, full time generally means 30 or more hours per week, with the hours of part time workers combined into full time equivalent employees (FTEs). Treasury had not, to date, responded to the concerns raised by NACo or the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) about the status of volunteer emergency workers. Counties served by volunteer fire departments often rural counties were very concerned that being required to offer comprehensive health coverage to their volunteers could force the departments to close.” [National Association of Counties, 1/10/14]

HEADLINE: “Treasury Issues Final Rules Exempting County Volunteers From ACA Coverage Requirement.” [National Association of Counties, 2/14/14]

HEADLINE: “Big Win For Counties: Volunteer Firefighters And EMTs Exempted From ACA Coverage Requirements.” [National Association of Counties, 1/10/14]

### Giménez’s Health Insurance Policies Hurt Workers

| Giménez Required County Employees To Double Their Salary Contributions For Health Insurance, Even After A $42 Million Surplus In The County’s Health-Insurance Account |

Giménez Required County Employees To Double Their Salary Contribution For Health Insurance. “Giménez announced Monday that nonunion employees’ healthcare contribution will jump to 10 percent of their salaries from 5 percent to ease county costs. Coupled with the county’s previously announced step to eliminate three percent cost-of-living raises for nonunion workers, the move is expected to save $9.2 million through the balance of the current fiscal year — which ends Sept. 30 — and more than $35 million in the new fiscal year.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/11]

Giménez Was Criticized By County Labor Unions For Asking Employees To Contribute More Towards Healthcare Costs After Carrying A $42 Million Surplus In The County’s Health-Insurance Account. “The heads of three county labor unions fired up their troops outside County Hall on Tuesday afternoon, castigating Mayor Carlos Giménez’s administration for carrying a $42 million surplus in the county’s health-insurance account while asking employees to contribute more toward healthcare costs.” [Miami-Herald, 6/18/13]

| 2013: The Miami-Dade County Commission Eliminated The Unpopular Employee Health Care Concession In Defiance Of Mayor Giménez; Giménez Then Vetoed The Commission’s Decision |

2013: The Miami-Dade County Commission Eliminated The Unpopular Employee Health Care Concession In Defiance Of Mayor Giménez. “Miami-Dade County commissioners eliminated an unpopular employee healthcare concession on Thursday, restoring public workers’ pay in defiance of Mayor Carlos Giménez after hours of harrowing testimony from labor unions. As of Jan. 1, most of the county’s nearly 26,000 employees will stop contributing 5 percent of their base pay toward group healthcare costs, for the first time in more than three years.” [Miami-Herald, 12/5/13]

HEAÐLINE: “Commission Fails To Override Miami-Dade Mayor’s Veto On Workers’ Pay By Single Vote.” [Miami-Herald, 12/17/13]

| Giménez Was Against Overhauling Miami-Dade County Employees’ Health Insurance And Cutting Premium Costs |

Giménez Was Against Overhauling Miami-Dade County Employee’s Health Insurance And Cutting Premium Costs. “County commissioners voted Tuesday to overhaul county employees’ health insurance -- cutting
premium costs by thousands of dollars for some. […] A private company will administer the plan, and the commission hired AvMed Health Plan. AvMed was the highest rated of seven bidders, but is charging some about $15 million more over the three-year contract than runner-up United HealthCare -- which concerned commissioner Carlos Giménez. ‘’I know that maybe $5 or $20 million is not a big thing for the administration, but I think taxpayers may have a different opinion,’’ he said. ‘’They’re the ones footing the bill.’’ Most commissioners, however, welcomed Burgess’ recommendation to value service quality over price. Giménez was the only commissioner to oppose the deal, which passed 10-1.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/07]

**Giménez Wanted A Collection Agency To Aggressively Pursue Ambulance Ride Patients Who Wouldn’t Afford To Pay**

Giménez Urged The County Commission To Hire A Collection Agency To Aggressively Pursue Patients Who Could Not Pay For Ambulance Rides. “The bigger problem may exist at the fire department. Miami charges patients anywhere from $175 to $290 for a trip in a rescue truck. That amounts to nearly $8 million in billings annually, according to Gabriel, the fire union official. Miami hires billing agencies to send invoices to patients -- but not a collection agency to collect them. The city collects less than 45 percent of what its owed for hospital runs. Dade County uses a collection service -- and collects about 64 percent of what it is owed for fire rescue runs to the hospital. Miami Fire Chief Carlos Giménez said his department asked commissioners to hire a collection agency. They said no. Commissioners did not want to ‘aggressively pursue’ people who could not pay, he said.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/96]
Giménez Failed To Lead In Midst Of Disaster

NOTE: Miami-Dade County’s response to COVID-19 was ongoing as of the writing of this book. Please reach out to the DCCC Research department for an up-to-date analysis of Giménez and Miami-Dade’s response to the crisis.

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez dangerously downplayed the danger of COVID-19, and praised the leadership of President Trump and Governor DeSantis.

✓ Giménez warned against overreacting to the coronavirus and “unnecessary panic.” Giménez repeatedly insisted that “we should live our lives normally” and that “the risk is low.”

✓ Giménez dragged his feet on implementing a stay-at-home order in Miami-Dade, arguing it would be “confusing” and “panic-inducing,” and repeatedly defended Florida’s dangerous lack of a statewide stay-at-home order.

✓ A Kinsa health study found that coronavirus cases were increasing faster in Miami-Dade than in counties that had implemented social distancing measures sooner.

✓ Giménez failed to take crucial actions to enforce social distancing and stem the deadly spread of the coronavirus.

✓ Giménez said that curtailing public events was not necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus, even saying that it was not necessary to cancel the Ultra Music Festival because mostly young people attended.

✓ Giménez supported allowing cruises to dock in Miami; thousands of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship in Miami without medical screening.

✓ As throngs of spring breakers descended on Florida, Giménez kept Miami-Dade’s beaches open and defended Florida’s decision to keep beaches open statewide.

✓ When Miami’s Republican mayor asked Trump to stop flights to Miami from international and domestic COVID hotspots, Giménez told Trump to disregard the plea.

✓ Giménez did not support paid sick leave for essential employees who were at risk for the virus.

✓ Miami-Dade County did not require its contractors, including at MIA and the Metrorail, to give employees paid sick leave – meaning sick workers might come to work and spread the virus.

✓ Before the pandemic, Giménez’s administration argued requiring contractors give paid sick leave would be expensive and would scare off potential bidders.

✓ Giménez failed to display leadership in times of Hurricane response.

✓ Giménez used a conversation with the President during Hurricane Dorian to speak about the possibilities of hosting the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral resort.

✓ Giménez was criticized for failing to order food, water, and ice deliveries for residents affected by Hurricane Irma.
During Hurricane Irma, many Miami-Dade shelters either failed to open or had long lines; Giménez was responsible for opening shelters.

Giménez said that bottled water wasn’t required to get through a storm and praised the county’s water system.

Giménez told county residents standing in line for water in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma to “go home” and drink the tap water.

In 2018, Giménez ordered to reopen Miami’s beaches despite “Red Tide” being present.

Giménez Dangerously Downplayed The Danger Of COVID-19, And Praised The Leadership Of President Trump And Governor DeSantis

In Late February, Giménez Cautioned Against Over Reaction To Coronavirus, And Said That It Was Not An Actual Threat To Miami-Dade

Feb 27, 2020: Giménez Cautioned Against Over Reaction To Coronavirus Because It Was Not An Actual Threat To Miami-Dade. “I liken this to a hurricane threat,” he said at a press conference outside his 29th Floor offices in County Hall. The remarks followed the mayor’s first meeting on coronavirus with a string of county agencies and other government entities, including the school system, PortMiami and Miami International Airport. Giménez said he met last week with state health officials on the virus. Giménez cautioned against overreaction to a virus that remains a potential threat to Miami-Dade, rather than an actual one. He urged residents to follow basic flu-season protocols, including frequent hand washing, the use of hand sanitizers and not reporting to work when ill.” [Miami-Herald, 2/27/20]

Giménez: “I Liken This To A Hurricane Threat.” “I liken this to a hurricane threat,” he said at a press conference outside his 29th Floor offices in County Hall. The remarks followed the mayor’s first meeting on coronavirus with a string of county agencies and other government entities, including the school system, PortMiami and Miami International Airport. Giménez said he met last week with state health officials on the virus. [Miami-Herald, 2/27/20]

March 12, 2020: Giménez Warned Against “Overreact[ing]” To The Coronavirus, Noting That There Was Only One Case In Miami-Dade County And That Most Cases Were Mild. “We also want our decisions to be guided by science and not to overreact. As you know, the Florida Department of Health has reported one positive case in a 56-year-old man in Miami-Dade and a Miami-Dade resident. That is a travel-related case, and the gentleman is in self-isolation at home. Now, as difficult as things may seem, I want to remind everyone that 80% of those who test positive to the virus have mild cases and may not even know they’ve had the virus. Another 15% are in serious condition, and about 3% become critical. Our collective focus at the local, state, and national level has been protecting the most vulnerable to serious illness from COVID-19. The CDC and the World Health Organization have found that people 60 years and older and seniors with serious medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer are most at risk. Those with compromised immune systems are also at risk.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez Warned About “Unnecessary Panic” Over Coronavirus. “Avoid misconceptions and prevent unnecessary panic in your community. The risk of getting #COVID19 in the U.S. is still currently low; keep these factors in mind when protecting yourself and others.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/6/20]
In Early March, Giménez Spent Days Insisting That “We Should Live Our Lives Normally” And That “The Risk Is Low”

Giménez On Coronavirus: “The Risk Is Low”

Giménez On Coronavirus On March 6, 2020: “The Risk Is Low.” “Now he’s trying to minimize his losses after the three-day electronic dance music festival was canceled when city officials grew concerned over the potential spread of the novel coronavirus that causes the disease now known as COVID-19. […] After a meeting with other municipal leaders Thursday, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez cited state guidance in repeating his position that the county saw no need to cancel major events. That includes the yearly festival on the county's fairgrounds in Kendall, the Youth Fair, which starts March 12. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low,’ Giménez said after the County Hall meeting with mayors and city managers across Miami-Dade, where Noriega represented Miami.” [Miami Herald, 3/6/20]

Giménez: “The Threat Of The Coronavirus Is Still Low.” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally. Okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the state of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregates? No. We’re not doing that.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez Claimed He Did Not Want To Cancel Ultra, Because The Coronavirus “Risk Is Low.” The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks quote-tweeted his earlier tweet that Giménez argued events like Ultra were safe from coronavirus because they mostly attracted young people and tweeted, “Spoke to @MayorGiménez on this: Don’t think he would say it that way again. Said at state meeting yesterday, he asked Fl surgeon general about Miami
Open tennis, Ultra, spring break. Advice was don’t cancel. *Not* because of age of participants but be overall ‘risk is low’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

Giménez: “The Risk Of Getting #COVID19 In The U.S. Is Still Currently Low.” “Avoid misconceptions and prevent unnecessary panic in your community. The risk of getting #COVID19 in the U.S. is still currently low; keep these factors in mind when protecting yourself and others.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/6/20]

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Just Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally”

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally.” Giménez said, “I asked the Attorney General and the Governor if there was any need to cancel any of the events that are coming up in Miami and Miami-Dade County – Ultra, the tennis tournament, the Youth Fair. And their advice was to just go ahead and live your life normally, and so not to cancel these events.” [CBS Miami, CBS 4 News at 5 PM, 3/3/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Well, Listen, We Just Need To Live Our Lives Normally, Okay?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally, okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the State of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregates? No. We’re not doing that.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez On Coronavirus On March 6, 2020: “We Should Live Our Lives Normally.” “Now he’s trying to minimize his losses after the three-day electronic dance music festival was canceled when city officials grew concerned over the potential spread of the novel coronavirus that causes the disease known as COVID-19. […] After a meeting with other municipal leaders Thursday, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez cited state guidance in repeating his position that the county saw no need to cancel major events. That includes the yearly
festival on the county's fairgrounds in Kendall, the Youth Fair, which starts March 12. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low,’ Giménez said after the County Hall meeting with mayors and city managers across Miami-Dade, where Noriega represented Miami.” [Miami Herald, 3/6/20]

Giménez: “80% Of Those Who Test Positive To The Virus Have Mild Cases And May Not Even Know They’ve Had The Virus”

Giménez On Coronavirus: “I Want To Remind Everyone That 80% Of Those Who Test Positive To The Virus Have Mild Cases And May Not Even Know They’ve Had The Virus.” “We also want our decisions to be guided by science and not to overreact. As you know, the Florida Department of Health has reported one positive case in a 56-year-old man in Miami-Dade and a Miami-Dade resident. That is a travel-related case, and the gentleman is in self-isolation at home. Now, as difficult as things may seem, I want to remind everyone that 80% of those who test positive to the virus have mild cases and may not even know they’ve had the virus. Another 15% are in serious condition, and about 3% become critical. Our collective focus at the local, state, and national level has been protecting the most vulnerable to serious illness from COVID-19. The CDC and the World Health Organization have found that people 60 years and older and seniors with serious medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer are most at risk. Those with compromised immune systems are also at risk.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez Praised Trump For His “Strong Leadership During The COVID-19 Pandemic” Even Though Trump Repeatedly Downplayed The Risk Of The Crisis

Giménez To Trump: “Thank You For Your Strong Leadership During The COVID-19 Pandemic.” “Thank you for your strong leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic that is affecting our nation.” [Mayor Carlos Giménez Letter to President Donald Trump, 3/20/20]


Giménez Repeatedly Praised DeSantis’s Handling Of The Coronavirus Crisis

In A Press Conference, Giménez Repeatedly Thanked Governor Ron DeSantis For His “Leadership” On Coronavirus. Giménez said, “I have to say that, Governor, thank you for your leadership on this very important issue. I’m really appreciative of everything you’ve done for the people of the State of Florida and also for us here in Miami-Dade County. These are difficult times, and I can’t say enough about the Governor’s leadership and his administration’s close collaboration with Miami-Dade County to protect our [inaudible] from COVID-19. Thank you again, Governor DeSantis. […] Again, I can’t say enough about the leadership of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez On Coronavirus: “I Can’t Say Enough About The Governor’s Leadership.” Giménez said, “I have to say that, Governor, thank you for your leadership on this very important issue. I’m really appreciative of everything you’ve done for the people of the State of Florida and also for us here in Miami-Dade County. These are difficult times, and I can’t say enough about the Governor’s leadership and his administration’s close collaboration with Miami-Dade County to protect our [inaudible] from COVID-19. Thank you again, Governor DeSantis. […] Again, I can’t say enough about the leadership of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez: “Thank You @GovRonDeSantis For Keeping The Public Informed On Efforts To Prevent The Spread Of #Coronavirus.” Giménez tweeted, “Thank you @GovRonDeSantis for keeping the public informed on efforts to prevent the spread of #Coronavirus. Although Florida has no confirmed cases, #transparency on testing and monitoring is key to keeping the public safe.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 2/28/20]
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 67

Giménez Dragged His Feet On Implementing A Stay-At-Home Order In Miami-Dade And Repeatedly Defended Florida’s Dangerous Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order

Giménez Resisted Implementing A County-Wide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing It Would Be “Confusing” And “Panic-Inducing” …

March 23, 2020: Giménez Issued A Memo Rejecting A County-Wide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing It Would Be “Confusing” And “Panic-Inducing.” “Absent guidance from Gov. Ron DeSantis, multiple local governments in Miami-Dade on Monday ordered their residents to stay home as much as possible, allowing them only to leave their houses to exercise, get food and medicine, go to work if they have essential jobs and do other activities deemed necessary. […] The joint effort on the municipal level will increase pressure on Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez to take similar action countywide. He released a memo Monday throwing cold water on that idea, and arguing that the city decrees mostly repackage closure orders he’s already issued for parks, entertainment options and non-essential businesses. ‘While ‘shelter in place’ is the buzz phrase of the day, telling residents to actually do so could be confusing, especially for our seniors,’ Giménez wrote in a response to County Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, who also wants a countywide order to remain at home. ‘My messaging is much clearer and less panic-inducing.'” [Miami Herald, 3/23/20]

…Before Reversing Three Days Later

March 26, 2020: Giménez Issued A Stay-At-Home Order. “Broward County issued an emergency shelter-in-place order on Thursday in the face of pressure from city officials, urging all residents countywide to stay indoors except to conduct ‘essential’ business. Hours later, Miami-Dade County followed suit with an order with similar language and the same effect: urging people to remain at home as much as possible without new rules governing when they could go outside.” [Miami Herald, 3/26/20]

…A Week After Other States Had Already Done So

March 20, 2020: Illinois Governor JB Pritzker Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “Following the advice of leading public health experts around the globe, Governor JB Pritzker announced today has signed a statewide stay at home order, aiming to keep new cases of COVID-19 from rapidly increasing and ensure the state's health care system remains fully operational to treat patients in need of urgent care. The order takes effect 5 p.m. Saturday, March 21, 2020. In addition to the stay at home provisions, it also orders all local government units across the state to halt all evictions and bans gatherings of more than 10 people.” [Office of Governor JB Pritzker, Press Release, 3/20/20]

March 22, 2020: Ohio Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “The streets of Ohio’s cities and towns will be much quieter Tuesday morning if the state’s businesses and residents abide by new orders issued Sunday by Gov. Mike DeWine in an effort to slow the rush of new coronavirus cases across the state. The governor and Ohio Director of Health Dr. Amy Acton issued a ‘stay-at-home’ health order that will go into effect at 11:59 p.m. Monday. The order will stay in place until at least April 6 and will be reassessed at that time and as needed.” [Columbus Dispatch, 3/22/20]

Giménez Repeatedly Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order Down To The Day Gov. DeSantis Finally Announced His Order

March 27, 2020: Giménez Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing That Cases Were Concentrated In Miami-Dade County. CNN’S JIM SCIUTTO: “First question, Miami-Dade has issued these restrictions, stay-at-home order, et cetera. The state has not. Governor DeSantis has not gone there. Do local stay-at-home orders work or do you need broader state wide restrictions?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, there are differences throughout the state. I mean, we are the hotspot down here in southeast Florida. It's us, Broward and Palm Beach that have, you know, the bulk of the cases. And so there are some counties that don't have any cases in Florida. And so the governor is very supportive of the measures that we're taking down here. We actually call measure safer at home. We allow our folks to do the things, the necessities that they need to do. And then we urge them to stay at home if they're not. The city of Miami has imposed a curfew on the city. The city is about 34 square miles of 2,000 square mile area, which is Miami-Dade County. And -- but overall Miami-Dade has not put a curfew because our police chief said that it's not necessary, the streets are quiet. There's really no place to go because we shut down all nonessential businesses. There is no gathering places that people can go to. And then we've also put laws that said no more than 10 people can gather in any one place and also you have to remain at least six feet apart. And we're enforcing those laws. We're going into –“ SCIUTTO: “OK.” GIMÉNEZ: “-- different stores et cetera, and saying, hey, you got to keep part, if not, we're going to shut you down. And so what's going on down then.” [CNN, CNN Newsroom, 3/27/20] (VIDEO)

April 1, 2020: Giménez Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing That Some Florida Counties Were Unaffected By Coronavirus. CNN’S JIM SCIUTTO: “Joining us now is Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. This is an area that's quickly become an epicenter of the pandemic in the State of Florida. Just a short time ago, the Surgeon General of the United States, he cited the positive effect of states that have issued broad stay-at-home orders. He mentioned Washington State. He mentioned California. He also talked about Italy, a country that has done this, having success flattening the curve. ‘Aggressive mitigation,’ he called it. Why doesn't the State of Florida have a statewide measure like this, recommendation like this?” GIMÉNEZ: “The State of Florida is a pretty big state, and there are a lot of counties that don't have any COVID-19 cases.” […] SCIUTTO: “There are, of course, no walls between the counties of Florida. Aren’t you concerned that if you don’t have statewide guidance, then you can’t truly control it for the residents of your – of your county there? I wonder what your conversations are like with the Governor?” GIMÉNEZ: “My conversations with the Governor are very good. I mean, I understand that the State of Florida is very diverse, and it’s very different, and then there are some counties that are wide open, where they have no cases whatsoever and so measures there may not be the same measures that we take down here in South Florida. I support his measures that folks coming from, say New York, need to self-quarantine or self-isolate when they come down to Florida, because I know that’s an area which is a really hot spot. So, the Governor and I speak everyday, and he supports the things that we’re doing here. He knows that the things that we’re doing here are important. We closed our beaches, we closed our parks. We closed
all non-essential businesses. And we did that some time ago. But again, this is a place in Florida, which really has the larger number of cases. All of Southeast Florida is really where the bulk of the problem is.” [CNN, CNN Newsroom, 4/1/20] (VIDEO)

April 1, 2020: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Wednesday issued a statewide stay-at-home order amid growing national scrutiny of his handling of the coronavirus pandemic.” [Politico, 4/1/20]

HEADLINE: “DeSantis Issues Statewide Order To Stay At Home” [Politico, 4/1/20]

**Local Republicans Criticized Giménez’s Weak And Inconsistent Of Leadership On Coronavirus**

**Republican Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez: “We Have Led And The County Has Followed On Just About Everything”**

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez: “We Have Led And The County Has Followed On Just About Everything.” MIAMI HERALD’S DOUG HANKS: “Right now, you’re the biggest city in Miami-Dade County. What are you asking for from the county in terms of resources, messaging, help or anything that’s unique from Miami-Dade.” MIAMI MAYOR FRANCIS SUAREZ: “The biggest thing that I think we need is consistency of message and consistency of rules. Obviously, I know it’s impossible to be completely coherent at all times. But we have led and the county has followed on just about everything. You know, we were the first ones to cancel large events. The county followed. We’re the first ones to put stay-at-home orders in place. They just finally put a stay-at-home order. And we all have implemented a curfew and they have not done that. I think it would be helpful if they did, because it creates confusion. We have Hialeah, like I said, that has a curfew. Coral Gables has a curfew. Miami Beach, I believe has a curfew. At least they’ve asked us for a curfew, because they wanted to implement a curfew. So it would be easier if it were implemented all around rather than a week from now it being implemented.
I think the fast that we implement it, the better that it is for our residents, and the less confusing it is for our residents.” [Mayor Francis Suarez, Press Conference, 3/31/20] (VIDEO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Noted That The City Of Miami Led With Cancelling Large Events And Issuing A Stay-At-Home Order While Miami-Dade’s Similar Orders Came After. MIAMI HERALD’S DOUG HANKS: “Right now, you’re the biggest city in Miami-Dade County. What are you asking for from the county in terms of resources, messaging, help or anything that’s unique from Miami-Dade.” MIAMI MAYOR FRANCIS SUAREZ: “The biggest thing that I think we need is consistency of message and consistency of rules. Obviously, I know it’s impossible to be completely coherent at all times. But we have led and the county has followed on just about everything. You know, we were the first ones to cancel large events. The county followed. We’re the first ones to put stay-at-home orders in place. They just finally put a stay-at-home order. And we all have implemented a curfew and they have not done that. I think it would be helpful if they did, because it creates confusion. We have Hialeah, like I said, that has a curfew. Coral Gables has a curfew. Miami Beach, I believe has a curfew. At least they’ve asked us for a curfew, because they wanted to implement a curfew. So it would be easier if it were implemented all around rather than a week from now it being implemented. I think the fast that we implement it, the better that it is for our residents, and the less confusing it is for our residents.” [Mayor Francis Suarez, Press Conference, 3/31/20] (VIDEO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “Everyone That Has Criticized Me Has Later Had To Follow Me.” Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Republican Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo Criticized Giménez’s “Contradictory, Know-It-All Decrees That Keep Changing By The Day”

Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo On Giménez’s Coronavirus Response: “The Only Thing ‘Panic Inducing’ And ‘Confusing’ Are His Contradictory, Know-It-All Decrees That Keep Changing By The Day.” “Alex Diaz de la Portilla, a Miami commissioner backing a shelter-in-place order there, chastised Giménez for criticizing stronger language from cities after a string of emergency orders with changing rules and escalating restrictions. ‘The only thing ‘panic inducing’ and ‘confusing’ are his contradictory, know-it-all decrees that keep changing by the day,’ Diaz de la Portilla said.” [Miami Herald, 3/23/20]

Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo On Giménez: “He Should Be Listening To Healthcare Professionals.” Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks tweeted, “Miami Commish @AlexDiazdelaPo1 on @MayorGiménez rejecting ‘shelter-in-place’ orders in Miami-Dade: ‘The only thing 'panic inducing' and 'confusing' are his contradictory, know-it-all decrees that keep changing by the day. He should be listening to healthcare professionals’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/31/20]
Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo Was A Republican. “Former state senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla will make a third run at returning to public office. […] A state representative in the 1990s and state senator during the 2000s, Diaz de la Portilla has worked as political consultant in recent years and has unsuccessfully run for office twice since 2017. That year he lost a bid to return to the state Senate, where he once served among the senior leadership of the Republican majority.” [Miami Herald, 1/14/19]

A Kinsa Health Analysis Found That COVID Spread Faster In Miami-Dade County Than In Places That Had Implemented Social Distancing Measures Earlier

A Kinsa Health Study Found That Coronavirus Spread Faster In Miami-Dade County Than In Santa Clara County, Which Had Implemented Social Distancing Measures Earlier. “Social distancing is working, but timing and discipline are everything. Those are the takeaways of new research emerging into the effectiveness of mitigation measures aimed at the spreading novel coronavirus that demonstrates communities that acted more quickly and aggressively had better results than those that implemented partial, or gradual measures. […] Data from smart thermometer company Kinsa Health found that as social-distancing measures are enacted across the country, there has been ‘a significant drop in illness levels’ as measured by the company’s internet-connected thermometers. The number of people who got sick in a community depended on how early mitigation efforts were implemented. Santa Clara County, for example, imposed social-distancing restrictions starting on Feb. 10. A shelter-in-place order was implemented on March 17. By contrast, Miami-Dade County waited until March 12 before it issued a state of emergency — 32 days after Santa Clara announced its. The result was that while both communities saw cases drop, Miami-Dade had more people get sick.” [Miami Herald, 4/1/20]


Giménez Failed To Take Crucial Actions To Enforce Social Distancing And Stem The Deadly Spread Of The Coronavirus

Giménez Said That Curtailing Public Events Was Not Necessary To Prevent The Spread Of Coronavirus, Even Saying That It Was Not Necessary To Cancel The Ultra Music Festival Because Mostly Young People Attended

March 5, 2020: Giménez Said That Curtailing Public Gatherings Was Not Needed To Prevent Coronavirus Spread. “County Mayor Carlos Giménez said local governments should be focusing on vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, stepped-up sanitization, and encouraging all residents to be methodical in hand washing and sensitive to symptoms they might be sick. But he said the more drastic steps of curtailing public gatherings isn’t needed, based on advice from the administration of Gov. Ron DeSantis’ and guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on coronavirus risk.” [Miami-Herald, 3/5/20]

Giménez: “The County Has No Plans To Cancel Its Events, Because We Are Following The Advice Of The CDC.” “‘The county’s position is cities have the right to cancel events that they’re sponsoring or are happening on their properties. The county has no plans to cancel its events, because we are following the advice of the CDC and the state surgeon general,’ Giménez said. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low. That could change tomorrow.’” [Miami-Herald, 3/5/20]

Miami’s Late-March Ultra Music Festival Posed A Unique Coronavirus Risk – It Drew 55,000 Attendees A Day From More Than 100 Countries
Miami’s Ultra Music Festival Posed A Coronavirus Risk, Because It Drew 55,000 Attendees A Day – Including Visitors From More Than 100 Countries. “On the same day federal health officials confirmed that two Florida residents had tested positive for coronavirus, questions arose about a major international event scheduled to open in Miami in fewer than three weeks: Ultra Music Festival. […] Public health and government officials might have to consider whether downtown Miami should host a festival with a capacity of 55,000 people per day, with a significant portion of the crowd made up of visitors from more than 100 countries.” [Miami Herald, 3/2/20]

Ultra Was Scheduled To Open On March 20, 2020 And To Run For Three Days. “In a Monday press conference where Miami Mayor Francis Suarez spoke about the city’s preparations for coronavirus, the mayor said city administrators have asked organizers of the three-day electronic dance music festival to update the event’s safety and security plan to consider the possibility of COVID-19, the disease caused by novel coronavirus, spreading in South Florida. […] Ultra is scheduled to open March 20 at Bayfront Park, the public space on Miami’s downtown waterfront.” [Miami Herald, 3/2/20]

February 27, 2020: Asked If He Would Cancel Large Events Like Ultra, He Replied, “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet”

February 27, 2020: Asked About Cancelling Spring Break And Ultra Due To Coronavirus Concerns, Giménez Claimed “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet.” “Giménez said Thursday's closed-door meeting before the press briefing included discussion about how coronavirus, which has been gaining attention as a threat to world health since January, might affect large events on the Miami area's March calendar. Those include downtown Miami's Ultra, which begins March 20, and the county Youth Fair in the Kendall area, which begins March 12. But the county hasn't decided what to do regarding those events, Giménez said. Does Miami-Dade need a coronavirus plan for spring break and Ultra music fest? 'We haven't come up with any specific recommendations yet,' he said. ‘Those are things we're going to be discussing in the next week. Are there any precautions, is there anything different, we're going to do with spring break or with Ultra?’” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

March 3, 2020: Giménez Announced On Twitter That He Would Not Cancel “Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County, Such As Ultra” …

Giménez Tweeted, “We’re Not Canceling Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County, Such As Ultra” Due To Coronavirus. Giménez tweeted, “We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra, following guidance from Florida’s Surgeon General on #Coronavirus.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/3/20]
weeks can breathe a sigh of relief for now at least, with the mayor of Miami-Dade County saying that the show will go on. ‘We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra,’ Mayor Carlos A. Giménez tweeted on Tuesday, referencing the three-day electronic music festival that brought almost 170,000 attendees from 105 countries to Miami last year.” [Bloomberg, 3/3/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami’s Spring Break Is Set To Proceed Despite Virus Concerns” [Bloomberg, 3/3/20]


Giménez: “The County Has No Plans To Cancel Its Events … We Should Live Our Lives Normally. The Risk Is Low.” “County Mayor Carlos Giménez said local governments should be focusing on vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, stepped-up sanitization, and encouraging all residents to be methodical in hand washing and sensitive to symptoms they might be sick. But he said the more drastic steps of curtailting public gatherings isn’t needed, based on advice from the administration of Gov. Ron DeSantis and guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on coronavirus risk. ‘The county’s position is cities have the right to cancel events that they’re sponsoring or are happening on their properties. The county has no plans to cancel its events, because we are following the advice of the CDC and the state surgeon general,’ Giménez said. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low. That could change tomorrow.’” [Miami Herald, 3/5/20]

Giménez Argued He Would Not Cancel Major Events, Because “These Events, Like Ultra, Mostly Attract Young People” And Mainly Older People Were At Risk From Coronavirus …

Giménez Argued He Would Not Cancel Major Events, Because “These Events, Like Ultra, Mostly Attract Young People” And Mainly Older People Were At Risk From Coronavirus. The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks tweeted, “News on Ultra and coronavirus: Miami-Dade @MayorGiménez just now: ‘We're not cancelling any major events. These events, like Ultra, mostly attract young people...’ while coronavirus is most dangerous for older residents. Giménez had raised concerns about Ultra last week...” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

The Miami Herald Doug Hanks Noted That Giménez Would Not Say Ultra Was Safe Because It Mostly Attracted Young People Again, But That Giménez Felt Overall The “Risk Is Low.” The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks quote-tweeted his earlier tweet that Giménez argued events like Ultra were safe from coronavirus because they mostly attracted young people and tweeted, “Spoke to @MayorGiménez on this: Don’t think he would say it that way again. Said at state meeting yesterday, he asked Fl surgeon general about Miami Open tennis, Ultra, spring break. Advice was don’t cancel. *Not* because of age of participants but be overall ‘risk is low’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

… And Cited The Advice He Got From Governor Ron DeSantis To “Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally”

Giménez Claimed That He Asked Governor Ron DeSantis Whether He Should Cancel Ultra, The Miami Open, And The Youth Fair, “And Their Advice Was Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally.” Giménez said, “I asked the Attorney General and the Governor if there was any need to cancel any of the events that are coming up in Miami and Miami-Dade County – Ultra, the tennis tournament, the Youth Fair. And their advice was to just go ahead and live your life normally, and so not to cancel these events.” [CBS Miami, CBS 4 News at 5 PM, 3/3/20] (VIDEO)

Local Leaders, Including Republicans, Broke With Giménez And Called To Cancel Ultra

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Claimed That He “Received Countless Emails And Messages Of All Kinds” From Concerned Miamians Calling For Him To Cancel Ultra. “Wednesday morning, Carollo and Suarez — who have had heated political feuds in the past — stood side-by-side to announce that they wanted to see Ultra
postponed. […] Suarez said that Ultra presents a unique challenge in that people come from abroad to attend the festival, which has a capacity of 55,000 per day. The mayor said residents have asked the city to consider postponing or canceling Ultra. ‘I can tell you that just in the last 24 hours, I have received countless emails and messages of all kinds urging the city to act,’ Suarez said. ‘That is another major motivator to have this conversation before it gets too late.”’ [Miami Herald, 3/4/20]

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Miami City Commissioner Joe Carollo Called For Ultra To Be Suspended, Noting That It “Brings In People From 100 Different Countries” Who “Gather In A Very Congested Area, Where There Is Very Limited Movement.” “Citing public safety concerns, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and City Commissioner Joe Carollo say they are in conversations with Ultra Music Festival organizers. They are discussing postponing the annual concert festival that attracts visitors from across the globe. This comes as concern continues to grow over the rising number of coronavirus cases globally, domestically and locally, in South Florida. ‘(Ultra) brings in people from 100 different countries,’ said Carollo. ‘They gather in a very congested area, where there is very limited movement.’ […] ‘We are not saying canceling, we are saying suspending to a later date when we have a better idea of where we are heading with the Coronavirus,’ Carollo said.” [WPLG, 3/4/20]

Joe Carollo Was The Former Mayor Of Miami And A Republican. “Joe Carollo’s colorful and controversial time as mayor of Miami ended tonight as voters passed him over for two candidates who will now compete in a runoff election to replace him. Even in a political climate that would seem to favor incumbents, Mr. Carollo, a Republican, failed to win a shot at a runoff, as voters chose two challengers who have been on Mr. Carollo’s political heels for months.” [New York Times, 11/7/01]

Democratic State Representative Michael Grieco Criticized Giménez’s Decision Not To Cancel Ultra: “Putting Tens Of Thousands Of People Sweating All Over Each Other, Cough And Sneezing All Over Each Other For Two Or Three Days Is Probably Not The Smartest Idea.” “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said in a tweet Tuesday that Ultra was still on, two days after state officials announced two confirmed cases of the virus. ‘We're not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra, following the guidance from Florida's Surgeon General on #Coronavirus,’ wrote Giménez, a Republican who is running for Congress. That decision was blasted by state Rep. Michael Grieco, a Democrat who represents a district that includes Miami Beach and a part of downtown Miami that hosts the festival. He said that while ‘nobody wants to cancel Ultra,’ the health of the community should be the priority. ‘Despite the backlash, I probably would be inclined to heavily, heavily consider canceling the event or pushing the organizers to come up with some alternative dates, something along those lines,’ he told The Washington Post. ‘Putting tens of thousands of people sweating all over each other, coughing and sneezing all over each other for two or three days is probably not the smartest idea.’” [Washington Post, 3/4/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami Elected Officials Want To Postpone Ultra Music Festival Due To Coronavirus Fear” [Miami Herald, 3/4/20]

After The City Of Miami’s Republican Mayor Cancelled Ultra, Giménez Criticized His Decision

HEADLINE: “Controversy In Miami: Although The County Didn't Want To, The City Postponed The Ultra Music Festival For The Coronavirus” [Noticias Financieras, 3/5/20]

Giménez Criticized The City Of Miami’s Decision To Close Public Events Like Ultra And Calle Ocho: “We’re Not Postponing Any Of The Large Events In Miami-Dade County.” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, the City of Miami came up with its own decision. Here in Miami-Dade County, we’re not postponing any of the large events that we have in Miami-Dade County. That was up to that municipality, and they came up to their own conclusion. We follow the guidance of the state and also the CDC, and at this point, they’re not recommending that we cancel large events. Matter of fact, even on the CDC it tells you if you are having these large events are the things that you
have to do to make sure that they’re done safely.” WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “So, to take you at what you’re saying here, it would seem as though, if it were just up to you, maybe there would have been a different decision made with these events?” GIMÉNEZ: “At this point, yeah, because their guidance that we get from the state Surgeon General and the CDC is that we should live our lives as normally as possible, but taking commonsense precautions. You know, washing your hands, making sure you cover your mouth when you’re sneezing or coughing. You know, do not, you know, cough into your. Do frequent handwashing. Make sure you do it for, you know, about 20 seconds at least. And then just take proper precautions. And that’s how we should be living our lives right now. Obviously, I’m concerned about our elderly population. I’m concerned about everybody. But really this coronavirus, this COVID-19 appears to hit the elderly a lot worse than, you know, the rest of the population. [...] And so, no, if I had been, that wasn’t our event. That was a City of Miami event. And once they canceled Ultra, they had to cancel Calle Ocho, because there was no… you couldn’t cancel one without the other. And so, again, they came to a different conclusion than the conclusion we’re coming to in Miami-Dade.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

**Giménez Argued That Miami’s Decision To Cancel The Ultra Music Festival Hurt The Local Economy.**

GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally. Okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the State of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregates? No. We’re not doing that. Yes, there was a pretty big economic hit when they canceled Ultra, because we did have a lot of people coming from out of town. I’m sure a lot of our hotel rooms were booked. Still, I guess they still may be booked. A lot of these people that were coming to Ultra are still going to come here, because they probably booked their flights a long time ago. But, you know, the hit to the local economy is going to be, it’s going to be, you know, a big hit to the local economy. And so that concerns me. But you know, public health is always number one. And so, like I said, at this time, we would not have canceled it, because that’s not the guidance that we’re getting from our experts. I’m not the expert on this. The experts are Surgeon General of Florida, the Health Department of the State of Florida, and CDC. And our experts are saying you can have these large public events. These are things you have to do to safeguard them, safeguard the residents when they are at large public events. We are taking those steps necessary to make sure we comply with that. And then we should live our lives normally but, again, take commonsense precaution.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

**Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Argued Giménez Was Wrong To Criticize Him For Cancelling Ultra**

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)
Giménez Supported Allowing Cruises To Dock In Miami; Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening

Giménez Was In Favor Of Allowing People In Cruise Ships Off The Ships In Miami

On March 10, 2020, Giménez said that he was in favor of allowing people in cruise ships off the ships in Miami. “Mayor Carlos Giménez also addressed the need for a plan if a cruise ship with coronavirus patients are not permitted into Port Miami. ‘Most of the ships that sail out of here, they are mostly Americans, so the best thing to do is get them off the ship as quickly as possible,’ Giménez said. ‘And so we’ve told the cruise lines, our partners that any ship that is berthed in Miami if they have to come back we will take them, but we are going to develop a plan for that.’ Meanwhile, Broward County declared a state of emergency after a fourth case of coronavirus was confirmed in the area.” [NBC, 3/10/20]

Days Later, Despite A Positive COVID-19 Test, Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening

March 15, 2020: Tampa Bay Times: Despite A Positive COVID-19 Test, Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening. “Despite a positive COVID-19 test from a passenger who had disembarked days earlier, thousands of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship in Miami Sunday without undergoing medical screening. The former passenger got off the MSC Meraviglia in Miami on March 8 after an eight-day Caribbean cruise, leaving 103 passengers and the ship’s crew aboard for the next voyage. Four days later, after the ship had sailed with thousands of additional new passengers aboard, the Public Health Agency of Canada informed Broward-based MSC Cruises that the former passenger had tested positive. […] But a spokesperson for PortMiami, Andria Muniz-Amador, said the Port Director Juan Kuryla and Mayor Carlos Giménez’s office “are not aware of any cruise passenger testing positive of COVID-19,” and referred questions to the Florida Health Department.” [Tampa Bay Times, 3/15/20]


The MSC Meraviglia Docked In Miami-Dade County, Where 3,877 Passengers Disembarked With No Medical Screening. “Three days after thousands of passengers walked off the MSC Meraviglia ship in Miami without medical screenings despite a positive COVID-19 test from a previous cruiser, the agencies involved are still pointing fingers. A review of the incident indicates that gaps in the patchwork of authority overseeing Florida’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic may be to blame. Involved were federal and state health agencies, the cruise line and Miami-Dade County. The decision to allow 3,877 possibly exposed passengers to disperse across the country without even a temperature check was the responsibility of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Miami-Dade County seaport spokesperson Andria Muniz-Amador. When the ship approached PortMiami early Sunday morning with clearance from the CDC, Port Director Juan Kuryla and Mayor Carlos Giménez had no idea a passenger who got off the ship a week earlier had tested positive, Muniz-Amador said. […] PortMiami and the Florida Department of Health say they were never notified.” [Miami Herald, 3/18/20]

An MSC Meraviglia Passenger Who Had Tested Positive For Coronavirus Had Disembarked On March 8, 2020. “Meraviglia’s status came into question after a Canadian passenger who disembarked from an eight-day Caribbean cruise in Miami on March 8 later tested positive for COVID-19. A spokesperson for MSC Cruises said he did not report any symptoms to the medical staff on board the ship during the cruise. That day, 103 passengers from that cruise remained on board along with the crew, and thousands of new passengers joined for another eight-day cruise. A spokesperson for MSC Cruises did not confirm how many crew members are on board; the ship can hold more than 1,500 crew. The company took the temperatures of passengers and crew each day during the cruise, the spokesperson said.” [Miami Herald, 3/18/20]
March 5, 2020: The Coral Princess Cruise Ship Set Sail And Then Was Stuck At Sea For More Than A Month With A Coronavirus Outbreak Onboard Before It Was Allowed To Dock In Miami. “After nearly a month at sea and two days in port, Americans onboard the Coral Princess cruise ship are still trying to get home in the wake of the global coronavirus pandemic. The ship docked at PortMiami late Saturday night with 1,898 people -- 1,020 passengers and 878 crew members-- and began disembarking the most critically ill patients for medical treatment. Two passengers died while the ship was at sea and a third died after being transported by a private ambulance to a hospital in Hialeah, Florida, late Saturday night, according to Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez. […] The ship left from Santiago, Chile, on March 5 for a South American cruise and spent nearly a month at sea before being given permission to dock at PortMiami on Saturday. The cruise was scheduled to end in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 19 but was left without port after the global pandemic led to ports shutting down and cruise lines suspending operations.” [CNN.com, 4/7/20]

Three Coral Princess Cruise Passengers Died From Coronavirus. “Hundreds of healthy cruise ship passengers began to disembark from the Coral Princess Sunday at PortMiami for their journey home. Two people on the ship died of the coronavirus and a 71-year-old man, Wilson Maa, died late Saturday night after arriving at the Port. The ship had been denied docking by 3 countries after it was announced that 12 people onboard had COVID-19.” [CBS Miami, 4/5/20]

March 7, 2020: The Zaandam Cruise Ship Set Sail And Then Was Stuck At Sea For Nearly A Month With A Coronavirus Onboard Before It Was Allowed To Dock In Fort Lauderdale. “After being turned away from ports in South America, Holland America's Zaandam cruise ship was allowed to dock at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Thursday afternoon. Nine people on board the ship have tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. Holland America's owner, Carnival Corp., said there are 45 passengers who are mildly sick, and they will stay on the ship to recover. The company reported that 10 people on board are in need of urgent medical attention, and four elderly passengers have died, with at least two due to COVID-19. The Zaandam set sail from Buenos Aires on March 7, and was supposed to have stops in Chile and other South American ports before heading to Fort Lauderdale.” [The Week, 4/2/20]

Four Zaandam Passengers Died From The Coronavirus. “After being turned away from ports in South America, Holland America's Zaandam cruise ship was allowed to dock at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Thursday afternoon. Nine people on board the ship have tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. Holland America's owner, Carnival Corp., said there are 45 passengers who are mildly sick, and they will stay on the ship to recover. The company reported that 10 people on board are in need of urgent medical attention, and four elderly passengers have died, with at least two due to COVID-19. The Zaandam set sail from Buenos Aires on March 7, and was supposed to have stops in Chile and other South American ports before heading to Fort Lauderdale.” [The Week, 4/2/20]

Giménez Even Touted The Cruise Industry In Multiple Interviews And Told A Local Radio He Would Still Get On A Cruise …

March 10, 2020: Giménez Defended Going On A Cruise Ship Despite State Department Warnings, “I Would Probably Get On A Cruise Ship … A Lot Of Cruise Ships Are Still Going Out, They're Still Going Out With A Lot Of People.” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: "Would you get on a plane or go a cruise ship today?" GIMÉNEZ: "I would get on a plane, and I would probably get on a cruise ship." CASTRONOVO: "Even though the State Department said be careful?" GIMÉNEZ: "Yeah. Look, a lot of cruise ships are still going out, they're still going out with a lot of people." CASTRONOVO: "I know, I know. I wouldn't want to kill any businesses, but we need some answers. You're a leader." GIMÉNEZ: "The answer is, well, I -- that's a personal decision. If I were older and if I had some underlying physical, medical condition. I would not get on a cruise ship. Because the odds that I get it, then the odds are, even though still in my favor, are not quite as in my favor as if I were younger." [BIG 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/10/20] (AUDIO)
Giménez On March 10, 2020: “Talking To Cruise Executives, The People That Already Bought Their Tickets, They Don’t Have Many Cancellations. The Cruise Ships Are Going Out, And They’re Going Out Pretty Full Still.” Giménez said, “I think it’s inevitable that we’re going to see a drop in economic activity. You know, the cancellation of a couple of events here. I’m sure we had a lot of people coming in to Ultra, was one of them. And so, you know, you’re going to see that drop. You’re going to see that drop in the situation with the cruise ships. We expected close to 7 million people this year. We’re not going to get anywhere close. Although, talking to cruise executives, the people that already bought their tickets, they don’t have that many cancellations. The cruise ships are going out, and they’re going out pretty full still. So, but inevitably you’re going to see a slowdown.” [WIOD, South Florida’s First News with Jimmy Cefalo, 3/10/20] (AUDIO)

March 8, 2020: The State Department Advised “U.S. Citizens, Particularly Travelers With Underlying Health Conditions, Should Not Travel By Cruise Ship.” “U.S. citizens, particularly travelers with underlying health conditions, should not travel by cruise ship. CDC notes increased risk of infection of COVID-19 in a cruise ship environment. In order to curb the spread of COVID-19, many countries have implemented strict screening procedures that have denied port entry rights to ships and prevented passengers from disembarking. In some cases, local authorities have permitted disembarkation but subjected passengers to local quarantine procedures. While the U.S. government has evacuated some cruise ship passengers in recent weeks, repatriation flights should not be relied upon as an option for U.S. citizens under the potential risk of quarantine by local authorities. This is a fluid situation. CDC notes that older adults and travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places, avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips, and especially avoiding embarking on cruise ships.” [Department of State, Travel Advisory, 3/8/20]

Giménez Has Taken Thousands From Cruise Lines And Cruise Industry Executives

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Paul Parker Was Chief Human Resources Officer At Royal Caribbean Cruises. “Managing this at cruise line Royal Caribbean is a big job. The company has more than 74,000 employees around the world. About 6,500 of them are in South Florida, making it one of the biggest employers here. Paul Parker is the chief human resources officer at Royal Caribbean Cruises.” [Miami Herald, 5/1/16]

Bill Baumgartner Was Senior Vice President Of Marine Operations At Royal Caribbean Cruises. “Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. consolidated its marine departments into a single organization, Global Marine Operations, with the goal of improving safety, reliability and compliance, all in a more efficient way. The new structure also aims to respect the cultures of the company's individual brands. SVP Bill Baumgartner leads this new, unified group and oversees two new centers of excellence that will implement best practices across the fleet. The fleet optimization center encompasses asset, program and energy management functions. The fleet technical operations center includes global marine technical services, as well as the traditional fleet director and ship management functions. Baumgartner joined Royal Caribbean International in 2013 as svp marine operations after 33 years with the US Coast Guard where he retired as a rear admiral.” [Seatrade Cruise News, 7/10/15]

Former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine Was A Cruise Marketing Executive With A Net Worth Of $133 Million. “Philip Levine has told the story so many times that it sounds like a fable. With $500 in the bank, a young man opened a small office on South Beach, launched a cruise-line media company and created a tourism marketing empire that sold a decade later for a small fortune. […] But how Levine made the money that's opened doors to City Hall, Air Force One and perhaps the governor's mansion is far more complex. So too are the details behind his $133 million net worth. […] Through it all, the Democrat and former Miami Beach mayor accumulated admirers, political allies and enough wealth to become his own top campaign donor in his run for governor — a key advantage that could help him win the Democratic nomination next month as he competes with Jeff Greene, Andrew Gillum, Gwen Graham and Chris King. […] By the time Robins and his two sons invested, Levine was president of three cruise line marketing and retail companies, managing relationships, seeking out deals and negotiating contracts while longtime business partner and former jeweler Jerry Chafetz oversaw operations. They'd invested at a boom time for cruising, with annual passengers jumping from 1.4 million in 1980 to 5.4 million in 1998, and expanded their business into cruise lecturing, in-cabin programming, magazines, books and art auctions.” [Miami Herald, 7/16/18]

Olga Piqueras Was Managing Director Of Intercruises. “Olga Piqueras Managing Director Olga is responsible for managing Intercruises’ overall strategy, and leads the business and growth worldwide. She has over 25 years of experience in aviation and port operations, including a thirteen-year tenure at British Airways. She joined Intercruises in 2003 as Operations Director, later assuming the role of Managing Director in 2016.” [Intercruises, accessed 4/9/20]

Intercruises Offered Shore Excursion And Port Operation To The Cruise Industry. “Intercruises is an experienced global business offering turnaround, shore excursion, port operation and hotel-program services to the ocean and river cruise industry” [Intercruises, accessed 4/9/20]

Cathy Coloca Was Director Of Agency Sales At Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings. According to her LinkedIn, Cathy Coloca was “Director, Agency Sales” at Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings. [Cathy Coloca, LinkedIn, accessed 4/9/20]

As Throngs Of Springbreakers Descended On Florida, Giménez Kept Miami-Dade’s Beaches Open And Defended Florida’s Decision To Keep Beaches Open Statewide

In Mid-March 2020, Florida’s Beaches Were Filled With Throngs Of Springbreakers Amid An Escalating Coronavirus Pandemic
March 2020: Tens Of Thousands Of Students Traveled To Florida’s Beaches For Spring Break Amid An Escalating Coronavirus Pandemic. “Dryden Quigley, a junior at Duke University, and three friends began making plans to spend spring break in Miami Beach about six weeks ago when the coronavirus still felt relatively distant. It does not feel distant now. In the week Ms. Quigley, 21, vacationed on Miami Beach: the state’s coronavirus cases more than tripled, her university halted classes on campus and the mayor of Miami Beach declared spring break was over. […] With tens of thousands of students flocking to beaches in South Florida and possibly as many still planning to come, the collateral damage from the coronavirus has been coming into clear relief almost hourly, whether it was the shutdown of March Madness or well-known figures like Tom Hanks coming down with the virus. For the first time, a case was linked on Wednesday to a spring break event in Florida, a state that now counts 42 cases, according to the health department.” [New York Times, 3/13/20]

**HEADLINE:** “A Deadly Coronavirus Mix In Florida: An Aging Population And Lots Of Young Visitors” [New York Times, 3/18/20]

February 27, 2020: Giménez Had Not Come Up With A Plan To Deal With Spring Break Amid Coronavirus Concerns

February 27, 2020: Asked If He Had Plans For Spring Break In Response To Coronavirus Concerns, Giménez Claimed “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet.” “Giménez said Thursday's closed-door meeting before the press briefing included discussion about how coronavirus, which has been gaining attention as a threat to world health since January, might affect large events on the Miami area's March calendar. Those include downtown Miami's Ultra, which begins March 20, and the county Youth Fair in the Kendall area, which begins March 12. But the county hasn't decided what to do regarding those events, Giménez said. Does Miami-Dade need a coronavirus plan for spring break and Ultra music fest? 'We haven't come up with any specific recommendations yet,' he said. ‘Those are things we're going to be discussing in the next week. Are there any precautions, is there anything different, we're going to do with spring break or with Ultra?’” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

March 6, 2020: Giménez Argued That Spring Break Should Go Forward In Miami, Because It Was Important To The Local Economy

March 6, 2020: Giménez Argued That Spring Break Should Go Forward In Miami Since It Was Important To The Local Economy. WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “And obviously, it’s going to have an economic impact all throughout the county and all throughout South Florida, for that matter. How concerned are you, at this point, about our local economy?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, I am in the sense that this is one of our busiest months for these kind of events. You know, at the end of the month we have the Miami Open. You know, we’re expecting 30,000 people there every day for at least 300,000 people will be visiting that venue. We have, again, no plans right now to cancel that event. And so, you know, we have to move forward with that event. And so, spring break is coming. Miami Beach is moving forward with spring break. And again, we are putting more hand sanitizers, we are putting out more information. And that’s what we have to do as a community. Live your life normally but take commonsense precautions. You know, that is the message that we are giving to the people of Miami.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez: “Spring Break Is Coming … Live Your Life Normally, But Take Commonsense Precautions.” WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “And obviously, it’s going to have an economic impact all throughout the county and all throughout South Florida, for that matter. How concerned are you, at this point, about our local economy?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, I am in the sense that this is one of our busiest months for these kind of events. You know, at the end of the month we have the Miami Open. You know, we’re expecting 30,000 people there every day for at least 300,000 people will be visiting that venue. We have, again, no plans right now to cancel that event. And so, you know, we have to move forward with that event. And so, spring break is coming. Miami Beach is moving forward with spring break. And again, we are putting more hand sanitizers, we are putting out more information. And that’s what we have to do as a community. Live your life normally but take commonsense precautions. You know, that is the message that we are giving to the people of Miami.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)
Giménez on March 18, 2020: “We Haven’t Shut Down The Beaches Here.” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here.” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez On Keeping Miami-Dade’s Beaches Open Amid Coronavirus Concerns: “It’s Outside, It’s Outdoors, So It’s Much Less Chance Of Transmission.” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “Well, I’m confused. I thought the beaches were shut down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Some beaches are. But Miami-Dade County, most of the beaches are not. And again, we may have to change that depending on how people act, whatever. Let’s see what happens in the weekend. But before the weekend comes about, we’ve already, you know, told our park managers, A., we don’t want, you know, crowds. You can, if you want, go to the beach, enjoy the beach by yourself or with your small group of people but as long as you keep social distancing. And it’s outside, it’s outdoors, so it’s much less chance of transmission. But when you have throngs of people at a beach, you know, partying and all that, no no, we’re not going tolerate that.” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

... And Defended Beaches Staying Open Statewide: “The Governor Really Doesn’t Want To Say, ‘Hey, We’re Going To Shut Down All The Beaches And Basically Ruin Everybody’s Way To Get To The Beach’”

Giménez: “The Governor Doesn’t Really Want To Say, ‘Hey, We’re Going To Shut Down All The Beaches In The State Of Florida And Basically Ruin Everybody’s Way To Get To The Beach.’” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here. But I did give an order yesterday that allows the park managers if it turns out that, you know, we get a bunch of people trying to get to Crandon Park or something, we’ll shut it down and say, ‘Hey, no. We can only have so many people and you have to maintain your social distancing. And if you don’t you’re going to be basically thrown out.’” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez Defended DeSantis’s Decision Not To Close Florida’s Beaches, Arguing Some Parts Of The State Did Not Have Coronavirus Cases. HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here. But I did give an order yesterday that allows the park managers if it turns out that, you
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Republican Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Didn’t Close The Beaches, And They Flocked To Our Beaches, Which Made Us A National Embarrassment”

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Didn’t Close The Beaches, And They Flocked To Our Beaches, Which Made Us A National Embarrassment” Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Refused To Close The Beaches During Spring Break … That Made Us A National Embarrassment.” Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s very unfortunate that he’s taken a position of asking the White House to disregard my letter. […] He refused to close the beaches during spring break, which unfortunately, showed images of our country in a fashion that made us a national embarrassment.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Giménez Kept Miami-Dade’s Beaches Open Until March 19, 2020 …

March 19, 2020: Giménez Closed Miami-Dade’s Beaches To The Public After Initially Restricting Beach Gatherings To No More Than 10 People One Day Earlier. “All beaches in Miami-Dade must close under a sweeping county order that covers most recreational areas, restricting people to walks on the street but not public gathering spots. The latest order by Mayor Carlos Giménez, described Thursday morning by a top deputy, reverses the mayor’s policy issued just a day before, which capped gatherings in parks to fewer than 10 people. By Wednesday night, the decision was made to scrap the more permissive directive for an outright ban on using parkland or beaches, said Michael Spring, Giménez’s deputy who oversees parks. […] There’s been widespread frustration at vacationers and locals ignoring directives from Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and Miami Beach to limit gatherings on the beaches and beyond as the coronavirus shutdown collided with South Florida’s spring break season. In issuing his directive Wednesday capping gatherings in county parks, Giménez said: ‘You can’t have a party in a park,’ he said.” [Miami Herald, 3/19/20]

… After First Attempting To Limit Gatherings At Beaches To Groups Of No More Than 10 People A Day Earlier

March 18, 2020: Giménez Signed An Executive Order Limiting Gatherings At Miami-Dade Parks And Beaches To No More Than 10 People. “In adherence to the emergency order
(https://www.miamidade.gov/information/library/coronavirus-emergency-order-04-20-parks.pdf) signed by Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez on March 18, 2020, all gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 people at all Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (Miami-Dade County Parks). This order includes, but is not limited to, beaches, the Deering Estate, Fruit & Spice Park, Larry and Penny Thompson Park and Campground, Trail Glades Range, Zoo Miami, golf courses and marinas. […] Those visiting County parks and beaches are required to practice social distancing of at least six feet between individuals. All mass gatherings are prohibited. With the assistance of Miami-Dade County Police, park rangers will monitor the parks to ensure public safety and enforce these rules.” [Mayor Carlos Giménez, Press Release via US Fed News, 3/18/20]

When Miami’s Republican Mayor Asked Trump To Stop Flights To Miami From International And Domestic COVID Hotspots, Giménez Told Trump To Disregard The Plea

After Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Called On President Donald Trump To Halt Flights To The Miami Area From Coronavirus “Hot Spots,” Giménez Called On Trump To Disregard Suarez’s Plea. “After Miami Mayor Francis Suarez called on President Donald Trump to halt flights into the Miami area from coronavirus ‘hot spots,’ the county mayor with authority over local airports said he told the White House to ‘disregard’ the Suarez letter. ‘It’s not his purview,’ said Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who has authority over Miami International Airport, a county agency. Giménez noted passenger flights are also important parts of the supply chain, hauling cargo in and out of Miami, which is a global hub for pharmaceutical shipments. ‘I’ve already spoken to the White House about it and said disregard the letter,’ Giménez said during an online press conference Friday. ‘It’s Miami-Dade County that controls MIA.’ On Thursday night, Suarez sent a letter to Trump urging him to immediately halt flights into Miami from “COVID-19 hotspots” in the United States and around the world. After Giménez’s rebuke at a Friday press conference, Suarez said the county mayor should be calling for aggressive action at MIA. ‘It’s unfortunate that at a time when unity is needed, Mayor Giménez has refused to join me in asking the President to suspend flights from COVID hotspots,’ Suarez said in a statement.” [Miami Herald, 4/3/20]

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Suarez Responded That Giménez “Has Chosen To Take An Action That Is Going To Endanger The Lives Of Our Residents”

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez’s Opposition To Halting Flights To Miami From Coronavirus Hotspots: “He Has Chosen To Take An Action That Is Going To Endanger The Lives Of Our Residents.” Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s really unfortunate that he has taken a position, asking the White House to disregard my letter [asking the White House to halt flights to Miami from coronavirus hotspots]. I really hope that he would join my letter and join my lead today. And instead he has chosen to take an action that unfortunately is going to endanger the lives of our residents. […] And so, I really hope he joins me in this, because this is something that is going to neutralize what could be the biggest threat to our city and prevent us from becoming a hotspot.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Argued Halting Flights To Miami From Coronavirus Hotspots Could “Prevent Us From Becoming A Hotspot.” Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s really unfortunate that he has taken a position, asking the White House to disregard my letter [asking the White House to halt flights to Miami from coronavirus hotspots]. I really hope that he would join my letter and join my lead today. And instead he has chosen to take an action that unfortunately is going to endanger the lives of our residents. […] And so, I really hope he joins me in this, because this is something that is going to neutralize what could be the biggest threat to our city and prevent us from becoming a hotspot.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)
Giménez Did Not Support Paid Sick Leave For Essential Employees Who Were At Risk For The Virus

Amid Concerns That County Contractors -- Including At MIA And The Metrorail -- Did Not Give Workers Paid Sick Leave, Giménez Remarked The Issue Was “Really Actually Not On My Radar”

Miami-Dade Did Not Require Its Contractors To Give Employees Paid Sick Leave, Meaning Workers – Including Airport Employees -- Could Lose Pay Or Even Their Jobs If They Stayed Home Sick

Miami-Dade Did Not Require Government Contractors To Give Employees Paid Sick Leave, Meaning Workers Could Lose Pay And Risk Losing Their Jobs If They Stayed Home Sick. “Miami-Dade's paramedics, hospital system and emergency workers also would be called upon to manage a public-health emergency brought on by coronavirus. That could include enforcing quarantine rules and distributing supplies, Giménez said. Finally, Miami-Dade's 28,000-position payroll represents the second largest workforce in the county, behind the school system. That leaves the county more vulnerable than most employers to facing a coronavirus case within its ranks of employees. The coronavirus scare overlaps with scrutiny of how county contractors manage sick employees. Security guards working for a private contractor hired by Miami International Airport recently told county commissioners they must forgo pay if they want to stay home sick, and risk losing their positions with Allied Universal. Union representatives said that since Miami-Dade does not require sick leave for contractors like Allied Universal and its competitors, most outsourced workers assigned to the county don't get paid sick days.” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

Allied Universal, The Security Contractor At Miami International Airport, Did Not Give Its Employees Paid Sick Leave. “Miami-Dade's paramedics, hospital system and emergency workers also would be called upon to manage a public-health emergency brought on by coronavirus. That could include enforcing quarantine rules and distributing supplies, Giménez said. Finally, Miami-Dade's 28,000-position payroll represents the second largest workforce in the county, behind the school system. That leaves the county more vulnerable than most employers to facing a coronavirus case within its ranks of employees. The coronavirus scare overlaps with scrutiny of how county contractors manage sick employees. Security guards working for a private contractor hired by Miami International Airport recently told county commissioners they must forgo pay if they want to stay home sick, and risk losing their positions with Allied Universal. Union representatives said that since Miami-Dade does not require sick leave for contractors like Allied Universal and its competitors, most outsourced workers assigned to the county don't get paid sick days.” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]


February 27, 2020: Asked About Paid Sick Leave For Metrorail And Miami Airport Contractors At A Press Conference On Coronavirus, Giménez Replied “That’s Really Actually Not On My Radar Screen Right Now.” REPORTER: “One of your advice was if you’re sick, stay home. There’s been a controversy recently regarding contract guards at the airport and Metrorail that don’t have paid sick days. Is that a concern? Has that come up? Is there anything on your radar screen?” GIMÉNEZ: “That’s really actually not on my radar screen right now. If you’re sick, stay home. Okay? And we can deal with that issue at another time. But that’s actually not on my radar right now.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 2/27/20] (VIDEO)

Mid-February 2020: Giménez’s Administration Had Raised Concerns About The Cost Of Paying County Contractors

Giménez’s Administration Warned That Requiring County Contractors To Give Paid Sick Leave Would Increase Costs On The County And Make Fewer Companies Bid For County Contracts. “Miami-Dade
commissioners on Thursday stalled a proposal to force county contractors to give workers paid sick days and parental leave as the lawmakers questioned whether companies and the government could afford the benefits' costs. […] The administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez told commissioners the proposal would make contracts more expensive for Miami-Dade and shared a survey from county vendors warning the new burdens would cause some of them to stop bidding for more work. ‘All of this is very difficult to quantify,’ said Jennifer Moon, a deputy mayor. ‘It will increase the cost of the county’s services that we pay for.’” [Miami Herald, 2/14/20]

**Giménez Failed To Display Leadership In Times Of Hurricane Response**

**Giménez Used A Conversation With The President During Hurricane Dorian To Speak About The Possibilities Of Hosting The G-7 Summit At Trump’s Doral Resort**

Aug. 30, 2019: **Giménez Said That He Spoke With Trump About Hosting The G-7 Summit At Trump’s Doral Resort.** “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Miami-Herald: **“Giménez Said He Spoke To Trump Himself During A Call The President Made To The Mayor When Hurricane Dorian Threatened Miami.”** “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

**Giménez Was Criticized For Failing To Order Food, Water, And Ice Deliveries For Residents Affected By Hurricane Irma**

**Giménez Was Criticized For Causing Delays In Debris Pickup And Failing To Order Food, Water, And Ice Deliveries For Residents Affected By Hurricane Irma.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez ordered the county go to Level 1 status - the highest level - to prepare for Category 5 Hurricane Irma. But one county official said resources that should have been staged with that declaration were never ordered, which caused the delay in getting food and ice into hot and steamy neighborhoods. Audrey Edmonson, vice-chairwoman of the Miami-Dade County Commission, said the county did not have on hand ice, water and food to assist families after Irma. Giménez did not request an order and was not ready, she said. ‘I’m not going to take up for anyone. He did not order anything, which I thought was unacceptable,’ Edmonson said. ‘The mayor said he has a plan and he’s acting by his plan. I’m very upset about this.’ Edmonson said other commissioners were also unhappy about Giménez’s decisions. She said they urged him to get ready for debris pickup and to get resources into neighborhoods as soon as possible.” [Miami Times, 9/20/17]

**HEADILNE:** “Giménez Behind Delay For Food And Water.” [Miami Times, 9/20/17]
During Hurricane Irma, Many Miami-Dade Shelters Either Failed To Open Or Had Long Lines; Giménez Was Responsible For Opening Shelters

2017: Giménez Ordered Residents To Flee To Hurricane Shelters That Weren’t Operational During Hurricane Irma. “Miami-Dade County launched the largest evacuation in its history this week, and quickly ran into logistical problems as a flood of evacuees from Hurricane Irma rapidly filled shelters on Friday -- leaving many people standing outside unopened buildings and others told to go elsewhere. Mayor Carlos Giménez, who began evacuation orders on Thursday, acknowledged some glitches in the process of opening safe spaces for a mass exodus from the coast. 'Opening a shelter is not as easy as people think,’ Giménez said during a noon Friday conference at the county’s Emergency Operations Center in Doral. At some locations, no one from the county government or the Red Cross was on site to register evacuees at the declared opening time, said Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho. Instead, school principals and other schools personnel, who arrived at 8 a.m. Friday, have had to contend with long lines of evacuees, Carvalho said.” [Miami-Herald, 9/8/17]

Giménez Was Responsible For Opening Hurricane Shelters As Mayor. “Giménez said the Red Cross had run out of volunteers and that the National Guard was arriving in Miami too late to staff the facilities. He sent county police to staff them instead. As mayor, Giménez is responsible for opening shelters, and most of them are located in schools.” [Miami-Herald, 9/11/17]

Giménez: “Opening A Shelter Is Not As Easy As People Think.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez, who began evacuation orders on Thursday, acknowledged some glitches in the process of opening safe spaces for a mass exodus from the coast. ‘Opening a shelter is not as easy as people think,’ Giménez said during a noon Friday conference at the county’s Emergency Operations Center in Doral.” [Miami-Herald, 9/8/17]


Giménez Said That Bottled Water Wasn’t Necessarily Required To Get Through A Storm, And Praised The County’s Water System.

Giménez Said That Bottled Water Wasn’t Necessarily Required To Get Through A Storm, And Praised The County’s Water System. “The sight of empty grocery-store shelves where water bottles used to be shouldn’t worry residents stocking up for Hurricane Irma, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said Wednesday. The reason: Water running from the tap is just as good to fill jugs at home. ‘There is nothing wrong with Miami-Dade County water,’ Giménez said. Miami-Dade has long been proud of its tap water, putting out press releases on its quality. Giménez used a Wednesday briefing at the county’s emergency operations center in Doral to remind people that bottled water isn’t necessarily required to get through a storm. One gallon of water per person for three days works even if the water is collected ahead of the hurricane from the tap. ‘Miami-Dade County water is safe to drink,’ he said. ‘Open the tap. Use containers in your home to store tap water.’”” [Miami-Herald, 9/6/17]

Giménez: “Miami-Dade Water Is Safe To Drink [...] Open The Tap.” “The sight of empty grocery-store shelves where water bottles used to be shouldn’t worry residents stocking up for Hurricane Irma, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said Wednesday. The reason: Water running from the tap is just as good to fill jugs at home. ‘There is nothing wrong with Miami-Dade County water,’ Giménez said. Miami-Dade has long been proud of its tap water, putting out press releases on its quality. Giménez used a Wednesday briefing at the county’s emergency operations center in Doral to remind people that bottled water isn’t necessarily required to get through a storm. One gallon of water per person for three days works even if the water is collected ahead of the hurricane from the tap. ‘Miami-Dade County water is safe to drink,’ he said. ‘Open the tap. Use containers in your home to store tap water.’”” [Miami-Herald, 9/6/17]

Giménez Told County Residents Standing In Line For Water In The Aftermath Of Hurricane Wilma To “Go Home” And Drink The Tap Water

2005: Giménez Told County Residents Standing In Line For Water After Hurricane Wilma To “Go Home” And Drink The Tap Water. “In some places, the cool silence left behind Hurricane Wilma has filled with anxiety and rumor. While thousands stood in lines around the region seeking gasoline, water and ice -- with frustrations spilling over into the occasional scuffle and shout -- Miami-Dade officials tried to tamp down rumors that the county was hoarding supplies and that Miami-Dade’s drinking water was contaminated. The county’s only boil-water notice, in Miami Beach, was lifted Wednesday. ‘If you live in Dade County and you’re standing in line for water, go home,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez. ‘Open up the tap and drink all you want.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/27/05]

Giménez: “If You Live In Dade County And You’re Standing In Line For Water, Go Home […] Open Up The Tap And Drink All You Want.” “In some places, the cool silence left behind Hurricane Wilma has filled with anxiety and rumor. While thousands stood in lines around the region seeking gasoline, water and ice -- with frustrations spilling over into the occasional scuffle and shout -- Miami-Dade officials tried to tamp down rumors that the county was hoarding supplies and that Miami-Dade’s drinking water was contaminated. The county’s only boil-water notice, in Miami Beach, was lifted Wednesday. ‘If you live in Dade County and you’re standing in line for water, go home,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez. ‘Open up the tap and drink all you want.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/27/05]

Giménez Ordered To Reopen Miami’s Beaches Despite Red Tide Being Present

Oct. 2018: Giménez Reopened Miami-Dade’s Beaches Despite The Red Tide Being Detected In The Water

Oct. 2018: Giménez Reopened Miami-Dade’s Beaches Despite The Red Tide Being Detected In Coastal Waters. “A red tide that has sloshed up and down the Gulf Coast for nearly a year, leaving a wake of dead sea life, murky water and stinky beaches, has now landed on the state’s most crowded shores in Miami-Dade County. Following confirmation late Wednesday night that the algae that causes red tide had been detected at moderate levels, county officials closed beaches north of Haulover Park before dawn Thursday. Later Thursday, following a meeting with state environmental and health officials, the county said the beaches would reopen Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez said in a statement. People with severe or chronic respiratory conditions should continue to keep away, he said. Signs will be placed at beaches warning visitors about potential risks. On Thursday, tests found red tide on four beaches.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]

The Red Tide Caused Breathing Issues And Skin Irritation, And Proved Fatal For Fish And Wildlife

The Red Tide Caused Breathing Issues And Skin Irritation, And Proved Fatal For Fish And Wildlife. “‘We are taking this proactive step to ensure our residents and visitors are not affected as we collect samples in other areas for state testing,’ Mayor Carlos A. Giménez said in a statement. ‘We will continue to seek guidance from the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and take precautionary measures as warranted.’ The toxic algae can cause breathing issues and skin irritation, and even has proved fatal for fish and wildlife.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade To Reopen Beaches Friday Despite Red Tide Detected In Coastal Waters Off Miami.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]
2019: Giménez Supported Adding Funds For Seaweed Cleanup Along County Beaches. “Giménez also wants to add $2.8 million to the budget for seaweed cleanup along county beaches, an extension funding for an emergency removal operation the county launched in July. Giménez wants to pay for the operation with hotel taxes, a funding move requiring a change in county law.” [Miami-Herald, 9/4/19]

Miami-Herald: Seaweed Wasn’t “Considered As Much Of A Public Health Concern As Last Year’s Red Tide.” “Miami-Dade is just one front in a larger seaweed battle ensnaring Florida and other parts of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico during a cycle of increased sargassum drifting over the last several years. This summer brought more of the brown, reedy mats of sea grass to Miami Beach and beyond, putting pressure on the county’s cleanup crews to do more. ‘I think it could become a real crisis,’ said Commissioner Eileen Higgins, whose district includes parts of Miami Beach. ‘Some days are really bad. Some days are not so bad.’ While hydrogen sulfide gas that comes from sargassum can smell like rotten eggs and cause some respiratory issues, seaweed isn’t considered as much of a public health concern as last year’s red tide outbreaks across Florida. But for beachgoing residents and tourists, a primary driver of Miami-Dade’s hospitality industry, seaweed-covered sand is a nuisance and possibly a reason to vacation elsewhere.” [Miami-Herald, 7/18/19]
Giménez Is Too Extreme On Immigration

**Significant Findings**

- Giménez abandoned Miami-Dade’s position as a sanctuary community to comply with Trump’s immigration requests; he was the only big-metro mayor to do so.

- Giménez claimed the Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center was a “pretty well-run facility” when it was under scrutiny for sexual exploitation of minors and employee drug abuse.

- In 2007, Giménez said he

- The GEO Group has contributed $8,000 to Giménez; the Geo Group was the country’s largest private prison operator for immigration detention facilities.

Giménez Was Too Extreme On Immigration

**Giménez Abandoned Miami-Dade’s Position As A Sanctuary Community To Comply With Trump’s Immigration Requests; He Was The Only Big-Metro Mayor To Do So**

Giménez Supported Gutting Miami-Dade County’s Position As A “Sanctuary” To Comply With Trump’s Immigration Request. “Fearing a loss of millions of dollars for defying immigration authorities, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez on Thursday ordered county jails to comply with federal immigration detention requests -- effectively gutting the county’s position as a ‘sanctuary’ for immigrants in the country illegally. Giménez cited an executive order signed Wednesday by President Donald Trump that threatened to cut federal grants for any counties or cities that don’t cooperate fully with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Since 2013, Miami-Dade has refused to indefinitely detain inmates who are in the country illegally and wanted by ICE -- not based on principle, but because the federal government doesn’t fully reimburse the county for the expense.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/17]

Giménez: “In Light Of The Provisions Of The Executive Order, I Direct You And Your Staff To Honor All Immigration Detainer Requests From The Department Of Homeland Security.” “In light of the provisions of the Executive Order, I direct you and your staff to honor all immigration detainer requests received from the Department of Homeland Security,” Giménez wrote Daniel Junior, the interim director of the corrections and rehabilitation department, in a brief, three-paragraph memo.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/17]

Apr. 2018: Miami-Herald: Giménez Remained The Only Big-Metro Mayor To Reverse A Local “Sanctuary” Policy. “Friction between Trump and Giménez may seem remarkable, given the political hits the mayor took in supporting Trump’s crackdown on local detentions of immigration offenders. He remains the only big-metro mayor to reverse a local ‘sanctuary’ policy, after Giménez’s Jan. 26, 2017, order to local jails to start holding inmates an extra 48 hours if they were being sought for deportation. Trump praised Giménez on Twitter for being ‘Strong!,’ setting off a firestorm over Miami’s tradition as a community largely led by immigrants.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/18]

**HEADLINE:** “Fearing Trump, Commission Drops Miami-Dade’s ‘Sanctuary’ Protections.” [Miami-Herald, 2/17/17]

**EDITORIAL HEADLINE:** “Giménez Should Have Pushed Back Against Trump’s Attack On ‘Sanctuary Cities.’” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 1/28/17]
Giménez Said That Undocumented Immigrants Who Committed Minor Offenses Would Be Held By The County For ICE To Pick Up

“Speaking at a Sunday television show, Giménez began rattling off his cellphone the crimes of undocumented immigrants that were being held by the county for ICE to pick up -- and not giving it a second thought, he lumped together minor offenses like petty theft with a man accused of a homicide, or possibly, two.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 2/9/17]

HEADLINE: “Oops: County Issues Faulty Data On First-Time Offenders Held On Immigration Charges.” [Miami-Herald, 2/6/18]

Giménez Claimed That Miami-Dade Was Incorrectly Labeled As A Sanctuary Community

“Giménez has cast his new policy as a tweak of the status quo bound to have only minor consequences, and a change that reasserts county policy to cooperate with federal authorities. ‘The Executive Order I signed yesterday reaffirms that Miami-Dade County has never been a sanctuary community,’ Giménez wrote on Jan. 27 amid a national backlash against his decision.” [Miami-Herald, 2/2/17]

Giménez Claimed That Miami-Dade Was Never A Sanctuary Community

“President Obama’s Department of Justice came to the same conclusion last year, issuing a memorandum that said all local governments must at least share information about their inmates with ICE. Giménez told the emotional crowd his order has been misunderstood and that it brings the county in line with federal law to ensure it is no longer incorrectly labeled a ‘sanctuary city.’” [Florida Today, 2/18/17]

Giménez Claimed That His Decision To Gut Miami-Dade’s Sanctuary Status Was Purely A Financial One

“The county started down its path when Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Cuban-born immigrant, issued an order on Jan. 26, directing jail officials to honor all requests by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in order to shed the county’s ‘sanctuary’ label. That came one day after Trump signed an executive order threatening to crack down on ‘sanctuary cities.’ Giménez said his decision was a purely financial one. He doesn’t want to put at risk about $355 million a year the county receives in federal funding.” [Florida Today, 2/18/17]

Giménez Claimed The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Was A “Pretty Well-Run Facility” When It Was Under Scrutiny For Sexual Exploitation Of Minors And Employee Drug Abuse

“‘I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,’ said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez: “I Saw A Pretty Well-Run Facility And I Got To Talk To The Kids At Random.” “‘I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,’ said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection
Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez: “They All Spoke Spanish And They All Looked At Me Straight In The Eye And Said The Food Was Fine.” “I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,” said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez Said That He Saw Thank You Notes Left By The Children Who Had Been Transferred Out. “Giménez said he had the chance to speak with case workers in Homestead, many of whom showed him pictures and thank you notes left by children who had been transferred out. The children, Giménez said were sleeping in bunk beds in the old Air Force barracks, no more than eight to a room. The girls and boys were separated, as were the 17-year-olds from the rest of the kids.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

HEADLINE: “After Visiting Kids At Homestead Center, Miami-Dade Leaders Are ‘Pleasantly Surprised.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

2018: A Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Worker Pleaded Guilty For Sexually Exploiting A Minor

2018: A Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Facility Worker Pleaded Guilty For Sexually Exploiting A Minor. “Less than a year ago, Merice Perez Colon, another youth care worker, pleaded guilty to swapping nude photos and video with a 15-year-old boy she met at the Homestead shelter. Court records show she met the boy at the facility in the summer of 2016 and struck up an online relationship with him later that year after he had been released and resettled in South Carolina. Colon was sentenced to 10 years in a federal prison.” [Sun Sentinel, 6/22/18]

HEADLINE: “From Extortion To Sex Exploitation, South Florida Facilities Holding Migrant Kids Have Faced Problems.” [Sun Sentinel, 6/22/18]

2018: The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Employed A Child Caregiver Who Faced Felony Drug Charges

2018: The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Facility Employed A Children Caregiver Who Faced Felony Drug Charges. “During the day, Franky Santos attends meetings for people trying to get clean, occasionally performs community service, and appears regularly before the Miami judge who oversees the county’s Drug Court. At night, he’s a caregiver for immigrant children being held at a Homestead shelter. As controversy continues to swirl over the Trump administration’s immigration policy — even after it walked back a decision to separate undocumented immigrant children from their parents and house them in shelters — a new question looms: Who’s minding the kids?” [Miami-Herald, 6/21/18]


The GEO Group Contributed At Least $8,000 To Giménez; The Geo Group Was The Country’s Largest Private Prison Operator For Immigration Detainees
2015: The GEO Group Has Contributed $8,000 To Giménez’s Campaigns For County-Level Office. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

2015: The Geo Group Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents Now PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

The Geo Group Was The Country’s Largest Private Prison Operator For Immigration Detainees. “The national tab for incarceration comes to $182 billion a year, according the Massachusetts-based Prison Policy Initiative. While most of that money is paid to public employees at public correctional facilities, a small but lucrative 4 percent goes to a lucrative and growing market for a myriad of private operators. The country’s largest: Boca Raton-based The Geo Group. Long-time Miamians know it better by its previous name: Wackenhut. [...] In 1984, the company formed a new division, the Wackenhut Corrections Corporation. Within a few year, the new division was regularly winning contracts to house federal and state prisoners as well as immigration detainees. It expanded internationally, started offering drug rehabilitation and mental health services, and even got into the prison design-and-construction business. [...] Along with prisons, Geo Group operates immigration detention centers for the federal government in California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Texas and Washington. That makes the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) the company’s largest customer followed by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the United States Marshals Service and the state of Florida.” [Miami-Herald, 4/22/19]

The Geo Group Was Heavily Criticized For Failing To Treat Immigrants Humanely In Its Facilities

The Geo Group Was Under Scrutiny For Failing To Treat Immigrants Humanely. “A lawsuit filed Monday alleges that immigration detention authorities have failed to ensure that tens of thousands of immigrants are held in safe and humane conditions as required by federal law and the U.S. Constitution. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of 55,000 detainees and future detainees in 160 ICE detention centers across the country. Many of the larger detention centers are under contract with Geo Group, based in Boca Raton, or CoreCivic, another private contractor based in Nashville. The suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles against the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency and the Department of Homeland Security by three organizations: the Southern Poverty Law Center, a non-profit group in Montgomery, Ala., that works on behalf of immigrant justice; the Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center in Denver, Colo.; and Disability Rights Advocates in California and New York.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]

HEADLINE: “ICE And Its Contractor GEO Group Failed To Treat Immigrants Humanely, Lawsuit Claims.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]

HEADLINE: “Protesters Block Access To Private Prison Company’s South Florida Headquarters.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]
Giménez Is An Enemy Of Public Transportation

**Significant Findings**

- Giménez failed to live up to a campaign promise of expanding Metrorail at the direction of a lobbyist.
  - Wrote Metrorail expansion at the direction of a lobbyist.
  - Expanding Miami’s Metrorail system into South Dade after making Metrorail expansion a campaign promise.
  - Giménez’s campaign finance chair, a lobbyist, accompanied him to meetings on the deal and “played an insider role” in defeating the plan; Giménez’s campaign finance chair and his family have contributed $25,750 to Giménez’s campaigns.
  - Giménez’s campaign finance chair and lobbyist partnered with construction companies that received county contracts and subsidies.
- Giménez supported unpopular fare hikes to the Metro Bus and Metrorail systems.
- Giménez was in favor of privatizing Miami-Dade’s public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, and light rail transit systems.
- Giménez voted in favor of a taxicab rate increase.
- Giménez supported purchasing bus benches that were criticized for being unsightly, and too hot to sit on in the Sun.

**Giménez Failed To Live Up To A Campaign Promise At The Direction Of His Campaign Finance Chair And Lobbyist**

**Giménez Opposed Expanding Miami’s Metrorail System Into South Dade After Making Metrorail Expansion A Campaign Promise**

2017: Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding Miami’s Metrorail System To South Dade. “Carlos Giménez message is to Move ForwardMayor Carlos Giménez has a vision for the future of Miami-Dade’s public transportation. Ad approved by Carlos Giménez, for Mayor of Miami-Dade County. The mayor reads widely and exhaustively now -- as opposed to the year when he tried to shut down 50 percent of the county’s libraries and get the surprise of his political life -- and the big news of his budget reveal is his discovery that technology will revolutionize transportation as we know it -- and quicker than we could imagine! Riding the rails is a thing of the past, not worth the investment, Giménez says as the county rolls out $376 million worth of long-overdue new Metrorail cars over the next two years but no expansion plans.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 7/21/17]

Giménez Opposed Metrorail Expansion After He Made It A Campaign Promise In 2016. “When he ran for reelection as mayor in 2016, Giménez aired a campaign ad portraying him on a Metrorail car under the headline ‘More Rail Lines,’ but he has opposed plans to expand the existing Metrorail system as too expensive and outdated. Instead, he’s pushed for more affordable options under the SMART Plan process, an effort launched in 2016 to re-study six of the corridors laid out in the original 2002 tax plan.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

Giménez: What “People Understand Was ‘Promised’ Was Never Possible [...] The Promises Made Could Never Be Kept.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez, in office since 2011, recently issued a memo prepared by his
budget office that describes a tax plan doomed by overly optimistic predictions on costs, federal aid and the overall financial health of Miami-Dade’s bus and rail operations. It cited flawed projections on fare growth, far too conservative forecasts for pay and benefits of transit workers, and construction estimates that would end up growing significantly. What “people understand was ‘promised’ was never possible,” the Dec. 3 memo reads, “if realistic revenue and expense projections were applied from the beginning.” Giménez added in an interview Tuesday: “The promises made could never be kept. The revenues were overstated. The expenses were understated. ... We needed to be honest with the people [and] set the record straight.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

HEADLINE: “How Miami-Dade Collected $3 Billion And Still Can’t Afford To Expand Metrorail.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair, A Lobbyist, Accompanied Him To Meetings On The Deal And “Played An Insider Role” In Defeating The Plan

Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair, And Lobbyist, Played An Insider Role In Helping Giménez Defeat The $1.3 Billion Metrorail Extension To South Dade. “A year before he partnered with the Genting casino developer to pitch the county on a monorail to Miami Beach, lobbyist Ralph Garcia-Toledo played an insider role in helping Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez defeat a $1.3 billion Metrorail extension to South Dade. Garcia-Toledo, chairman of Giménez’s campaign-donor operation in 2016, accompanied the mayor and county transit chief Alice Bravo in five private meetings with elected officials, according to Bravo’s office and Garcia-Toledo. The officials held seats on a Miami-Dade transportation board that was deciding between a rail expansion that county consultants said wasn’t financially viable and the administration’s proposal for a $243 million system of modernized rapid-transit buses that would leave money to build transit projects elsewhere.” [Miami-Herald, 7/9/19]


Giménez: “Trains Are 19th Century Technology”

Giménez: “Trains Are 19th Century Technology.” “Riding the rails is a thing of the past, not worth the investment, Giménez says as the county rolls out $376 million worth of long-overdue new Metrorail cars over the next two years but no expansion plans. ‘I’m looking to the future,’ the mayor said. ‘Trains are 19th century technology.’ Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez discusses transportation plan Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez and Budget Director Jennifer Moon discuss the county’s transit future with the Miami-Herald Editorial Board on July 19, 2017. So what does he propose? Let us ride buses!” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 7/21/17]


2007: Giménez Said That He Was Not “A Fan Of Light Rail,” And That Miami-Dade County Didn’t Have The “Density For Trains”

2007: Giménez Said That He Was Not “A Fan Of Light Rail,” And Opposed Its Increased Funding. “To combat that, the commissioner noted the benefits of sustained growth within the present Urban Development Boundary. Within seconds, Lawrence Percival, executive vice president of the federation, asked Giménez to comment on the strongly opposed CSX proposal, part of a county transit study that recommends the implementation of commuter trains along the railway. ’I used to be a fan of light rail, but not anymore,’ said Giménez, who does not believe expected ridership, 3,708 per day, justifies the expected capital cost of $177 million.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/07]
Giménez: “We Just Don’t Have The Density For Trains Right Now.” “Opposing sides claimed victory Thursday after county officials adopted a contentious traffic strategy for Kendall while delaying its implementation for further study. […] Commissioner Carlos Giménez did, unsatisfied with the study’s narrow options. ‘Who’s paying for this? We just don’t have the density for trains right now, and the numbers prove it,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/6/07]

**Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair And Lobbyist Partnered With Construction Companies That Received County Contracts And Subsidies**

Giménez Filmed A Promotional Video For A Potential Monorail Project Developed By His Former Campaign Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Before The Contract Bid Was Presented To The County For Subsidies

Giménez Filmed A Promotional Video For A Potential Monorail Project That Was Being Developed By Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair Three Months Before The Contract Bid Was Presented to The County For Subsidies. “Audrey Edmonson, the chairwoman of the Miami-Dade commission, said she joined Mayor Carlos Giménez and Lourdes Giménez in February for the filming in a local studio used to create a digital version of the trio traveling on the would-be monorail. She and others who saw the final version describe a computerized monorail gliding by the Miami skyline. Real-life versions of the Giménezes and Edmonson board the digitized train and happily peer out the superimposed windows at local sites -- a virtual ride produced for a transit venture now at the center of a county bidding contest to develop one of the busiest commuting corridors in Miami-Dade. ‘This was a promotional video the mayor and Audrey were in,’ said Ralph Garcia-Toledo, a lobbyist and partner in Genting’s monorail proposal who also served as fundraising chairman for Giménez’s 2016 reelection bid. ‘The mayor looking at the skyline, getting on the train -- everything is virtual -- and showing sites of downtown Miami, Miami Beach, stuff like that.’ Filming occurred Feb. 8, according to Edmonson’s calendar. That’s about three months before Genting and partners submitted the proposal -- which is still confidential -- to Giménez on May 1 to use its planned casino site in downtown Miami as a station for a privately run monorail subsidized with county dollars.” [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

Giménez Agreed To Be In The Video After His Former Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Requested His Help In Securing A County Subsidy For The Monorail Project. Myriam Marquez, Giménez’s communications director, said the mayor agreed to be in the video after Garcia-Toledo and fellow monorail partner Jesse Manzano-Plaza, Giménez’s 2016 campaign manager, requested help securing Genting’s final backing of the Miami-Dade project. ‘Ralph and Jesse came to them and said: ‘We want Genting -- Genting is interested in having a transit station... and being part of that Beach link. We want to show them county officials’ interest in having this project done,’’ Marquez said. She equated the video to other promotional appearances the mayor has made, such as in a clip driving a driverless car Ford is testing in the Miami area. ‘Had he been asked by any other company to be part of a video about something that’s important for the community, he’d do it,’ Marquez said. [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Were Partners With A Casino Company In A Bid To Build A Monorail System Between Miami And Miami Beach. “Giménez’s role as the county’s chief procurement officer has also brought controversy. Two of his top political operatives from his 2016 reelection bid, campaign manager Jesse Manzano-Plaza and fundraising chairman Ralph Garcia-Toledo, are partners with casino company Genting in a bid to build a monorail system between Miami and Miami Beach. Giménez has praised the proposal, which sparked a bidding process to invite competing offers.” [Miami-Herald, 1/14/20]

Toldeo And Plaza Worked With Genting In Submitting The Monorail Program To Giménez. “Genting, the casino company that owns the former Herald property, joined two lobbyists who helped lead Mayor Carlos Giménez’s 2016 reelection campaign in submitting the confidential monorail proposal to the mayor in May. […]
It’s not known how much the Genting consortium, which includes former Giménez finance chair Ralph Garcia-Toledo and campaign manager Jesse Manzano-Plaza, wants Miami-Dade to pay each year for the monorail system.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/20]

HEADLINE: “Weeks Before Genting’s Monorail Bid, Miami-Dade Mayor And Wife Filmed Promo For Train.” [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair Was The Owner Of A Construction Management Company That Received County Contracts To Help Build Public Transit Fueling Stations

Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chairman Was The Owner Of A Construction Management Company Received A County Contract To Help Build Public Transit Fueling Stations. “That effort stalled once it landed on the desk of transit director Alice Bravo. She overruled the staff and insisted it start fresh by trying to negotiate a new deal to buy buses through New Flyer, a Canadian bus maker already producing 300 natural-gas buses from a $321 million Miami-Dade contract approved in early 2017 to launch its compressed-gas fleet. That bus order was part of a larger agreement with fuel company Trillium to not only order the county’s first natural-gas buses, but to build two fueling stations to service them as well. […] A small construction-management firm owned by Ralph Garcia-Toledo, finance chairman for Giménez’s 2016 reelection campaign, was part of the 2017 Trillium contract, but said the developer makes no money from vehicle purchases since it only serves as a middle man for Miami-Dade and bus makers. ‘Trillium has nothing to do with buses,’ he said. ‘And I have even less.’ […] But it may not be the last twist in the road to new buses for Miami-Dade. The Giménez administration is proposing a $47 million increase to the Trillium deal to build a third fuel depot, a move the inspector general said all but commits Miami-Dade to a bus fleet run on compressed natural gas.” [Miami-Herald, 11/23/19]

2004-2015: Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair And His Family Have Contributed $25,750 To Giménez’s Campaigns

2010-2015: Garcia-Toledo And His Family Contributed $21,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Resident First PACs. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

2004-2011: Garcia-Toledo And His Family Contributed At Least $4,750 To Giménez’s County-Level Campaigns. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

Giménez Was An Enemy Of Public Transportation

Giménez Supported Unpopular Fare Hikes To The Metro Bus And Metrorail Systems

2014: Giménez Was In Favor Of An Unpopular Fare Hike To The Metro Bus And Metrorail. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez has two weeks to lock up support for his 2015 budget among county commissioners, who revealed their resistance to unpopular fee and fare hikes in an unexpected insurrection early Friday morning. Of particular concern was a proposed increase to Metrobus and Metrorail fares — to $2.50 from $2.25 — that, if rejected, would create a new $7.6 million budget hole that Giménez said could force his administration to revive a plan to eliminate some bus routes.” [Miami-Herald, 9/5/14]

2008: Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Bus And Rail Fare Increase, Even After Doubts That The Increase Would Help The County’s Transit System. “The 50-cent bus and rail fare increase that Miami-Dade County commissioners narrowly ratified Tuesday may be killed before it goes into effect Oct. 1. The cause: a political U-turn. Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who voted in favor of the increase, said Thursday he will ask colleagues to reconsider on Sept. 16. Giménez expressed doubts that the fare increase would put the transit system on a stable financial footing, and he now questions some of the budget numbers submitted by county administrators. […] ‘I really think we need to take a more holistic look at everything,’ Giménez said. Voting for the fare increase: Giménez, Rolle, Moss, Jordan, Katy Sorenson and Audrey Edmonson.” [Miami-Herald. 9/5/08]
HEADLINE: “Giménez Wants More Discussion Before Transit Fare Increases.” [Miami-Herald, 9/15/08]

2005: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Public Transit Fares. In April 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 99-138 TO INCREASE TRANSIT FARES, RATES AND CHARGES; AUTHORIZING SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS TO THE SCHEDULE OF TRANSIT FARES, RATES AND CHARGES ATTACHED TO SAID ORDINANCE BY RESOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-150 OF THE CODE; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 050528, 050671 AND 050696].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 4/5/05, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Privatizing Miami-Dade’s Public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, And Light Rail Transit Systems

Giménez Was In Favor Of Privatizing Miami-Dade’s Public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, And Light Rail Transit Systems. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez is supporting, if not pushing, a plan to contract the tri-rail, Metrorail and light rail systems out to private companies. Giménez wants county government out of operating transit systems; not even managing them. It’s a bad idea and perhaps Giménez needs a refresher course about having private companies provide security at the Tri Rail and Metro Rail facilities.” [South Florida Times, 10/1/15]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Taxicab Rate Increase

Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Taxicab Rate Increase. In June 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 31-87 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR TO IMPLEMENT A PER TRIP TAXICAB RATE SURCHARGE DUE TO AN UNFORESEEN INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GASOLINE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 081284 AND 081511].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-71, Vote 081612, 5/6/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Giménez Supported Purchasing Bus Benches That Were Criticized For Being Unsightly, And Too Hot To Sit On In The Sun

Giménez Supported Purchasing Bus Benches That Were Criticized For Being Unsightly, And Too Hot To Sit On In The Sun. “While Giménez characterized the resignation as a natural transition, city sources say tension had been mounting between Diaz and Giménez, who most recently took the blame for buying bus benches that have been widely criticized for being too hot to sit on in the sun. […] On Aug. 4, Diaz sent Giménez a critical e-mail over the benches -- which have been criticized by many residents in Brickell, the Upper Eastside and Coconut Grove as being too hot to sit on and unsightly because of the free-standing advertising panels attached to the benches. ‘One of the things that struck me and Winton, when we witnessed the benches ourselves was that it just didn’t look like the city had any kind of a plan with respect to the issue. And we don’t,’ Diaz said.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]

Miami Mayor On The Benches: “It Just Didn’t Look Like The City Had Any Kind Of Plan On The Issue.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]
Giménez Is Bad For Residents Of Miami-Dade

**Significant Findings**

- Giménez supported removing Head Start from the county’s supervision because “educating young people” was not the “mission of Miami-Dade.”
- Giménez repeatedly favored county budgets that closed dozens of public libraries while they served as many residents’ only resource for books, literacy, and internet.
- Under Giménez’s watch, the City of Miami lost $10 million in Federal funding due to environmental compliance violations with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Giménez said that he was in favor of raising prices on affordable housing.
- Giménez was opposed to expanding the Omni Community Redevelopment Districts which captured $2 billion over 20 years and aided affordable housing construction.
- Giménez said that feeding the homeless helped “homeless individuals remain homeless.”
- Giménez was in favor of closing a homeless shelter because he said it had a “negative effect on development.”
- Giménez threatened to lay off 400 police workers if unions didn’t agree to pay concessions; the plan gutted the county’s narcotics unit and dismissed robbery investigators.
- Giménez urged police unions to give up pay raises, benefits hikes, and bonuses as part of a new union contract.
- Giménez was opposed to the firing of a police chief who was accused of clearing dozens of police shootings and oversaw officers who planted guns at crime scenes.
- Giménez opposed the creation of a County Oversight Police Review Board.
- Giménez initially supported the construction of a monorail systems built by Casino and Chinese companies; Sens. Rubio and Scott opposed the proposal due to Chinese espionage concerns.
- Giménez refused requests to open early voting sites at every college campus even after a district judge ruled that the refusal showed a “stark pattern of discrimination.”
- Giménez was against extending early-voting hours, despite voter complaints of long lines at voting locations.
- Giménez was opposed to the purchase of more secure voting machines with paper records.

Giménez Was Bad For Education
Giménez Supported Removing Head Start From The County’s Supervision, And Handing It Over To The School System.

“[Carlos A. Giménez] was criticized for removing Head Start from under the county’s supervision. ‘We thought that program belongs with the school system,’ Giménez said. ‘Educating young people is not the core mission of Miami-Dade County. I feel the school system will do a better job. They will do it cheaper and add more kids.’” [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]

The Head Start Program Offered Early Childhood Education In Low-Income Communities. “‘We did a lot of things we had to do the first year,’ Giménez said. ‘To be financially and structurally sound, we had to make the changes.’ One of the more contentiously debated programs affected was Head Start which offers early childhood education in low-income communities.” [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]

Giménez: “Educating Young People Is Not The Core Mission Of Miami-Dade County”

Giménez: “Educating Young People Is Not The Core Mission Of Miami-Dade County.” “[Carlos A. Giménez] was criticized for removing Head Start from under the county’s supervision. ‘We thought that program belongs with the school system,’ Giménez said. ‘Educating young people is not the core mission of Miami-Dade County. I feel the school system will do a better job. They will do it cheaper and add more kids.’” [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]

2013: Giménez Supported A Budget Which Slated To Close 22 Public Libraries; A Deal Was Reached To Instead Fire More Than 1/3rd Of Library Employees, And Shorten Operation Hours

2013: Giménez Supported A Budget Which Slated 22 Public Libraries To Close. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who last month warned that 22 of the county’s 49 public libraries could be shut down this fall due to deep budget cuts, announced Thursday that his administration now expects to shutter only four. The dramatic reduction, while welcome news to library supporters who have campaigned to keep the facilities open, still comes with plenty of pain. Libraries across the board will likely shorten their hours and be staffed by fewer librarians.” [Miami-Herald, 8/15/13]

A Deal Was Reached To Instead Fire More Than 1/3rd Of Library Employees, And Shorten Operation Hours. “Nearly six weeks after cautioning it could shutter 22 public libraries, Miami-Dade County has found a way to keep all 49 facilities open at least some of the time, offering stripped-down services. In all, 169 library workers — more than a third of the department’s 461 employees — would lose their jobs by Oct. 1, and libraries would begin to operate about three-quarters of the hours they do now, Mayor Carlos Giménez informed county commissioners late Friday.” [Miami-Herald, 8/24/13]

2011: Giménez Was In Favor Of A Proposed Budget Which Would Close 13 Public Libraries; He Backtracked On The Plan After Drawing Criticism

Giménez Was In Favor Of A Proposed Budget Which Would Close 13 Public Libraries. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez made history on Thursday, hosting the county’s first virtual town hall meeting to answer questions about his proposed budget, which would cut 1,300 county jobs, close 13 libraries and make county workers pay more for their medical insurance.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]

Giménez: “We Had To Asses Our Priorities And Make Tough Choices.” “‘In crafting this budget, we had to assess our priorities and make tough choices, including some service cuts,’ said Giménez. ‘Unfortunately, our County Library System will be affected.’ But he said an effort is already afoot to raise private funds to support some lost libraries’ operations. To many residents, the facilities serve not only as a resource to borrow..."
books and participate in literacy programs, but provide much-needed Internet service.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]

**HEADLINE:** “Proposal To Shutter Miami-Dade Libraries Draws Fire.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]

**Giménez Backtracked On His Proposal To Shutter Libraries After Drawing Criticism.** “Two years ago, Giménez’s proposal to shutter libraries drew so much criticism that the administration ultimately backtracked on its plan. On Tuesday, Commissioner Barbara Jordan said she feared the latest round of cuts would disproportionately affect poor communities.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/13]

**The County’s Libraries Served As Many Residents’ Only Resource To Borrow Books, Participate In Literacy Programs, And Provide Internet Services**

The County’s Libraries Served As Many Residents’ Only Resource To Borrow Books, Participate In Literacy Programs, And Provide Internet Services. “In crafting this budget, we had to assess our priorities and make tough choices, including some service cuts,’ said Giménez. ‘Unfortunately, our County Library System will be affected.’ But he said an effort is already afoot to raise private funds to support some lost libraries’ operations. To many residents, the facilities serve not only as a resource to borrow books and participate in literacy programs, but provide much-needed Internet service.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]


**Giménez Was An Enemy Of Affordable Housing And The Homeless**

**Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Raising Prices On Affordable Housing**

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Raising Prices On Affordable Housing. “In justifying the community development department’s plan in a memo to commissioners, Giménez cited new tariffs on building materials that are pushing up costs as well as rising real estate prices in Miami. ‘The housing market has changed significantly,’ Giménez wrote, ‘and the cost of construction has increased.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

Giménez: “The Housing Market has Changed Significantly […] The Cost Of Construction Has Increased.” “In justifying the community development department’s plan in a memo to commissioners, Giménez cited new tariffs on building materials that are pushing up costs as well as rising real estate prices in Miami. ‘The housing market has changed significantly,’ Giménez wrote, ‘and the cost of construction has increased.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Says Affordable Housing Isn’t What It Used To Be, Wants To Raise Prices.” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

**Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding The Omni Community Redevelopment Districts Which Captured $2 Billion Over 20 Years And Aided Affordable Housing Construction**

Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding The Omni Community Redevelopment Districts Which Would Capture $2 Billion Over 20 Years And Aid Affordable Housing Construction. Extending the timeline and expanding the boundaries of two CRA districts in order to generate revenue to help build the port tunnel and museum park, and to pay off the county’s heavy PAC debt. And, by extension, to help build the new Florida Marlins baseball stadium rising in Little Havana. The expansion of the CRAs was hailed by Diaz as key to the deal, a move that would potentially capture almost $2 billion over the next 20 years and also aid affordable housing construction. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez -- who voted for the global pact and the port tunnel --
Giménez argued against expanding the CRA last month because doing so would benefit projects that won’t pay taxes, such as the museum park and tunnel.” [Miami-Herald, 12/15/09]

Giménez said that he was against benefiting projects that won’t pay taxes.

Giménez said that feeding the homeless helped “homeless individuals remain homeless.”

Giménez was in favor of closing a homeless shelter because he said it had a “negative effect on development.”

Giménez supported measures to hurt Miami-Dade’s first responders.

Giménez dropped his demands for pay concessions.

2014: Giménez threatened to lay off 400 police workers if unions didn’t agree to pay concessions; the plan gutted the county’s narcotics unit and dismissed robbery investigators.

2014: Giménez proposed a budget plan that eliminated 400 police jobs if unions did not agree to pay concessions.

Giménez dropped his demands for pay concessions. “With Miami-Dade County’s budget clock ticking, Mayor Carlos Giménez’s administration has dropped a key demand it was making of labor unions, in a bid to
unstick contract negotiations. Giménez’s decision to stop trying to block $40 million in pay perks from ‘snapping back’ to workers on Oct. 1, as scheduled, means the county is likely to see at least some service reductions and employee layoffs in the coming budget year. The mayor had said his ‘best-case scenario’ budget would continue the pay concessions, which unions agreed to three years ago, until 2017.” [Miami-Herald, 8/19/14]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Drops Demand To Extend Worker Pay Concessions.” [Miami-Herald, 8/19/14]

Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Gutted The County’s Narcotics Unit And Dismissed Robbery Investigators

Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Gutted The County’s Narcotics Unit And Dismissed Robbery Investigators. “Facing a budget squeeze, Miami-Dade County would pare down its narcotics unit, dismiss investigators working robbery cases and close a boot camp for young convicts, according to draft planning documents released this week. The papers outline about $65 million in spending reductions to two of the county’s largest departments, police and corrections, as Mayor Carlos Giménez warns of significant cuts next year without concessions from county employee labor unions.” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/14]

Police Benevolent Association: “Every One Of These Criminals Should Be Sending A Little Gift Card To Carlos Giménez Saying: ‘Thank You.’” “‘Every one of these criminals should be sending a little gift card to Carlos Giménez saying: ‘Thank you, because I’m going to make a lot of money robbing people, and stealing from people, and having my way with victims,’ ‘ said John Rivera, head of the Police Benevolent Association, which represents police and corrections employees. ‘We’re going to tell people to buy bars for your windows and doors, buy attack dogs, buy firearms.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/14]

Headlines

HEADLINE: “Giménez And Police Union Set For Talks After Stand-Off.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/14]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Warns Hundreds Of Police Officers To Get Ready For Layoffs.” [Miami-Herald, 8/12/14]


HEADLINE: “Giménez’s Budget Could Lead To Police Officer Layoffs.” [Tampa Bay Times, 7/11/14]

2011: Giménez Urged Police Unions To Give Up Pay Raises, Benefits Hikes, And Bonuses As Part Of A New Union Contract

2011: Giménez Urged Police Unions To Give Up Pay Raises, Benefits Hikes, And Bonuses As Part Of A New Union Contract. “Just hours after officially taking office as Miami-Dade County’s new mayor Friday, Carlos Giménez sent eight key county unions a letter making a bold request: Give up pay raises, benefits hikes and bonuses to help cover a swelling $400 million budget gap. […] The details: Giménez is asking the unions to give up the 3 percent raises, bonuses and merit increases that went into effect Friday. The request for cuts to the police went deeper: In addition to giving up raises and bonuses, Giménez asked union leadership to forego step increases that would reduce salaries by more than 8 percent.” [Miami-Herald, 7/1/11]

Giménez: “I Have Always Been Honest And Straightforward In My Belief That The Upcoming Budget Must Include Salary Adjustments.” “‘I am committed to presenting a balanced budget that reduces costs through consolidation, eliminating redundancy, and reducing the bureaucracy,’ Giménez wrote the unions. ‘However, this will not close the almost $400 million budget gap. I have always been honest and
might not have happened as at least 18 of those questionable shootings involving Miami police officers over the last decade. His resignation announcement comes two days after a Miami-Herald series uncovered dozens of questionable shootings involving Miami police officers over the last decade. Martinez was chairman of the Firearms Review Board that cleared at least 18 of those questionable shootings -- despite evidence that there were problems with the shootings or they might not have happened as officers claimed. Martinez, who has served as chief for two and half years, has faced a
series of scandals during his tenure, including the indictment of 13 officers last year on charges of concocting evidence and planting guns at the scenes of shootings. […] Martinez’ main ally has been City Manager Carlos Giménez, who had vowed not to fire the chief. But politicians, including Miami Mayor Manny Diaz had expressed dissatisfaction with the Martinez.” [Miami-Herald, 11/15/02]

HEADLINE: “Miami Police Chief To Resign Jan. 1; Brutality Charges May Be Factor, Critics Speculate.” [Sun Sentinel, 11/16/02]

Giménez Said That The Police Chief “Did A Good Job” And Had His “Full Support”

Giménez: “Raul Did A Good Job As Police Chief Under Extremely Difficult Circumstances And He Has My Full Support.” “Martinez’s main ally has been City Manager Carlos Giménez -- the only person in the city with the authority to hire or fire a police chief. Giménez had vowed not to fire the chief. ‘I did not ask him to resign,’ Giménez said Friday. ‘I’m truly sorry to see him go. Raul did a good job as police chief under extremely difficult circumstances and he has my full support.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/16/02]

Giménez Opposed The Creation Of A County Oversight Police Review Board

Giménez Opposed The Creation Of A County Oversight Police Review Board. “Saying Miami-Dade’s police officers already receive enough scrutiny and oversight, Mayor Carlos Giménez on Friday issued a rare veto and blocked reviving the county’s dormant review board for probing misconduct. ‘The County already has numerous internal mechanisms and external entities that oversee and investigate complaints against any County employee or agency,’ Giménez wrote in his veto message, citing a range of government options from the FBI to the county’s office of Fair Employment Practices.” [Miami-Herald, 2/18/18]


Giménez Supported The Construction Of A Monorail Built By Chinese Companies But Senators Rubio And Scott Opposed It Due To Espionage Concerns

Giménez Initially Supported The Construction Of A Monorail System Built By Casino And Chinese Companies; Sens. Rubio And Scott Opposed The Proposal Due To Chinese Espionage Concerns

Giménez Supported The Construction Of A Monorail System Developed By A Casino And A Chinese Transportation Company. “Florida Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott expressed ‘grave concerns’ and alarm Monday over Miami-Dade County’s considering a Chinese company’s monorail system to connect Miami with Miami Beach, saying the project is vulnerable to espionage from a hostile power. A letter to County Mayor Carlos Giménez strikes at the heart of the confidential monorail proposal submitted by casino operator Genting and an affiliate of BYD, the Chinese electric-car maker that also has a monorail arm.” [Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]

Senators Marco Rubio And Rick Scott Both Opposed Giménez’s Proposal Due To Chinese Espionage Concerns. “Florida Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott expressed ‘grave concerns’ and alarm Monday over Miami-Dade County’s considering a Chinese company’s monorail system to connect Miami with Miami Beach, saying the project is vulnerable to espionage from a hostile power. A letter to County Mayor Carlos Giménez strikes at the heart of the confidential monorail proposal submitted by casino operator Genting and an affiliate of BYD, the Chinese electric-car maker that also has a monorail arm.” [Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]

HEADLINE: “Florida Senators Call Proposals For Miami-Dade Monorail ‘Alarming’ Over Ties To China.” [Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]
HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor Wants To Block Genting From Using Chinese Trains For Monorail Bid.” [Miami-Herald, 8/30/19]

Giménez Tried To Prevent People From Voting

Giménez Refused Requests To Open Early Voting Sites At Every College Campus Even After A District Judge Ruled That The Refusal Showed A “Stark Pattern Of Discrimination”

Giménez Refused Requests To Open Early Voting Sites At College Campuses. “Ever so ready to give his party and his friends a helping hand, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez -- a Republican in a supposedly non-partisan role -- has so far refused requests to open early voting sites at MDC, FIU and UM. This despite a court order by a federal judge on July 24 declaring unconstitutional a four-year state policy banning voting on campus. The ban was engendered by state Republicans and Scott with the sole purpose of making it difficult for college-age students, supposedly more liberal than conservative, to vote against their agenda and their candidates.” [Miami-Herald, 9/13/18]

A U.S. District Judge Said That The Refusal Showed A “Stark Pattern Of Discrimination” By The State Of Florida.” “Giménez isn’t swayed by the words of U.S. District Judge Mark Walker, who said that the refusal to allow college students the opportunity to vote on campus showed a ‘stark pattern of discrimination’ by the state of Florida. The court ruling, unfortunately, doesn’t force elections officials to open the early-voting sites, which is the only way to get them to do the right thing these days.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 9/13/18]


Giménez Allowed Only FIU And Miami-Dade College To Have Early Voting On Campus After Criticisms Of His Refusal

Giménez Allowed FIU To Have Early Voting On Campus. “Florida International University’s main campus in western Miami-Dade will have early voting next month but Miami-Dade College will not under a county plan announced Wednesday after sustained criticism by groups wanting it to be easier for students to vote ahead of Election Day. ‘I am firmly committed to making voting accessible to all,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Republican in a non-partisan post, said in a statement released Wednesday afternoon. ‘Miami-Dade County has historically provided the maximum allowable early voting locations and hours. We will continue to provide that opportunity to all of our voters in a professional and non-partisan manner.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/19/18]

Giménez Allowed MDC To Have Early Campus Voting After The County Commission Pushed For Its Implementation. “The Democratic majority on the nonpartisan County Commission pushed for MDC to get the same kind of early-voting site that Mayor Carlos Giménez awarded Florida International University the day before. Giménez and fellow Republicans on the 13-member board resisted giving MDC an early-voting site, arguing it wasn’t needed for the commuter school.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/18]

HEADLINE: “Under Pressure, Miami-Dade Mayor Approves Early Voting For One Large College Campus.” [Miami-Herald, 9/19/18]

HEADLINE: Santiago Column: “Miami-Dade’s College Campuses Should Have Early Voting Sites Like The Rest Of Florida.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 9/13/18]

2012: Giménez Was Against Extending Early-Voting Hours, Despite Voter Complaints Of Long Lines At Voting Locations
Giménez Was Against Extending Early-Voting Hours, Despite Voter Complaints Of Long Lines At Voting Locations. “Despite lines up to seven hours long at times during eight days of early voting, Giménez had decided late last week not to ask Gov. Scott to extend early-voting hours in Miami-Dade. The last early-voting polls officially closed at 7 p.m. Saturday, but they remained open until the last voter in line checked in with a poll worker — about 1 a.m. Sunday. Giménez defended his decision Sunday to refrain from asking the governor for more early-voting hours.” [Miami-Herald, 11/4/12]

Giménez Realized That Was A Mistake, Apologized, And Said That He Would Extend The Hours “Next Election”

Giménez Realized That Was A Mistake, And Apologized. “The worst waits, up to six hours, were in Miami-Dade County, where Mayor Carlos Giménez showed up at a Brickell Avenue polling place to personally apologize to hundreds still waiting to cast ballots as polls closed at 7 p.m. ‘I’m sorry and embarrassed,’ Giménez said. ‘That should not have happened. That’s something that we have to look at for the next election.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/7/12]

Giménez: “I’m Sorry And Embarrassed […] That’s Something That We Should Have To Look At For The Next Election.” “The worst waits, up to six hours, were in Miami-Dade County, where Mayor Carlos Giménez showed up at a Brickell Avenue polling place to personally apologize to hundreds still waiting to cast ballots as polls closed at 7 p.m. ‘I’m sorry and embarrassed,’ Giménez said. ‘That should not have happened. That’s something that we have to look at for the next election.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/7/12]

2007: Giménez Was Opposed To The Purchase Of More Secure Voting Machines With Paper Records

2007: Giménez Was Opposed To The Purchase Of More Secure Voting Machines With Paper Records. “Miami-Dade County commissioners Wednesday stopped a plan by elections chief Lester Sola to award a $10 million no-bid contract for new voting machines. Instead, commissioners gave Sola a tongue-lashing -- and directions to gather competitive bids from Florida’s three viable voting machine operators and have an ‘optical scan’ system in place by August 2008. To meet state mandates for voting machines that create paper records, Sola’s office had asked for $14.1 million for new voting machines, booths, printers and optical scanners -- including a $10 million no-bid award to the county’s current vendor, Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software, for its optical scanners. Miami-Dade commissioners were skeptical of Sola’s attempt to rush the contract. ’You’ve created a false sense of urgency,’ Commissioner Carlos Giménez said. ’This commission is being led somewhere it shouldn’t be led,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/12/07]
Giménez Is Bad For Miami-Dade’s Water

**Significant Findings**

- Giménez was in favor of using sewage water to cool down the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant; critics warned that the plan would lead to “long-lasting terrible algae blooms.”
- Giménez supported a county budget that took away $25 million from sewer funds, even after broken pipes spilled 47 million gallons of waste into Miami waterways and farmlands.
- Giménez was slow to respond to maximum water contamination levels of arsenic in homes.
  - Giménez suggested to residents, whose houses had maximum water contamination levels of arsenic, that they would have to pay over $5,000 to hook up public water lines and refused to look for alternative funding sources unless residents supported the installations.
- Giménez was in favor of the construction of a new toll highway; the $1 billion highway plan would save drivers just 6 minutes and harmed the Everglades.
- Giménez was in favor of expanding Miami-Dade’s urban development boundary into the Everglades.
- Giménez’s 2013 claim that Miami had the “nation’s highest-rated tap water” was rated “false” by PolitiFact.
- Giménez was in favor of buying foreign sand to replenish Miami’s beaches; the move would disqualify the possibility of using federal funds to cover for Miami’s sand.

Giménez Wanted To Use Sewage Water To Cool Down A Nuclear Power Plant Which Lead To “Long-Lasting Terrible Algae Blooms”

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using Sewage Water To Cool Down The Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant; Critics Warned That The Plan Would Lead To “Long-Lasting Terrible Algae Blooms”

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using Treated Sewage Water To Cool Nuclear Power Plant Canals. “A plan to use costly treated wastewater to fix Florida Power & Light’s nuclear cooling canals could wind up polluting Biscayne Bay, environmentalists warned this week. Under the deal set to go before the Miami-Dade County Commission on Tuesday, FPL and the county plan to build a plant to clean sewage in South Dade and pump billions of gallons of treated wastewater into the over-heated canals each year. The canals have become increasingly salty and have leaked underground, creating a massive saltwater plume now creeping into Biscayne Bay and threatening nearby drinking water wellfields. In March, Mayor Carlos Giménez pitched the plan as a fix to two vexing problems: the troubled canals and meeting a deadline to end the county’s decades-long practice of pumping polluted sewage offshore. But environmentalists say so far the plan provides no guarantee that wastewater will be clean enough for Biscayne Bay, which has been plagued by algae blooms and seagrass die-offs. The county may also be missing a rare opportunity to once and for all fix the canals and help the bay. In a letter to commissioners last month, five environmental groups, including Tropical Audubon and the National Parks Conservation Association, warned that the plan also ignores a 20-year-old Everglades restoration plan to use wastewater to revive the bay and coastal wetlands, which stalled over the high price of treatment.” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]
Giménez’s Plan Was Criticized By Environmental Groups Because It Would Lead To “Long-Lasting Terrible Algae Blooms” “Let’s not do a half-assed solution,” said Southern Alliance for Clean Energy director Stephen Smith. “That’s what we’re really talking about here.” FPL canal aerial The Turkey Point cooling canals cover nearly 6,000 acres and have become too salty over the years, creating a massive underground saltwater plume the utility is now trying to clean up. Environmentalists also worry that the county, which has reviewed the plan twice in committee meetings with little public comment, is rushing into an agreement with the powerful utility and reneging on an earlier decision to retire the canals. ‘Biscayne Bay is at a tipping point,’ said Miami Waterkeeper Executive Director Rachel Silverstein. ‘If we continue putting nutrients into the bay we’ll start to get really long-lasting terrible algae blooms and we’re already starting to see these blooms.”’ [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]

HEADLINE: Could Putting Treated Sewage Water In FPL Nuclear Canals Pollute Biscayne Bay? Critics Say Yes.” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]

HEADLINE: “FPL’s Troubled Cooling Canals Are About To Get A New Permit. Some Say That’s A Problem.” [Miami-Herald, 2/23/19]

Giménez Supported A County Budget That Took Away $25 Million From Sewage Funds

2012: Giménez Supported A County Budget That Took Away $25 Million From Sewer Funds, Even After Broken Pipes Spilled 47 Million Gallons Of Waste Into Miami Waterways And Farmlands

Giménez Offered A County Budget That Took $25 Million Away From The County’s Sewer Funds, Even After Broken Sewer Pipes Spilled 47 Million Gallons Of Waste Into Miami Waterways And Farmlands. “A broken water line in Little Haiti floods homes and some streets waist-high. The aging wastewater treatment plant on Virginia Key spills 19 million gallons of untreated waste into the ocean. A water main break in Hialeah creates a sinkhole. A burst pipe pours untreated sewage straight into Biscayne Bay. Over the past two years broken sewer pipes have spewed 47 million gallons of stinky waste onto roads and homes and into Miami-Dade waterways all the way from farmlands in the southern tip of the county to the northern border with Broward, which also is facing major sewer system breakdowns. […] Last year, Mr. Giménez offered a budget that took $25 million from the sewer funds as a ‘loan’ to balance the county’s books — an effort aimed at not having to lay off more county workers or reduce crucial services to residents. This year’s budget proposal does not dip into the sewer funds and the loan will start getting repaid in 2014.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 7/29/12]

EDITORIAL HEADLINE: “Fix This Stinky Mess.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 7/29/12]

Giménez Was Slow To Respond To Maximum Water Contamination Levels Of Arsenic In Homes

Giménez Suggested To Residents, Whose Houses Had Maximum Water Contamination Levels Of Arsenic, That They Would Have To Pay Over $5,000 To Hook Up To Public Water Lines

Giménez Told Residents, Whose Houses Had Maximum Water Contamination Levels Of Arsenic, That They Would Have To Pay Over $5,000 To Hook Up To Public Water Lines. “With results in for 50 of the 99 houses tested, all showed traces of arsenic, with six found to be within 50 percent of the Maximum Contamination Level, 10 parts per billion. Another three houses tested above the MCL. All results were discussed with affected residents Thursday at a meeting organized by District 7 Commissioner Carlos Giménez and several government agencies. […] At Thursday’s meeting, Giménez, along with representatives from the county’s DERM and the state’s Department of Health, addressed possible solutions. Homeowners were given two choices: bring in a water line with public water or buy individual reverse-osmosis filters, both of which are costly procedures. Connecting homeowners to public water is a two-step process. According to county code, if a water line is brought in, all
nearby homes must connect to it. ‘I’m going to fight . . . to get water to you,’ Giménez said, promising residents he would find funding for the initial step. ‘But if so, you have to hook up,’ he added, citing the second step, which may cost residents more than $5,000 each.” [Miami-Herald, 3/25/07]

Giménez: “I’m Trying To Find The Most Efficient Way To Solve The Problem, One That Costs The Residents The Least Amount Of Money Possible, And That Takes The Least Time.” “Only homes where arsenic concentrations reach the MCL will receive a filtration system worth $10,000. If residents agree to bring in a county line, only those above the MCL will have the connection costs to their homes covered -- if below $10,000. Connection costs to individual homes are separate from the $3.4 million needed to bring in the county lines. Bringing in the lines will cost residents millions, and the commissioner will only do so if they reach a consensus. Those who want the lines brought in are asking Giménez to take a more strong-handed approach, one the commissioner is avoiding. ‘I’m trying to find the most efficient way to solve the problem, one that costs the residents the least amount of money possible, and that takes time. Not everyone is going to be happy,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

HEADLINE: “Arsenic In Water Worries Residents; A Recent Study By The State’s Department Of Health Showed Traces Of Arsenic In Well Water At All 50 Houses Tested, With Nine Found To Be Above Accepted Levels.” [Miami-Herald, 3/25/07]

HEADLINE: “Tainted-Wells Fix Is Costly; Residents Whose Private Wells Have Tested Positive For Arsenic May Have To Come Up With A Significant Portion Of The $3.5 Million Necessary If They Want To Get Hooked Up To The County System.” [Miami-Herald, 5/13/07]

HEADLINE: “South Dade Has Less Help For Arsenic Wells; Lack Of Progress Leaves Residents Of Glenvar Heights Still Dealing With Arsenic In Their Private Wells, And They May Have To Pay Even More Than Originally Expected.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

**Giménez Refused To Look For Alternative Funding Sources Unless Residents Supported The Installations In The First Place**

Giménez Refused To Look For Alternative Funding Sources Unless Residents Supported The Installations In The First Place. “Cejas is skeptical of the use of the questionnaire because District 7 Commissioner Carlos Giménez -- who suggested its creation -- has not yet clarified how the choice of method to remedy the problem will be chosen. ‘I did not elect my neighbors. I depend on the government to act,’ said Cejas, whose house tested just below the MCL. The survey asks residents if they support the installation of water mains “regardless of the funding source,” warning them of the possible cost. This contrasts promises by Commissioner Giménez to look for funding because the search for it will commence only if residents support the installation in the first place. ”Believe me, if there’s anyone on the commission who knows where to find funding, it’s me,” Giménez said at a meeting with residents on March 22.” [Miami-Herald, 4/8/07]

Giménez: “I Know It’s Very Personal To Them, But I Can’t Make Things Happen Any Faster Than What I’m Doing Right Now.” “Residents are even more aggravated that they have not heard from County Commissioner Carlos Giménez and that little has yet been done. ‘They’re not going to be left in the dark,’ said Giménez, who has not met with homeowners because little has changed since May. ‘Nothing is going to happen without more public input. I know they’re frustrated, but I’m frustrated myself. I know it’s very personal to them, but I can’t make things happen any faster than what I’m doing right now. They’re going to hear from us,’ Giménez promised. The commissioner plans to meet with his staff in the coming weeks and hold a public meeting before the end of August.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

**Giménez Wanted To Build An Unnecessary $1 Billion Toll Highway That That Harmed The Everglades’ Waterways**
Giménez Was In Favor Of The Construction Of A New Toll Highway Into Kendall. “Urging county leaders not to neglect the vast majority of residents who drive, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez used a high-profile speech Tuesday to champion the extension of the Dolphin Expressway south into Kendall while resisting calls for a quick expansion of Metrorail into different suburbs. […] plan for 836 extension. A proposal by the administration of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez to extend the Dolphin Expressway (State Road 836) southwest in Kendall. The bold line shows the proposed route, while the longer dotted line shows the current edge of the county’s Urban Development Boundary The smaller dotted line shows where the boundary would move if certain growth targets were met. Those words came during a passage on the county’s new computer-synced traffic.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/18]

HEADLINE: “$1 Billion Highway Plan In Doubt. Hearing Reveals It Would Save Kendall Drivers Just 6 Minutes.” [Miami-Herald, 7/30/19]

HEADLINE: “Mayor Fighting For A New Toll Highway Into Kendall, Past The Development Boundary.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/18]


Giménez’s Proposed Highway In Kendall Could Harm Everglades Restoration Projects Which Were Needed To Battle Sea Level Rise

Giménez’s Proposed Highway Could Harm Everglades Restoration Projects Which Were Needed To Battle Sea Level Rise. “However, the area remained critical to future Everglades restoration. When a task force created by Giménez looked at the basin last year, the majority recommended keeping the area outside the urban development boundary. As sea level rises, more freshwater than previously estimated under Everglades restoration will likely be needed to beat back saltwater intrusion making buffer areas even more critical.” [Miami-Herald, 6/19/18]


HEADLINE: “State Regulators Latest To Raise Flags Over Miami-Dade’s 836 Highway Extension.” [Miami-Herald, 8/15/18]

Sen. Marco Rubio Opposed The Highway Due To The Environmental Concerns

Sen. Marco Rubio Opposed The Highway Due To The Environmental Concerns. “Marco Rubio announced Tuesday that he will ask federal agencies to oppose the 836 expressway expansion into West Kendall, a major roadblock for Mayor Carlos Giménez and the Miami-Dade County Commission after they gave preliminary approval for the 14-mile highway in June. The Republican senator’s alignment with environmentalists, who say the highway would damage the Everglades and cause urban sprawl, could affect the project’s progress due to federal land swaps from the Department of Interior that are needed before construction can begin.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/18]

HEADLINE: “Rubio To Oppose 836 Extension Into Kendall Due To Everglades Concerns.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/18]

Giménez Wanted To Expand The County’s Urban Development Boundary Into The Everglades
Giménez Was In Favor Of Expanding Miami-Dade’s Urban Development Boundary Into The Everglades.

“In a sweeping bid to stop development from edging closer to the Everglades, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez on Friday vetoed applications to expand the county’s Urban Development Boundary. Alvarez vetoed a package of building proposals affecting the UDB that the County Commission sent to the state this week for further review. But the commission can override Alvarez’s veto when it meets on Tuesday. If the veto stands, the proposals are dead, although they can be resubmitted in two years. The move endeared Alvarez to those fighting changes to the urban development line. They said the mayor showed political mettle in standing up to Miami-Dade’s influential development industry. [...] ‘It’s pure politics, and I don’t think it’s good policy,’ Commissioner Carlos Giménez said of the veto. Alvarez said the commission could have separated projects inside the boundary from those outside it. He also said they could have made a final decision on the projects. ‘They could have put an end to the endless lobbying of officials. They didn’t,’ Alvarez said. ‘Instead of dealing with the issue, commissioners chose to wash their hands of this political ‘hot potato.’’” [Miami-Herald 12/3/05]

Giménez’s Claim That Miami Had The “Nation’s Highest-Rated Tap Water” Was Rated False By PolitiFact

PolitiFact: Giménez’s Claim That Miami Had The “Nation’s Highest-Rated Tap Water” Was Rated False.

“Miami-Dade has plenty to brag about: stellar beaches, celebrities who live in multimillion-dollar mansions, four-star restaurants, the world famous tennis tournament on Key Biscayne and Miami Heat national basketball champions. But a county document boasted about something far more ordinary on July 9 when Mayor Carlos Giménez released his budget proposal. A budget-in-brief document written by the county’s Office of Management and Budget stated that the county has ‘the nation’s highest-rated tap water.’ Do we have some sort of liquid gold pouring out of our faucets that is the envy of other counties nationwide? We went in search of answers to quench our curiosity. [...] The claim is wrong, but it isn’t so ridiculous to earn our lowest Pants on Fire rating. We’re still going to end with one more joke and pour a cold bucket of tap water to douse this claim. We rate this claim False. [PolitiFact via Miami-Herald, 7/12/13]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Disqualify The Use Of Federal Funds To Cover For Sand Replenishment On Miami-Dade’s Beaches

Giménez Was In Favor Of Buying Foreign Sand To Replenish Miami’s Beaches; The Move Would Disqualify The Possibility Of Using Federal Funds To Cover For Miami’s Sand

Giménez Was In Favor Of Buying Foreign Sand To Replenish Miami’s Beaches. “Using foreign sand would disqualify Miami-Dade from the possibility of using federal funds to cover half of the $40 million program cost. Federal rules require domestic sand for most renourishment programs. Giménez wants to spend only $10 million in county tax dollars for the renourishment program, which would bring about 220,000 tons of new sand to Miami Beach between 46th and 53rd streets next summer. Sunny Isles Beach would get a similar refill the following year. Miami-Dade would likely qualify for a $10 million state matching grant, with Washington expected to contribute its own match of $20 million.” [Miami-Herald, 7/21/15]

The Move Would Disqualify The Possibility Of Using Federal Funds To Cover For Miami’s Sand. “Using foreign sand would disqualify Miami-Dade from the possibility of using federal funds to cover half of the $40 million program cost. Federal rules require domestic sand for most renourishment programs. Giménez wants to spend only $10 million in county tax dollars for the renourishment program, which would bring about 220,000
tons of new sand to Miami Beach between 46th and 53rd streets next summer. Sunny Isles Beach would get a similar refill the following year. Miami-Dade would likely qualify for a $10 million state matching grant, with Washington expected to contribute its own match of $20 million.” [Miami-Herald, 7/21/15]
Key Visuals

Images

Trump

[Twitter, @CarlosGimenezFL, 1/23/20]

[Twitter, @realDonaldTrump, 1/23/20]

Headlines

2020 Congressional Campaign

HEADLINE: “Giménez Won’t Announce Campaign Plans This Week Because The ‘Time Is Not Right Yet.”’ [Miami-Herald, 1/17/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade’s Republican Mayor Might Run For Congress And Try To Unseat A Democrat.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

City Manager

Quitting

HEADLINE: “City Manager Storms Out Of Meeting, Say’s He’ll Quit.” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]
**HEADLINES:** “Miami Manager Agrees To Stay On Job, For Now.” [Miami-Herald, 10/13/01]

**HEADLINE:** “Mayor Pressed Giménez To Resign; Manager Says ‘Job Takes A Toll’” [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]

**HEADLINE:** “City Manager Giménez Says He’s Giving Up Miami Position; He And Mayor Diaz At Odds, Sources Say.” [Miami-Herald, 7/13/02]

**Pay**

**HEADLINE:** “City Manager’s Offer Ensures A Soft Landing.” [Miami-Herald, 5/27/00]

**Coronavirus**

**HEADLINE:** “Thousands Leave Miami Cruise Ship Without Screenings After Former Passenger Had Coronavirus.” [Tampa Bay Times, 3/15/20]

**Environmental Issues**

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade To Reopen Beaches Friday Despite Red Tide Detected In Coastal Waters Off Miami.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]

**HEADLINE:** “No Bottled Water In Miami-Dade? No. Problem, Mayor Says: Fill From The Tap.” [Miami-Herald, 9/6/17]

**Ethics**

**Donors**

**HEADLINE:** “A Look Back At Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez’s Top Donors.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

**Family Ties**

**HEADLINE:** Santiago Column: “The Ethics Of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez And His Lobbyist Sons Stink.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

**HEADLINE:** “Beckham Partner Has Friend In Miami-Dade’s Mayor And A Lobbyist In The Mayor’s Son.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Joe Carollo Pays Carlos Giménez Clan More Than $175K In Total.” [Political Cortadito, 10/16/18]

**HEADLINE:** “County’s Mayor’s Son Wins Approval For Land Sale. Commissioners Won’t Ban Family Deals.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/19]

**HEADLINE:** “County Oks Deal For Steel Mill Co-Owned By Mayor’s Son.” [South Florida Business Journal, 5/28/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Steel Mill With Mayor’s Son As Owner On Track For $5 Million Miami-Dade Subsidy.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]
HEADLINE: “Steel Mill Owned In Part By Mayor’s Son Wins $4.9 Million Subsidy, No Questions Asked.”
[Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

Super Bowl Tickets

HEADLINE: “Dolphins Owner’s Super Bowl Gift To County Mayor Carlos Giménez; Two $4,000 Tickets.”
[Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor: I Accepted A Super Bowl Ticket From Dolphins Owner, Paid For 2nd.”
[Miami-Herald, 2/3/20]

Foreign Travel

HEADLINE: “After Trip To China, Miami-Dade Wiped Data From Phones Used By Top County Officials.”
[Miami-Herald, 4/25/18]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade’s Mayor Is On A County Trip To Europe. Soccer Is On The Agenda.”
[Miami-Herald, 1/8/19]

Miami Monorail

HEADLINE: “Weeks Before Genting’s Monorail Bid, Miami-Dade Mayor And Wife Filmed Promo For Train.”
[Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

HEADLINE: “Lobbyist Behind Genting’s Monorail Bid Helped Mayor Block South Dade Metrorail Plan.”
[Miami-Herald, 7/9/19]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor Wants To Block Genting From Using Chinese Trains For Monorail Bid.”
[Miami-Herald, 8/30/19]

HEADLINE: “Florida Senators Call Proposals For Miami-Dade Monorail ‘Alarming’ Over Ties To China.”
[Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]

Crandon Golf Course

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor And Trump Discussed Crandon Golf Takeover.”
[Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

FIU Bridge

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Extended FIU Bridge Builder’s Contract, No Questions Asked. That May Change.”
[Miami-Herald, 7/23/19]

Formula 1 Racing

HEADLINE: “Miami Gardens To Giménez’s Veto: ‘This Isn’t Over.’”
[Miami Times, 11/13/19]

COLUMN HEADLINE: “His Son Was A Formula One Lobbyist. Mayor Is Now Pushing Unpopular Racing. It’s Wrong.”
[Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]


HEADLINE: “Carlos Giménez Is Acting Like A Dictator.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Runs Over Jordan With Veto.” [Miami Times, 11/20/19]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Assault Weapons Ban**

HEADLINE: “Dade Urges Renewing Assault-Arms Ban; Miami-Dade Lobbyist Will Urge Congress To Renew An Assault Weapons Ban The President Let Expire Three Years Ago.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/07]

**Universal Background Checks**

HEADLINE: “Florida Mayors Urge Legislature To Pass Universal Background Checks; The Idea Goes Beyond What’s Currently On The Table In Tallahassee.” [Tampa Bay Times, 2/5/20]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Says Affordable Housing Isn’t What It Used To Be, Wants To Raise Prices.” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immigration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Venezuela**

HEADLINE: Miami-Dade Urges Trump To Extend Asylum To Venezuelans During Maduro Crackdown.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/17]

**Sanctuary Cities**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homestead Child Immigrant Detention Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

HEADLINE: “After Visiting Kids At Homestead Center, Miami-Dade Leaders Are ‘Pleasantly Surprised.'” [Miami-Herald, 716/19]

HEADLINE: “From Extortion To Sex Exploitation, South Florida Facilities Holding Migrant Kids Have Faced Problems.” [Sun Sentinel, 6/22/18]

HEADLINE: “ICE And Its Contractor GEO Group Failed To Treat Immigrants Humanely, Lawsuit Claims.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]

HEADLINE: “Protesters Block Access To Private Prison Company’s South Florida Headquarters.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]

Son, C.J. Giménez

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor’s Son Joins Firm By Trump’s Former Campaign Manager.” [Miami-Herald, 4/7/17]

Son, Julio Giménez

HEADLINE: “Son Of Dade Commissioner Arrested; The 27 Year Old Son Of Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez Was Arrested On Drug Charges And Was Charged With Resisting Arrest, According To A Police Report.” [Miami-Herald, 2/28/06]

Labor

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Budget Plan Includes Layoffs.” [Miami Times, 7/14/10]


HEADLINE: “Mayor Blocks Effort To Boost Pay At Miami Airport In Latest ‘Living Wage’ Fight.” [Miami-Herald, 5/23/18]

Law Enforcement

HEADLINE: “Giménez And Police Union Set For Talks After Stand-Off.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/14]

HEADLINE: “Giménez’s Budget Could Lead To Police Officer Layoffs.” [Tampa Bay Times, 7/11/14]


LGBTQ Issues


Miami-Dade Mayor Administration

HEADLINE: “Blacks Absent On Giménez’s Cabinet.” [Miami Times, 9/7/11]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Headline</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keep Your Sazon Off This Lechon:</strong></td>
<td>Miami-Dade Mayor Pardons Two Pigs For The Holidays.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 12/15/19]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recall</strong></td>
<td>Effort To Recall Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez Officially Launches.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 8/11/14]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Debates</strong></td>
<td>Carlos Giménez Declines Another Debate In County Mayoral Race.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 9/21/16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Giménez Withdraws From Remaining Mayoral Debates.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pay</strong></td>
<td>Giménez Slashes His Paycheck.</td>
<td>[St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget Crisis Or Not, Miami-Dade Leaders Keep Luxury Cars.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 5/23/10]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miami Marlins</strong></td>
<td>After Five Seasons, The Mayor Finally Takes In A Marlins Game.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 7/27/16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Another Opening Day In Miami Without A Mayor To Cheer The Home Team.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 4/5/16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All-Star Game</strong></td>
<td>Mayor: I Would Go To All-Star Game If Marlins Had Invited Me. Marlins: We Did.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 7/11/17]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tourism &amp; Infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>Mayor Calls On Carnival To Cancel Cruise To Cuba If Cuban-Born Americans Can't Buy Tickets.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 4/13/16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kendall Highway</strong></td>
<td>Mayor Fighting For A New Toll Highway Into Kendall, Past The Development Boundary.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 1/30/18]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cuban Tourism</strong></td>
<td>Miami-Dade Mayor Calls On Carnival To Cancel Cruise To Cuba If Cuban-Born Americans Can't Buy Tickets.</td>
<td>[Miami-Herald, 4/13/16]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gambling


American Dream Mall


Transportation


HEADLINE: “Giménez Wants More Discussion Before Transit Fare Increases.” [Miami-Herald, 9/15/08]

Trump

Trump Support


HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Republican Mayor Who Backed Clinton Plans To Attend Trump Inauguration.” [Miami-Herald, 1/13/17]

Racist Remarks

HEADLINE: Miami-Dade’s Republican Mayor Calls Trump’s Reported Slander Of Haiti “Shameful” If True. [Miami-Herald, 1/11/18]

Voting Rights

Early Voting


HEADLINE: “Under Pressure, Miami-Dade Mayor Approves Early Voting For One Large College Campus.” [Miami-Herald, 9/19/18]

2015 Elections

HEADLINE “On White House Call, Giménez Highlights Fixes To Voting Woes.” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/15]
Personal & Professional History
Biography

This section provides background information on Giménez’s personal life, including education, personal finances, criminal and civil record, and other areas. Searches were conducted with various local media in Miami-Dade County, media outlets including The Miami-Herald, South Florida Times, Miami Times, as well as a number of other online resources, including Lexis-Nexis.

Birth Date

Born Carlos Antonio Giménez Jr. on October 17th, 1954 (age 65) in Havana, Cuba

Personal Background

2009: Giménez Had A 32-Foot Cruiser Boat

2009: Giménez Had A 32-Foot Stamases Express Cruiser Boat. “Richards confirmed that Matheson has a special quality about it. 'It does stand out,' he said Wednesday, having a drink of water under the shade by the beach. 'You have a park with mangroves and access to the ocean. You are closer to the ocean here than the normal recreational facility,’ he said. ‘And it’s multifaceted.’” One of those who enjoy the facility is Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who has his 32-foot Stamases Express cruiser in one of the wet slips at the marina. 'Like the president of the Hair Club For Men says, ‘I’m not only a commissioner. I’m also a customer,’” Giménez said, thanking the staff and crediting them for the bestowment.” [Miami-Herald, 6/21/09]

2004: Giménez Was Hit By A Car While Riding His Bike On A Causeway Shoulder And Suffered Only Road Rash

2004: Giménez Was Hit By A Car While Riding His Bike On A Causeway Shoulder And Suffered Only Road Rash. “Giménez, a key backer of the Rickenbacker lanes, made the project a priority after he was hit by a car while riding his bike on the causeway shoulder -- a popular route used by hundreds of recreational cyclists on weekends -- shortly after his 2004 election. Giménez suffered only road rash, but the plan received more impetus after cyclist Omar Otaola was struck and killed by a delivery truck as he tried to maneuver a poorly marked stretch of roadway near the Bear Cut bridge in February 2006. Giménez also successfully lobbied for a new state law that requires motorists to stay at least three feet from cyclists when passing them on the road.” [Miami-Herald, 1/9/09]

1960: Giménez And His Family Arrived In Miami When He Was Six Years Old And Settled In The Little Havana Neighborhood

1960: Giménez And His Parents Arrived To Miami From Havana When He was Six Years Old. “Giménez and his parents came to Miami from Havana in 1960, when he was 6 years old. He joined the department on Jan. 6, 1975. Ten months later, a supervisor had picked him out for bigger things. 'Carlos is an excellent individual who by all appearances will advance rapidly,’ he wrote in an evaluation. Giménez served as a firefighter and paramedic, as executive assistant and as chief of management services. In his last job, he has been in charge of rescue operations.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/91]

Giménez And His Family Arrived In Miami, And Settled In The Little Havana Neighborhood. ‘In 1960, Giménez’s family came to Miami, where they crammed into a house in Little Havana with more than a dozen other relatives. Giménez slept in a bedroom with three of his older cousins. Childhood brought lessons in austerity: the family pooled all their earnings nightly and Giménez’s great uncle paid the bills, which included tuition for private schools. Giménez’s father worked for a time as a bellhop at the Seville Hotel in Miami Beach; his mother worked for Orkin and Al-Flex Exterminators.’ [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]
1954: Giménez Was Born In Havana, Cuba, And Was The Son Of An Affluent Rancher

Giménez Was Born In Havana, Cuba In 1954. “Giménez was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1954, the son of a rancher who raised cattle, rice and sugar cane. He still remembers riding his horse on his father’s ranch on the island’s eastern Oriente province. In 1960, Giménez’s family came to Miami, where they crammed into a house in Little Havana with more than a dozen other relatives. Giménez slept in a bedroom with three of his older cousins.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez Was The Son Of A Rancher Who Raised Cattle, Rice, And Sugar Cane. “Giménez was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1954, the son of a rancher who raised cattle, rice and sugar cane. He still remembers riding his horse on his father’s ranch on the island’s eastern Oriente province. In 1960, Giménez’s family came to Miami, where they crammed into a house in Little Havana with more than a dozen other relatives. Giménez slept in a bedroom with three of his older cousins.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Grew Up In Affluence On A Cuban Ranch.” “Giménez grew up in affluence on a Cuban ranch, but fled with his family at age 7 to Miami. His father worked as a hotel bellhop, and his mother a secretary for an exterminator. Giménez said he’s looked up a childhood home on Google Earth, but won’t return until the Castros are out of power and civil liberties are granted. ‘I would love to go back someday and see where I was born,’ he said. ‘I choose not to.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/17/14]

Giménez: “I Would Love To Go Back Someday And See Where I Was Born […] I Choose Not To.” “Giménez grew up in affluence on a Cuban ranch, but fled with his family at age 7 to Miami. His father worked as a hotel bellhop, and his mother a secretary for an exterminator. Giménez said he’s looked up a childhood home on Google Earth, but won’t return until the Castros are out of power and civil liberties are granted. ‘I would love to go back someday and see where I was born,’ he said. ‘I choose not to.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/17/14]

Education

1999: Giménez Received A Bachelor’s Degree In Public Administration from Barry University

1999: Giménez Received A Bachelor’s Degree In Public Administration From Barry University. “A new job: Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez is leaving the city after 28 years to work for the international law firm of Steel Hector & Davis in Miami. Experience: Appointed city manager on May 9, 2000; served as fire chief, 1991-2000. Hired by the city’s Fire Department on Jan. 6, 1975. As fire chief, he directed the city’s recovery efforts after Hurricane Andrew and established an urban search and rescue team. Education: B.A., public administration, Barry University, 1999; completed management training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1993.” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]

1993: Giménez Completed A Management Training At Harvard University

1993: Giménez Completed A Management Training At Harvard University. “A new job: Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez is leaving the city after 28 years to work for the international law firm of Steel Hector & Davis in Miami. Experience: Appointed city manager on May 9, 2000; served as fire chief, 1991-2000. Hired by the city’s Fire Department on Jan. 6, 1975. As fire chief, he directed the city’s recovery efforts after Hurricane Andrew and established an urban search and rescue team. Education: B.A., public administration, Barry University, 1999; completed management training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1993.” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]
1984: Giménez Received His Associate’s Degree In General Studies

“Although he received his associate’s degree in general studies in 1984, it wasn’t until last year that Giménez received his bachelor’s degree from Barry University, in public administration.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/00]

1972: Giménez Graduated From A Private High School In Miami Where He Met His Future Wife

“Childhood brought lessons in austerity: the family pooled all their earnings nightly and Giménez’s great uncle paid the bills, which included tuition for private schools. Giménez’s father worked for a time as a bellhop at the Seville Hotel in Miami Beach; his mother worked for Orkin and Al-Flex Exterminators. Giménez attended Christopher Columbus High School, where he played basketball for four years – ‘I was pretty good’ – and where he met a cheerleader names Lourdes, his wife for the past 36 years. They now have three grown children and two grandchildren.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Career

The following provides a brief overview of Giménez’s professional career:

**Political**
- 2011-2020: Miami-Dade County, mayor
- 2004-2011: Miami-Dade County, commission board member

**Professional**
- 2003: Steel Hector & Davis, government operations and efficiency consultant
- 2000-2003: City of Miami, city manager
- 1991-2000: City of Miami, fire chief
- 1975-1991: City of Miami, firefighter, paramedic, SWAT medic, executive assistant to fire chief, department division chief

2011-Current: Giménez Was Mayor Of Miami-Dade County

“Jun. 2011: Giménez Was Elected Miami-Dade Mayor In A Special Election To Serve Recalled Mayor Alverez’s Term. “A bitter election campaign for interim mayor of Miami-Dade County ended Tuesday with Carlos Giménez, a former county commissioner and Miami city manager, narrowly defeating his opponent. Giménez pulled in 51 percent of the votes to 49 percent for former Hialeah Mayor Julio Robaina and will replace Carlos Alvarez, who was ousted in a recall election on March 15.” [South Florida Times, 6/30/11]

2004-2011: Giménez Was A Member Of The Miami-Dade County Commission

“Giménez was first elected to the commission in 2004 and was re-elected in 2008 without opposition. Prior to his election, he served for three
years as Miami’s city manager and for nine years as the city’s fire chief. Giménez on Monday said he wants voters to also weigh in on charter amendments when they go to the polls for the recall election.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

**Giménez Was Reelected To The Miami-Dade County Commission In 2008 Without Opposition.** “Giménez was first elected to the commission in 2004 and was re-elected in 2008 without opposition. Prior to his election, he served for three years as Miami’s city manager and for nine years as the city’s fire chief. Giménez on Monday said he wants voters to also weigh in on charter amendments when they go to the polls for the recall election.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

**Giménez District Included Parts Of Coconut Gove, Coral Gables, Key Biscayne, South Miami, And Pinecrest**

**Giménez District Included Parts Of Coconut Gove, Coral Gables, Key Biscayne, South Miami, And Pinecrest.** “After a year as a consultant for a law firm, Giménez, who lives in Coconut Grove, successfully ran for a seat on the Miami-Dade County Commission in 2004. His district included parts of Coconut Grove, Coral Gables, Key Biscayne, South Miami and Pinecrest.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Creating The Office Of Intergovernmental Affairs**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Creating The Office Of Intergovernmental Affairs.** In December 2004, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING THE OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, PROVIDING FOR MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, APPOINTMENT, REMOVAL, AND TERM OF OFFICE OF DIRECTOR; PROVIDING FOR FUNCTIONS, SCOPE OF AUTHORITY, AND POWERS OF OFFICE; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 043189, 043407]” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 12/16/04, accessed 1/31/20]

**2003: Giménez Joined International Law Firm Steel Hector & Davis As A Government Operations And Efficiency Consultant**

**Jan. 2003: Giménez Joined Steel Hector & Davis, An International Law Firm, As A Government Operations And Efficiency Consultant.** “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez, who is credited with helping to bring stability and integrity back to a city administration damaged by divisive politics, is leaving the city to join an international law firm. Giménez, who in August announced his retirement after 28 years of service to the city, joins Steel Hector & Davis in Miami as a government operations and efficiency consultant on Feb. 15. The former fire chief, who retires from his $140,000 job with a $120,000 pension, has led the city administration since May 2000. He decided to step down after discussing his future with Mayor Manny Diaz. In his new job, Giménez, 49, will focus on corporate relocation, reorganization, expansion and government incentive packages. He also will work with the law firm’s lawyers and government consultants in Tallahassee. ‘I am very excited about joining such a prestigious law firm,’ Giménez said. ‘I am looking forward to the new challenges ahead, while continuing to serve the community I love.’” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]

**Giménez: “I Am Looking Forward To The New Challenges Ahead, While Continuing To Serve The Community I Love.”** “In his new job, Giménez, 49, will focus on corporate relocation, reorganization, expansion and government incentive packages. He also will work with the law firm’s lawyers and government consultants in Tallahassee. ‘I am very excited about joining such a prestigious law firm,’ Giménez said. ‘I am looking forward to the new challenges ahead, while continuing to serve the community I love.’” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]

**Giménez Role Focused On Relocation, Reorganization, Expansion, And Government Incentive Packages**
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NOTE: Further research needed into the law firm Giménez consulted for and its clients.

Giménez Was Named An Up And Coming Attorney “Legal Elite” By Steel Hector & Davis, Without Ever Being A Licensed Attorney

Giménez Was Named An Up And Coming Attorney “Legal Elite” By Steel Hector & Davis. “Steel Hector’s ‘legal elite’ are: Amelia Maguire, Alvin Davis, William Hill, John Little, Thomas McGuiga, Lewis Murphy, Rebekah Poston, Jorge Luis Lopez, Janet Munn, Sherwin Simmons, William Townsend and Samuel Ullman. Those named up-and-coming attorneys were Heather Gatley, a partner in the firm’s Labor and Employment Practice, and Carlos Giménez, an associate with the firm’s Government and Regulatory Group.” [Miami-Herald, 9/12/04]

NOTE: Giménez does not have a law degree and has never been licensed to practice law.

2003: Giménez Took A Leave From Steel Hector & Davis To Campaign For County Commissioner Full Time

Oct. 2003: Giménez Took A Leave From Steel Hector & Davis To Campaign For County Commissioner Full Time. “CARLOS GIMENEZ * Age: 50 * Background: Served as Miami’s city manager (2000-03) and fire chief (1991-2000) after starting with the city in 1975 as a firefighter. Works with the law firm of Steel, Hector and Davis as a consultant to government agencies, but has been on leave since October.” [Miami-Herald, 8/20/04]

2000-2003: Giménez Was The City Manager Of Miami

May 2000: Giménez Was Named City Manager Of Miami. “For 25 years, Carlos Giménez put out fires on Miami streets. Now the city’s first Hispanic fire chief is set to manage a city ablaze with controversy, ethnic tension, investigations and counterinvestigations. It’s not a decision he made lightly, he said. The 46-year-old father of three who built his career in one department was concerned about job stability, he said. In the end, Giménez, who had been passed over for the post once before, said he couldn’t refuse the offer: ‘I’ve been asked to do things outside the department before, and I’ve never said no.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/00]

Giménez Earned $140,000 A Year As City Manager. “As city manager, the mayor or the commission can remove him for practically any reason. They can remove a fire chief only if he commits a crime or is guilty of malfeasance. As fire chief, Giménez got $122,000 a year in salary. As city manager, he is getting $140,000.” [Miami-Herald, 5/19/00]

Giménez’s Combined Salary And Benefits Would Be $220,769. “The package calls for Giménez to be paid $100,000 this year and $140,000 next year - the same amount as Warshaw. It allows him $840 a year for a cellular telephone, an $8,000 yearly car allowance and reimbursement for reasonable expenses. All tallied, the value of Giménez’s salary and benefits would be $220,769.” [Miami-Herald, 5/25/00]

The Miami-Herald’s Editorial Board Called Giménez “Woefully Inexperienced,” And Opposed His Appointment As City Manager

Miami-Herald Editorial: City Commissioners “Should Reject Mayor Joe Carollo’s Appointment Of Carlos Giménez” To Become City Manager. “The city of Miami is too complex, its financial condition too fragile to be saddled with an inexperienced city manager who already shows disturbing signs of being too eager to please a
vindictive mayor. City commissioners, therefore, should reject Mayor Joe Carollo’s appointment of Carlos Giménez today. Miami has special needs that require an experienced hand at the helm. Although Mr. Giménez has several years’ experience as the city’s fire chief, he is woefully inexperienced in municipal operations.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 5/18/00]

Miami-Herald Editorial: Giménez Was “Woefully Inexperienced In Municipal Operations.” “The city of Miami is too complex, its financial condition too fragile to be saddled with an inexperienced city manager who already shows disturbing signs of being too eager to please a vindictive mayor. City commissioners, therefore, should reject Mayor Joe Carollo’s appointment of Carlos Giménez today. Miami has special needs that require an experienced hand at the helm. Although Mr. Giménez has several years’ experience as the city’s fire chief, he is woefully inexperienced in municipal operations.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 5/18/00]

Giménez Oversaw The Bad Bookkeeping Of $41,00 Worth Of Lost Trash Permits

Giménez Oversaw The Bad Bookkeeping Of $41,00 Worth Of Lost Trash Permits. “A police probe of Miami’s Solid Waste Department has concluded that $41,000 worth of missing permits were the result of bad bookkeeping, not criminal wrongdoing, Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez said Friday. The city launched an internal review of Solid Waste following a discovery by city auditors in August that at least $41,200 worth of trash container permits were unaccounted for last year. Whenever a construction company needs a container at a Miami site, it applies for a $50 permit from Solid Waste. The audit, which covered the period between October 1999 and September 2000, revealed that revenues from 824 container permits, each worth at least $50, could not be found. Giménez said he immediately asked the police department to look into the discrepancy. ‘When you see that there are permits missing, there is a possibility of somebody selling those, giving those out and the city losing that revenue, so I wanted to make sure there was no criminal activity going on in association with the permits,’ Giménez said. Giménez said Police Chief Raul Martinez called him recently and told him the $41,000 gap in the audit was a result of ‘sloppy procedures.’ Martinez could not be reached for comment Friday.” [Miami-Herald, 9/8/01]


Audits Determined That City Of Miami Employees Made Hundreds Of Personal Long-Distance Calls On City Phones; Giménez Was On Vacation Out Of The County And Could Not Be Reached For Comment

Audits Determined That City Of Miami Employees Made Hundreds Of Personal Long-Distance Calls On City Phones; Giménez Was On Vacation Out Of The County And Could Not Be Reached For Comment. “An internal audit by the city of Miami of long-distance phone calls during two months in 1999 has determined that employees made hundreds of personal long-distance calls on city phones. It also found that the city’s long-distance carrier, MCI, which recently changed its name to WorldCom Inc., overcharged the city $417,349 from 1993 through 1999. The city is seeking a refund. […] The audit findings, Martinez said, have been sent to the department’s Policy Review Committee. City Manager Carlos Giménez was out of the country on vacation and could not be reached for comment.” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/00]

HEADLINE: “Audit Reveals Costly Phone Errors Personal Calls, Overcharges Found.” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/00]

Giménez Threatened To Resign As City Manager After Being Questioned About $100,000 That He Received From The Commission To Inform Voters About An Upcoming Redevelopment Referendum…

Oct. 2001: Giménez Abruptly Threatened To Resign As City Manager After Being Questioned About $100,000 That He Was Provided By The Commission To Inform Voters About A Referendum On Watson Island Redevelopment. “Following an argument with Miami Commissioner Tomas Regalado at Thursday’s commission meeting, City Manager Carlos Giménez said publicly he would resign this morning, then stormed out of the chamber. The eruption happened just moments after the commission approved a Nov. 13 referendum on a
$255 million bond issue and asked Regalado to serve as the liaison with city staff to inform the public about the proposal. Regalado, hesitant to take the job, began questioning Giménez and his staff about $100,000 the commissioners provided to tell voters about another referendum on the redevelopment of Watson Island. Giménez responded that he was tired of ‘sitting quietly’ during Regalado’s tirades, and that he ‘wasn’t going to take it anymore.’ “Tomorrow I’m resigning my job as city manager,” Giménez said, abruptly leaving the podium. ‘I am out of here.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

Miami-Herald: “‘Tomorrow I’m Resigning My Job As City Manager,’ Giménez said, Abruptly Leaving The Podium. ‘I’m Out Of Here.’” “Following an argument with Miami Commissioner Tomas Regalado at Thursday’s commission meeting, City Manager Carlos Giménez said publicly he would resign this morning, then stormed out of the chamber. The eruption happened just moments after the commission approved a Nov. 13 referendum on a $255 million bond issue and asked Regalado to serve as the liaison with city staff to inform the public about the proposal. Regalado, hesitant to take the job, began questioning Giménez and his staff about $100,000 the commissioners provided to tell voters about another referendum on the redevelopment of Watson Island. Giménez responded that he was tired of ‘sitting quietly’ during Regalado’s tirades, and that he ‘wasn’t going to take it anymore.’ “Tomorrow I’m resigning my job as city manager,” Giménez said, abruptly leaving the podium. ‘I am out of here.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

HEADLINE: “City Manager Storms Out Of Meeting, Say’s He’ll Quit.” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

Giménez Decided To Stay On The Job Despite His Threats To Quit. “Miami commissioners and the mayor on Friday persuaded City Manager Carlos Giménez to stay on the job through the November city election, despite his threat to quit. Giménez, during a spat with Commissioner Tomas Regalado at Thursday’s commission meeting, said he would resign right away. Regalado had lashed out at the city manager, accusing Giménez of repeatedly ignoring his requests. Friday, Mayor Joe Carollo and every commissioner except Regalado contacted Giménez hoping to get him to change his mind. It worked.” [Miami herald, 10/13/01]

HEADLINES: “Miami Manager Agrees To Stay On Job, For Now.” [Miami-Herald, 10/13/01]

…The Eruption Happened Moments After A Commissioner Began Questioning Giménez About $100,000 That He Received From The Commission To Tell Voters About A Referendum On Watson Island Redevelopment

The Eruption Happened Moments After A Commissioner Began Questioning Giménez About $100,000 The Commissioners Had Approved To Tell Voters About A Referendum On The Redevelopment Of Watson Island. “Following an argument with Miami Commissioner Tomas Regalado at Thursday’s commission meeting, City Manager Carlos Giménez said publicly he would resign this morning, then stormed out of the chamber. The eruption happened just moments after the commission approved a Nov. 13 referendum on a $255 million bond issue and asked Regalado to serve as the liaison with city staff to inform the public about the proposal. Regalado, hesitant to take the job, began questioning Giménez and his staff about $100,000 the commissioners provided to tell voters about another referendum on the redevelopment of Watson Island. Giménez responded that he was tired of ‘sitting quietly’ during Regalado’s tirades, and that he ‘wasn’t going to take it anymore.’ “Tomorrow I’m resigning my job as city manager,” Giménez said, abruptly leaving the podium. ‘I am out of here.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

Giménez Received $100,000 From The Commission To Inform Voters About An Upcoming Redevelopment Referendum Under Conditions Not To Allow The Developer Any Air Time On The City’s Television Station. “With the exception of Regalado, Giménez has continued to have a good relationship with commissioners. Regalado, a consistent foe of Carollo’s, has said publicly several times that Giménez refuses to work with him. He said the days leading up to Thursday’s argument were no exception. A short time ago, Regalado said, he met with Giménez to iron out some plans to inform the public about Watson Island. They agreed not to use the proposed developer in any programming on the city’s television station, NET 9, he said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]
**Giménez Violated The Agreement And Provided The Proposed Developer Programming On The City’s Television Station.** “A short time ago, Regalado said, he met with Giménez to iron out some plans to inform the public about Watson Island. They agreed not to use the proposed developer in any programming on the city’s television station, NET 9, he said. Regalado said he later learned Giménez went back on his word. Asked if Carollo has had anything to do with their friction, Regalado said, ‘That’s the obvious answer. I just feel like I’m wasting my time.’ Asked if Giménez’s resignation would affect his reelection chances, Carollo said, ‘I’m not concerned with what’s going to affect my race. I’m concerned with the well-being of the city.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

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**2003: Giménez Resigned As City Manager After Pressure From Miami’s New Mayor…**

Aug. 2002: **Giménez Announced That He Would Be Resigning As City Manager In January.** “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez, who is widely credited with helping to bring stability and integrity back to a city fractured by corruption and ethnic tension, announced Monday that he plans to resign from his job in January. The decision to step down from his post after two years as the city’s top administrator comes at a time when Miami is adjusting to new leadership under Mayor Manny Diaz, who is Giménez’s boss. Diaz said Giménez broke the news to him Monday morning during a meeting. ‘I suspected he’s tired,’ Diaz said of Giménez’s resignation. ‘It was not a heated discussion. It was a very professional discussion. Unlike what we’re used to seeing in the city, this was two professionals talking to each other and determining what’s best for everybody.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]

**Giménez: “This Job Has A Way Of Taking A Toll On You Both Physically And Emotionally And Effecting Your Family Life […] You Get Home, You’re Burned Out, You Don’t Have Much To Give.”** ‘This job has a way of taking a toll on you both physically and emotionally and affecting your family life,’ he said. ‘When you get home, you’re burned out, you don’t have much to give.’ Giménez’s friends say he has privately told them the same thing. ‘He’s talked about how hard it is to keep everyone cohesive and deal with the commissioners, the mayor and maintain the teamwork,’ Fire Chief William ‘Shorty’ Bryson said.” [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]

**Giménez: “It Is Time For Me To Move On And Explore New Opportunities.”** “Giménez could not be reached for comment late Monday. But in his letter, he writes that his resignation will be effective Jan. 6, which marks his 28th anniversary as a city employee. ‘This will make it possible for me to finish the budget process for fiscal year 2003 and will allow the city to experience a smooth transition with a new city manager,’ Giménez wrote. ‘It is time for me to move on and explore new opportunities.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]

**HEADLINE: “Mayor Pressed Giménez To Resign; Manager Says ‘Job Takes A Toll’”** [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]

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**…Because Miami Mayor Manny Diaz Was “Not Very Happy With” Giménez**

Miami Mayor Manny Diaz pressured Giménez to resign because he was “Not Very Happy With Him.” “Miami Mayor Manny Diaz pressured City Manager Carlos Giménez to resign during a meeting in the mayor’s office Monday. Giménez, who returned Monday from two weeks’ vacation on Florida’s west coast, was called into a meeting in the mayor’s office first thing in the morning. During the meeting, Giménez said he and the mayor ‘had a frank discussion, and we just felt it was time for me to move on.’ A City Hall source said Diaz told Giménez that ‘he was not very happy with him, and it was time to go.’ While Giménez would not confirm that he was pressured, he said Diaz ‘has the absolute right to choose his own person. I understand that right. . . Only he could tell you what his reasons were.’ Diaz wouldn’t say whether he asked Giménez to quit but said: ‘Sometimes it’s a function of moving ahead and bringing in new blood that I think is a factor. It’s about picking a fresh new captain to lead us on.’ Giménez, 48, wrote a resignation letter Monday that said he would vacate his position Jan. 6, his 28th anniversary as a city employee. He will leave his $140,000-a-year job with a $120,000 annual pension.” [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]
**Sun Sentinel: “It Was Clear Giménez Had Lost The Confidence Of Diaz.”** “after his meeting with the mayor on Monday, it was clear Giménez had lost the confidence of Diaz, who plans to conduct a national search for a new administrator. 'They did mutually agree on the fact it was time for a change,’ said Kelly Penton, a spokeswoman for the mayor. 'The mayor has the right to choose the person of his choosing,’ Giménez said.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/18/02]

**Miami Mayor On Giménez’s Resignation: “I Suspected He’s Tired. […] I Didn’t Try To Talk Him Out Of Resigning.”** “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez, who is widely credited with helping to bring stability and integrity back to a city fractured by corruption and ethnic tension, announced Monday that he plans to resign from his job in January. The decision to step down from his post after two years as the city’s top administrator comes at a time when Miami is adjusting to new leadership under Mayor Manny Diaz, who is Giménez’s boss. Diaz said Giménez broke the news to him Monday morning during a meeting. 'I suspected he’s tired,’ Diaz said of Giménez’s resignation. ‘It was not a heated discussion. It was a very professional discussion. Unlike what we’re used to seeing in the city, this was two professionals talking to each other and determining what’s best for everybody.’ […] ‘I think he has done very good for the city,’ Diaz said. However, he added, ‘I didn’t try to talk him out of resigning.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]

**HEADLINE: “City Manager Giménez Says He’s Giving Up Miami Position; He And Mayor Diaz At Odds, Sources Say.”** [Miami-Herald, 7/13/02]

**Giménez Announced To Retire As City Manager By January 6th; City Commission Passed A Resolution Making It Possible To Cut Off Benefits For City Retirees Who Retired After That Date**

**Giménez Retired As City Manager On January 6th, His 28th Anniversary As A City Employee.** “Miami Mayor Manny Diaz pressured City Manager Carlos Giménez to resign during a meeting in the mayor’s office Monday. […] Giménez, 48, wrote a resignation letter Monday that said he would vacate his position Jan. 6, his 28th anniversary as a city employee. He will leave his $140,000-a-year job with a $120,000 annual pension.” [Miami-Herald, 8/14/02]

**2002: The City Commission Passed A Resolution Making It Possible To Cut Off Benefits For City Retirees Who Retired After January 6th.** “‘They’re all good people,’ City Manager Carlos Giménez said. ‘They just made a personal decision to take the plunge now and go.’ By retiring now, the four preserved lifetime insurance benefits for themselves and their families, Giménez said. The City Commission passed a resolution in September making it possible to cut off benefits for city retirees of executive rank who retire after Jan. 6.” [Miami-Herald, 1/3/03]

**Giménez Claimed That He Left Miami In Its Best Financial Condition With $140 Million In Its Reserves**

**Giménez Claimed That He Left Miami In Its Best Financial Condition With $140 Million In Its Reserves.** “On the campaign trail, Giménez boasts that he left the city in its best financial condition with $140 million in reserves when he resigned in 2003. But Carollo said most of the tough decisions had been made before Giménez took over as manager.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

**1991-2000: Giménez Was The City Of Miami’s Youngest, And First Latino Fire Chief**

**Sept. 1991: Giménez Was Named Miami’s First Hispanic Fire Chief, Also The Youngest Ever At 37.** “Carlos Giménez ended a steady, 17-year rise through the ranks of the Miami Fire Department Friday, when he was named the department’s first Hispanic chief and the youngest ever. […] Giménez, 37, takes over a highly rated department struggling to end ethnic divisions and its past as an Anglo bastion. Tensions remain over promotions, hiring and a union lawsuit alleging reverse discrimination. The department also suffered a major embarrassment in late 1989 over several hazing episodes. ‘Although I’m Latin, my goal is to unify this department, get them all thinking as
1965. He was named a division chief in June 1988.

They were reviewed by City Manager chiefs a chance to grow.

1988: Giménez Was Known For Being “Abrasive” Not Having “A Lot Of Tact.” “William ‘Shorty’ Bryson, head of the firefighters union, praised Odio’s choice. He said he can always count on Giménez not to mince words. ’It kind of shocked me, but the more I think about it, the happier I am,’ Bryson said. ‘He’s not a guy who averts the problems. At least he will tackle it and not wait around for his successor.’ Others say ‘abrasive’ is a better term for Giménez. ‘He doesn’t have a lot of tact,’ said one firefighter who asked to remain anonymous.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/91]

1997: Giménez Earned $106,250 A Year As Miami’s Fire Chief. “Carlos Giménez, 43, earns $106,250 as Miami’s fire chief, a job he took in 1991 as the city’s first Hispanic chief and the youngest ever. He has been with the department for 22 years.” [Miami-Herald, 1/18/97]

1998: Giménez Salary Was Cut To $94,000 Due To County Budget Cuts. “After launching a weeklong scramble to find ways to climb out of a budget deficit, Miami city commissioners Monday unanimously approved a plan that balanced the city’s finances while spreading pain from the top down. […] In personnel, four positions were cut, as were the salaries of 19 employees -- including Police Chief Donald Warshaw and Fire Chief Carlos Giménez, who saw their salaries shaved from $106,000 to $94,000. Those salary cuts came on the heels of a Feb. 25 memo from Mayor Xavier Suarez to Garcia-Pedrosa that stated the mayor and city manager should have the highest salaries in the city, at $97,000 and $96,000, respectively. ’I love this city, and if it is in that much trouble that it needs to cut $12,000 from me, I am committed to stay here until the city recovers,’ said Warshaw, who like Giménez learned about his salary cut Monday morning. ‘I will never desert a sinking ship.’” [Miami herald, 3/3/98]

2000: Giménez Reportedly Earned $122,000 A Year As Fire Chief. “As city manager, the mayor or the commission can remove him for practically any reason. They can remove a fire chief only if he commits a crime or is guilty of malfeasance. As fire chief, Giménez got $122,000 a year in salary. As city manager, he is getting $140,000.” [Miami-Herald, 5/19/00]

Miami-Herald: Giménez Took Over A Department “Struggling To End Ethnic Divisions,” And A “Major Embarrassment” Over Several Hazing Episodes

Giménez Was Known For Being “Abrasive” Not Having “A Lot Of Tact”

1988-1991: Giménez Was A Miami Fire Department Division Chief

1988: Giménez Became A Miami Fire Department Division Chief. “In the reorganization, Duke appointed Giménez to head the rescue division, second-largest in the department. Duke said transferring Giménez was ‘absolutely not’ a response to the black firefighters’ complaint. Duke said the reshuffling should give the division chiefs a chance to grow. ‘It was just the right time for me to do it,’ Duke said. The transfers took effect Nov. 20. They were reviewed by City Manager Cesar Odio. ‘I’m pleased,’ Odio said. Waters, 53, joined the department in 1965. He was named a division chief in June 1988. Giménez, 35, rose rapidly after entering the department in 1975,
becoming a division chief in May 1988. In his new job, Waters will make recommendations to the chief on settling grievances.” [Miami-Herald, 11/30/89]

Giménez Was Head Of Miami Fire Department’s Rescue Division

1989: Giménez Was Head Of Miami Fire Department’s Rescue Division. “In the reorganization, Duke appointed Giménez to head the rescue division, second-largest in the department. Duke said transferring Giménez was ‘absolutely not’ a response to the black firefighters’ complaint. Duke said the reshuffling should give the division chiefs a chance to grow. ‘It was just the right time for me to do it,’ Duke said. The transfers took effect Nov. 20. They were reviewed by City Manager Cesar Odio. ‘I’m pleased,’ Odio said. Waters, 53, joined the department in 1965. He was named a division chief in June 1988. Giménez, 35, rose rapidly after entering the department in 1975, becoming a division chief in May 1988. In his new job, Waters will make recommendations to the chief on settling grievances.” [Miami-Herald, 11/30/89]

1987-1988: Giménez Was Executive Assistant To The Miami Fire Chief

1987: Giménez Was Executive Assistant To The Miami Fire Chief. “Dennis, of 2925 NW 103rd St., and Deleveaux, of 875 NE 80th St., were relieved of duty without pay and will be fired, said Capt. Carlos Giménez, executive assistant to Miami Fire Chief C.H. Duke. Their dismissals will take effect in about a week.” [Miami-Herald, 8/21/87]

1975-1976: Giménez Became A Firefighter For The Miami Fire Department

Jan. 1975: Giménez Joined The City Of Miami Fire Department And Served As A Firefighter And Paramedic. “Giménez and his parents came to Miami from Havana in 1960, when he was 6 years old. He joined the department on Jan. 6, 1975. Ten months later, a supervisor had picked him out for bigger things. ‘Carlos is an excellent individual who by all appearances will advance rapidly,’ he wrote in an evaluation. Giménez served as a firefighter and paramedic, as executive assistant and as chief of management services. In his last job, he has been in charge of rescue operations. [Miami-Herald, 9/28/91]

1974: Giménez Said That A Friend Suggested That He Became A Firefighter Became A Firefighter For The Miami Fire Department. “Giménez’s career began by happenstance: In late 1974, a friend suggested that Giménez should become a firefighter. The next day, a Friday, Giménez happened to be driving by Dinner Key when he pulled into the city offices to ask about a job with the Miami Fire Department. As it happened, it was the last day to sign up for the entrance exam, scheduled the following Monday. Giménez aced the test and joined the force. He was 20 years old. Giménez was among the first class of firefighters to get trained in life-saving medical techniques as a paramedic. But he still recalls the rush that comes with fighting fires. ‘Firefighting is almost like a game. It’s you against it, and you want to beat it,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez: “‘Firefighting Is Almost Like A Game. It’s You Against It, And You Want To Beat It.’”

“Giménez was among the first class of firefighters to get trained in life-saving medical techniques as a paramedic. But he still recalls the rush that comes with fighting fires. ‘Firefighting is almost like a game. It’s you against it, and you want to beat it,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez Said That He Turned Down A Firefighter Promotion Because It Came As A Result Of The Department’s Affirmative Action Initiative

Giménez Said That He Turned Down A Firefighter Promotion Because It Came As A Result Of The Department’s Affirmative Action Initiative. “It was more than 20 years ago when then-Miami firefighter Carlos Giménez turned down a promotion because it came as a result of the department’s affirmative action initiative.
Giménez, who was born in Cuba but came to South Florida as a small child, smiled and said: ‘I don’t need that. I can make the grade on my own merits.’” [Sun Sentinel, Editorial, 6/26/03]

Giménez Was A Medic On Miami’s SWAT Team

Giménez Was A Medic On Miami’s SWAT Team. “That’s something I’m going to talk to the director about. I want everyone that’s involved with contact [with the public] to have them,’ said Giménez, who served as a medic on Miami’s SWAT team. ‘When you go on a SWAT mission, there’s a higher probability that something is going to happen. So you probably need to have that documentation.’” [Miami-Herald, 3/8/16]

Criminal Record

Criminal And Traffic Violation Record

As of October 2019, Giménez was not associated with any criminal or traffic violations. [Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed, 10/17/19]

NOTE: Further research necessary to determine whether Giménez has a criminal record.

Judgments Or Liens

Giménez Was Associated With Two UCC Liens

As of October 2019, Giménez was associated with two UCC liens. [Nexis Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens search, accessed 10/17/19]

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</table>

[Nexis Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens search, accessed 10/17/19]

NOTE: Further research necessary into whether Giménez or their associated entities had bankruptcies, judgments or liens.

Personal Finance
**Significant Findings**

- Giménez received more than $1 million in salary while mayor of Miami-Dade County.
  - Over the same time period, Giménez received more than $1 million in pension payments from his time as a City of Miami firefighter.
- Despite claiming he would cut his salary in 2011, as he approached the end of his term-limited tenure as mayor, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a $150,000 raise to earn over $300,000 a year; he settled for $250,000 a year.
  - Miami Herald: the raise would “allow Giménez to significantly boost pension payments as he prepares to leave the mayor’s office.”
- In 2006, Giménez was in favor of giving himself a raise in the county commission.
- Giménez was able to keep his taxpayer funded Mercedes-Benz, even after he slashed $400 million in jobs and spending.
- Giménez took ten taxpayer funded trips to at least 8 different countries.

**Giménez’s Federal Personal Financial Disclosure Summary**

NOTE: As of April 6, 2020, Giménez had not filed a federal PFD. We submitted a FOIA to Miami-Dade and as of April 6, 2020 we are waiting on a response.

**Taxpayer Funded Salaries**

### 2012-2018: Giménez Received More Than $1 Million In Salary As The Mayor of Miami-Dade County

Over his eight years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez received at least $1,060,739 in taxpayer-funded salary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mayoral Salary</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>$154,746</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,060,739</strong></td>
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NOTE: The DCCC obtained Giménez’s Florida Ethics Commission required financial disclosures dating back to 2013, covering the years 2012 to 2018. His exact salary payment in 2011 is unknown.
NOTE: Between 2004 and 2011, Giménez served on the Miami-Dade County Commission, and would have received a taxpayer-funded salary. His exact salary from that time was not available as of April 2020.

1991-2003: Giménez Earned Approximately $1.5 Million In Taxpayer Funded Salary From The City Of Miami As Fire Chief And City Manager

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Salary</th>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Fire Chief</td>
<td>$94,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Fire Chief</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
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<td>1996</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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[Miami Herald, 5/19/00; 3/3/98; 1/18/97]

NOTE: The above table relies on Miami Herald reporting on Gimenez’s salary over time, as seen below. The DCCC was unable to obtain primary source documents confirming the exact payments, so the total salary is approximate.

2000-2003: Giménez Earned $140,000 A Year As City Manager. “As city manager, the mayor or the commission can remove him for practically any reason. They can remove a fire chief only if he commits a crime or is guilty of malfeasance. As fire chief, Giménez got $122,000 a year in salary. As city manager, he is getting $140,000.” [Miami-Herald, 5/19/00]

Giménez’s Combined Salary And Benefits Would Be $220,769. “The package calls for Giménez to be paid $100,000 this year and $140,000 next year - the same amount as Warshaw. It allows him $840 a year for a cellular telephone, an $8,000 yearly car allowance and reimbursement for reasonable expenses. All tallied, the value of Giménez’s salary and benefits would be $220,769.” [Miami-Herald, 5/25/00]

2000: Giménez Reportedly Earned $122,000 A Year As Fire Chief. “As city manager, the mayor or the commission can remove him for practically any reason. They can remove a fire chief only if he commits a crime or is guilty of malfeasance. As fire chief, Giménez got $122,000 a year in salary. As city manager, he is getting $140,000.” [Miami-Herald, 5/19/00]

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Salary Increases

2017: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise To Earn $324,000 A Year, Allowing Him To Boost His Pension Payments…

2017: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise To Earn $324,000 A Year. “The mayor of New York, America’s largest and most expensive city to run, earns about $225,000 a year to serve as the municipal government’s top administrative officer. A proposal to give Miami-Dade’s mayor a raise would have Carlos Giménez earning up to $324,000 a year, nearly 50 percent more than Bill de Blasio makes running NYC. In fact, a proposal narrowly approved by a county committee this week and endorsed through a spokesman for Giménez could make Miami-Dade’s chief executive one of the highest paid big-city mayors in the country. Research by Giménez’s office and a 2017 survey by the American City Business Journals found that San Francisco’s mayor, the late Edwin Lee, earned the most of the nation’s large-city mayors. The Miami-Dade survey said Lee earned $365,200 in salary and fringe benefits.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/17]

Giménez Made $150,000 A Year. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday balked at Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposal to double his pay to just over $300,000, saying they needed more time to weigh the sensitive task of undoing the mayor’s own decision to slash his compensation when he first won office six years ago in the midst of a budget crisis. ‘One lesson is: No good deed goes unpunished,’ Giménez said as commissioners prepared a vote to defer the decision on a new compensation formula that would have paid the two-term mayor far more than the $150,000 he currently makes as the county’s top executive officer.” [Miami-Herald, 12/19/17]

The New Compensation Formula Would Have Doubled Giménez Pay To Just Over 300,000. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday balked at Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposal to double his pay to just over $300,000, saying they needed more time to weigh the sensitive task of undoing the mayor’s own decision to slash his compensation when he first won office six years ago in the midst of a budget crisis. ‘One lesson is: No good deed goes unpunished,’ Giménez said as commissioners prepared a vote to defer the decision on a new compensation formula that would have paid the two-term mayor far more than the $150,000 he currently makes as the county’s top executive officer.” [Miami-Herald, 12/19/17]


Giménez Settled For $250,000

Giménez Arranged For A Pay Increase Set To Increase About 67% To $250,000. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez arranged for a pay increase that took effect Monday, with his longtime salary of $150,000 set to increase about 67 percent to $250,000. County commissioners authorized the new $250,000 salary when they approved the mayor’s proposed budget last month. Giménez’s budget chief, Jennifer Moon, told commissioners before the Sept. 20 vote that ‘the mayor may opt to receive a salary up to that amount.’ On Monday night, Giménez issued a statement saying he would take the full $250,000.” [Miami-Herald, 10/2/18]

Giménez’s Proposed Raise Allowed Him To Significantly Boost His Pension Payments As He Prepared To Leave The Mayor’s Office Due To Term Limits
Giménez’s Proposed Raise Allowed Him To Significantly Boost His Pension Payments As He Prepared To Leave The Mayor’s Office Due To Term Limits. “The raise would kick in immediately, and allow Giménez to significantly boost pension payments as he prepares to leave the mayor’s office under the county’s term-limit rules in 2020. Miami-Dade pension payments are based on the highest years of compensation, and retired employees receive a portion of that average pay each year. The years are based on budget cycles, so Giménez would receive a raise within the 12 months that began Oct. 1.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/17]

Giménez: “I Kind Of Pushed For This Because I Think A Process Is Necessary”

On Dec. 4, Giménez began a delicate push for the commission to endorse giving him a raise. He first released a memo asking commissioners to establish a process for deciding how much he should make. At a commission meeting the next day, Giménez told commissioners he wanted a decision by Jan. 1. ‘I kind of pushed for this because I think a process is necessary,’ Giménez told commissioners Dec. 5. ‘I have voluntarily, I guess, not accepted a million dollars over the last six years. I did it because I thought it was the right thing to do. Because it was an example I had to set. But times are different.’” [Miami-Herald 12/13/17]

…Despite Claiming In 2011 He Would Cut His Mayoral Salary By 50%, And Eliminate His Monthly Car Allowance

Jul. 2011: Giménez Said That He Would Cut His Mayoral Salary By 50%, And Eliminate His Monthly Car Allowance. “After he released his proposed budget July 13, the Herald reported: ‘The mayor’s plan calls for cutting his own office budget by 20 percent. Giménez took office on July 1 announcing he had, on his own initiative, cut his $310,000 salary and benefits package in half and eliminating a controversial $600-a-month car allowance.’” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

Giménez Would Receive $160,000 A Year, Instead Of His $310,000 Salary. “To recap, personnel forms clearly show that Giménez will receive $160,000 a year -- about $150,000 for salary and $10,000 for executive benefits -- numbers that jibe with a Giménez’s pay stub. Yes, the commission most ultimately approve the mayor’s new salary, but we see no reason why they would be compelled to pay Giménez more than he wants. So, we rate this Promise Kept.” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Slashes His Paycheck.” [St. Petersburg Times, 7/29/11]

2006: Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise In The County Commission

Giménez Was In Favor Of Giving Himself A Raise In The County Commission. “Create a county commission with, say, six at-large seats and seven from districts. That would lessen the parochialism that now pervades the commission and still allow for minorities to be elected. Pay commissioners a reasonable full-time salary and require that it be their full-time job. Commissioner Carlos Giménez proposes $114,000 annually (half the mayor’s salary) plus reasonable benefits. Break out a couple of the county’s largest departments (Port of Miami, Housing Agency) from the manager’s portfolio and provide oversight with citizen boards similar to the Public Health Trust that runs Jackson Memorial Hospital.” [Miami-Herald, Putney Column, 12/6/06]

Pension

While Serving As Mayor, Giménez Received More Than $1 Million In Taxpayer Funded Pension From Miami Fire Fighters And Police Officers' Trust

According to Florida Commission of Ethics filings, over his six years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez collected $929,634 from Miami Firefighter and Police Trust.
### Pension Income Overview

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<thead>
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</tbody>
</table>


**NOTE:** The DCCC obtained Giménez’s Florida Ethics Commission required financial disclosures dating back to 2013, covering the years 2012 to 2018. His approximate 2011 pension payment was reported by the Miami Herald. The above table overviews pension payment amounts while Giménez served as Mayor; as noted by the Miami Herald, Giménez has collected pension payments since 2000.

**NOTE:** Waiting for FOIA responses on pension benefits that he will be eligible to claim once he leaves the mayor’s office.

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### 2011: Giménez’s City Of Miami Firefighter Pension Alone Pays Him More Than $126,800 A Year

**Giménez’s Firefighter Pension Alone Pays Him $126,800 A Year.** “Giménez, 57, is already receiving about $126,800 a year from Miami’s firefighter pension fund, according to records. During 25 years in the city of Miami, Giménez worked as a firefighter, trained as a paramedic and rose to fire chief. He started collecting on his pension in 2000 when he retired from the fire department and was appointed Miami’s city manager. He does not receive a pension for his work as manager, according to his campaign. When Giménez turns 62, he can receive a nominal sum — about $90 a month — from the county for his six years as a $6,000-a-year commissioner.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

### 2011: Giménez Was Criticized By His Mayoral Opponent For Accepting Two Government Pensions At The Same Time, Plus His Commission Salary

**Giménez Was Criticized By His Mayoral Opponent For Accepting Two Government Pension At The Same Time, Plus His Commission Salary.** “The most interesting moment thus far in an otherwise lackluster campaign was a dust-up at the last debate between Robaina and Giménez over the the Marlins stadium deal. Robaina insists he didn’t support it, even though there’s video posted on YouTube, showing him, on March 23, 2009, urging Miami-Dade commissioners to approve it. Giménez did not and offered to show the video to one and all. Robaina lashed back, accusing Giménez of accepting two pensions from the city of Miami plus his commission salary as an unseemly act of greed. Giménez contributed to his pensions and is legally entitled to every penny.” [Miami-Herald, 4/19/11]

### In 2000, Giménez Received A Lump Sum Payment Of $400,000 For A Retirement Account, And A $125,000 A Year Pension From The City Of Miami For The Rest Of His Life As Part Of His Contract

**Giménez Received A Lump Sum Payment Of $400,000 For A Retirement Account, And $121,000 A Year Pension From The City Of Miami Until Dies.** “The compensation package awarded to new City Manager Carlos Giménez Thursday will give him a lump sum payment of about $400,000 for a retirement account, and $121,000 a year from a pension until he dies - about what he would have received if he had retired from his previous job as fire chief four years from now. Commissioners upset with almost $400,000 in severance pay that has been awarded to the past two fired city managers, Donald Warshaw and Ed Marquez, agreed to a compensation package Thursday
that did not include severance. It does, however, include a one-time $70,000 payment from the city’s general revenue fund that will be added to his last year’s salary as fire chief, which was $122,000. It is that $192,000 figure that enables Giménez’s pension to reach $121,000 when he retires. The Miami Fire and Police Trust Fund from which Giménez draws his pension calculates pensions with a formula that includes an employee’s year of highest earnings and years of service.” [Miami Herald, 5/27/00]

2002: Giménez Was Earning $125,000 A Year From His Firefighter Pension. “I believe that everyone should be treated the same,’ Gonzalez said. ‘I don’t see the reasoning why certain groups can have privileges and rights that other groups can’t have,’ Gonzalez points to City Manager Carlos Giménez, a former fire chief who now earns about $200,000 a year in salary and benefits, plus $125,000 a year from a fire pension. Two other former firefighters, Frank Rollason and Dennis Wheeler, are also collecting city pensions and salaries. They are among six city employees who collect a pension and a salary. Another example Gonzalez uses is Police Chief Raul Martinez, who retired from the police department in 1999 to work as an assistant city manager, then went back to the department as chief. He also collects a police pension and a salary.” [Miami Herald, 6/9/02]


2000: Giménez Told The City Of Miami That He Planned To Retire As Fire Chief In “Four Years,” And Convinced Them To Allow Him Keep Collecting His Lump Fire Department Pension As City Manager

Giménez Urged The City Of Miami To Use His Miami Fire And Police Trust Fund Pension Formula Which Included An Employee’s Year Of Highest Earnings And Years Of Service. “The Miami Fire and Police Trust Fund from which Giménez draws his pension calculates pensions with a formula that includes an employee’s year of highest earnings and years of service. Giménez worked for the city’s fire department for 25 years, the last nine years as its chief. He is eligible for the $121,000 pension as soon as he fills out the necessary forms. He also earns $100,000 a year as city manager. That salary will increase to $140,000 next year.” [Miami-Herald, 5/27/00]

Taxpayer Funded Benefits

Giménez Was Able To Keep His Taxpayer Funded Mercedes Benz, Even After He Slashed $400 Million In Jobs And Spending From The County’s Budget

Giménez Was Able To Keep His Taxpayer Funded Mercedes Benz, Even After He Helped Slash $400 Million In Jobs And Spending From The County’s Budget. “When County Hall’s budget ax fell last year, the mayor and commissioners slashed more than $400 million in jobs and spending. Yet one perk was preserved: Their taxpayer-subsidized luxury cars. The public picks up most of the tab for Commissioner Joe Martinez’s 2010 Lexus GX460, Audrey Edmonson’s 2010 Cadillac SRX and Carlos Giménez’s 2009 Mercedes Benz ML 350. […] In November 2008, the county paid $27,839 for Giménez’s three-year lease on a 2009 Mercedes Benz ML350W4.” [Miami-Herald, 5/23/10]


Giménez: “I’m Not A Flashy Guy, What You See Is What You Get.” “If elected, Giménez said, he will run the county in the same matter-of-fact manner that he takes to the campaign. He plans to be more open with the commission and the public, in an effort to ‘restore confidence’ in county government. ‘I think in this community I have a pretty good reputation,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m not a flashy guy. What you see is what you get.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez Took Ten Taxpayer Funded Trips To At Least Eight Different Countries

Feb. 2019: Giménez Traveled To Israel To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Party With County Funds

Feb. 2019: Giménez Traveled To Israel To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Party With County Funds. “One option under review involves ‘personal’ transit pods that would run along an overhead track using magnetic-levitation -- essentially suspended just below the structure. The experimental system out of Israel wasn’t considered in the preliminary 168-page report Parsons submitted in August for the beach corridor. Consultants added ‘personal rapid transit’ at the request of the county. Mayor Carlos Giménez traveled to Israel and met with executives at Skytran, a company trying to launch the technology.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/19]

Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Spain To Meet With European Soccer Executives Paid For With Public Funds

Jan. 2019: Giménez And His Wife Traveled On A 13-Day Trade Mission To Spain And Switzerland Paid For With Public Funds. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, four senior officials and their spouses are on a trip to Europe this week, and the itinerary includes tours of foreign ports and a meeting with management of the Real Madrid soccer franchise in Spain. Giménez said in an internal memo he would be out of the office for 13 days, relinquishing day-to-day authority in county affairs to Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp through Wednesday, Jan. 16. The nine-day itinerary for the county-funded trip shows the last stop scheduled for Friday, Jan. 11. That’s when Giménez, port director Juan Kuryla and the rest of the small delegation plan to attend a signing ceremony in Geneva for a deal negotiated with the Swiss-based MSC cruise and cargo line, which has ships at the county port in Miami and wants to expand operations there.” [Miami-Herald, 1/8/19]
Mar. 2018: Giménez Traveled To China To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Partly With County Funds

Mar. 2018: Giménez Traveled To China And Japan To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Partly With County Funds. “Eight months after he shook up Miami-Dade’s transit debate by proposing a high-tech ‘virtual train’ bus as an alternative to expanding Metrorail, Mayor Carlos Giménez is leading a delegation to visit the Chinese company that hopes to start selling the vehicles. The CRRC Corporation’s train factory in Zhuzhou is the highlight of the first full-day in China for the traveling group of 50-plus elected officials, county administrators, lobbyists, developers and Miami-Dade contractors touring China and Japan on a 14-day trip that begins Tuesday. […] The trip is funded by a mix of county and private dollars, including money from tax-funded organizations. Alex Ferro, Giménez’s chief of staff, said the mayor and commissioners’ travel is funded by a county-controlled charity, the Trade Mission Center of the Americas. Housed in a county office building, the nonprofit’s most recent public tax returns list Edmonson, Diaz and a senior county administrator as its only board members.” [Miami-Herald, 3/12/18]

Mar. 2018: Giménez Traveled To Japan To Negotiate The Acquisition Of Public Transportation Vehicles Paid Partly With County Funds

Jun. 2017: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris Paid Partly With Public Funds

Jun. 2017: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris Paid Partly With Public Funds. “Miami-Dade expects to spend about $3,500 dispatching an officer to France from Saturday through Wednesday, when Giménez and County Commissioner Jean Monestime will be attending the Paris Air Show. The industry event is held every other summer, and is a popular stop for county officials and business executives. Giménez has been trying to launch a smaller-scale version of the air expo in the Miami area, with a focus on Latin American aviation deals. Paris is one stop on Giménez’s three-week European tour with his wife, Lourdes, whose travel is not covered by the county, Hernández said. The mayor also is paying for lodging during nights not connected to the official itinerary. Miami-Dade is covering his two days in Ireland that started Monday with the signing of a ‘sister city’ agreement with Cork County and a two-day visit to Italy that includes meetings with MSC Cruises, which has ships at the county’s PortMiami. Hernández said Giménez’s official travel will cost about $5,000, paid for by Miami-Dade’s International Trade Consortium, an arm of county government that organizes trips abroad and promotes international commerce.” [Miami-Herald, 6/12/17]

Jun. 2014: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris For The Paris Air Show Paid Partly With Public Funds

Jun. 2014: Giménez And His Wife Traveled To Paris For The Paris Air Show Paid Partly With Public Funds. “London, Dubai, and India already hold their own major shows, and Mexico started this year. That would leave Miami to either steal market-share from established shows or find a way to justify another stop on the industry calendar. This will be Giménez’s second trip to Paris as part of the air-show push. He and wife, Lourdes, paid their own air fare, but the Miami-Dade trade mission is picking up a $1,500 tab for four nights of lodging for
the mayor while he is in Paris, according to spokesman Michael Hernández.” [Miami-Herald, 6/14/15]

Jun. 2013: Giménez Traveled To France For The Paris Air Show Paid Mostly With Taxpayer Funds

“From Spain, Giménez will head to France as part of a four-day trip organized by the Beacon Council to the Paris Air Show, where the economic development agency will be an exhibitor. The county has been pushing for years for its own commercial aviation expo — preferably at the Homestead Air Reserve Base, though the idea has been repeatedly blocked by federal regulatory hurdles. The county will be on the hook for the cost of the mayor’s flight from Barcelona to Paris (the cost was unavailable Thursday) and for one county staffer’s airfare, hotel and credentials for the show — more than $1,800 not counting the plane ticket. The Beacon Council, which is mostly funded by county dollars, will pay for the mayor’s lodging and air show credentials.” [Miami-Herald, 6/6/13]

Jun. 2013: Giménez Traveled To Spain Looking To Promote Miami-Dade As A Business Destination; His Expenses Were Paid By The County’s Economic Development Unit

“Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez will travel to Spain on Saturday as part of large delegation looking to promote the county as a business destination. More than 25 people will make the week-long trip to Madrid and Barcelona, including Commissioner Javier Souto and a half-dozen county staffers. The travel expenses for Giménez and the county employees, estimated at more than $2,800 each, will be paid for by a nonprofit set up to fund these sorts of trips. Souto’s expenses will be paid for out of his taxpayer-funded office budget. The other delegates from outside county government will pay their own way. [...] The Spain trip was organized by the county’s economic development and international trade unit, part of the department of regulatory and economic resources, as a ‘business development mission.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/6/13]

Apr. 2012: Giménez Traveled To Haiti On Taxpayer Funds To Meet With Business Leaders In A Bid To Bolster Trade And Commerce

“Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez plans to visit Haiti Monday and Tuesday with County Commissioner Jean Monestime in a bid to bolster trade and commerce between the county and the island nation, which is striving to recover from the devastating 2010 earthquake. Giménez and Monestime, who in 2010 became the first Haitian-American elected to the county commission, will meet with business leaders in Port-au-Prince.” [Miami-Herald, 4/22/12]

Political Career

This section provides an overview of Giménez’s political career, from 2004 to 2020.

Significant Findings

✓ As of 2019, Giménez raised a total of $5,427,136.93 and spent a total of $5,376,928.07 in his runs for county-level office.

✓ Giménez’s affiliated PACs raised a total of $7,441,882.92 and spent a total of $7,369,454.73.

✓ In 2012, Giménez illegally accepted $10,000 in contributions from a Venezuelan national; Giménez said that he was not aware of the donations were refunded.
In January 2020, Giménez announced his run for Congress in a Tweet.

Giménez announcement to run for Congress coincided a week after his final Mayoral “State of the County” speech.

The Miami-Herald called Giménez’s effort an “uphill campaign in an increasingly liberal district.”

In September 2019, Giménez said that a Congressional seat was just one of several targets he considered for his political future.

Giménez urged the Democratic Party to host their 2016 and 2020 DNC conventions in Miami.

Giménez said that he would vote for Hillary Clinton in the general election and was the only local elected official to attend an event in support of Clinton.

In 2014, a local firefighter launched a mayoral recall campaign on Giménez due to his austerity cuts on public services.

In 2011, Giménez was elected Mayor of Miami-Dade in a special election to serve out recalled Mayor Alvarez’s term.

2004: Giménez defeated Xavier Suarez to become a Miami-Dade County Commissioner in an open seat race.

Giménez repeatedly declined to appear in several debates against his opponents.

Miami-Herald: “Giménez’s hide-and seek strategy regarding debates has come across as small and peevish.”

Campaigns

Election History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Giménez Margin</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Miami-Dade County Mayor</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez</td>
<td>55.83%</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Raquel Regalado</td>
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<td>Joe Martinez</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Julio Robaina</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez</td>
<td>61.28%</td>
<td>+22.56%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(District 7)</td>
<td>Xavier L. Suarez</td>
<td>38.72%</td>
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[Miami-Dade County, Election Results, 11/2/04; 6/28/11; 8/14/12; 11/8/16]
Giménez Raised A Total Of $5,427,136.93 And Spent A Total Of $5,376,928.07 In His Runs For County-Level Office

According to Miami-Dade County, Giménez raised $5,427,136.93 and spent $5,376,928.07 in his runs for their county-level office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Raised</th>
<th>Spent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>$1,726,552</td>
<td>$2,552,784</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for County Commission</td>
<td>$228,820.28</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,427,136.93</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,376,928.07</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Mayoral campaign finance spreadsheet saved on the DCCC Research Drive.

2012: Giménez Illegally Accepted $10,000 In Contributions From A Venezuelan National; Giménez Said That He Was Not Aware Of The Donations And They Were Refunded

2012: Giménez Illegally Accepted $10,000 In Contributions From A Venezuelan Businessman; Giménez Said That He Was Not Aware Of The Donations And They Were Refunded. “On Monday, county Mayor Carlos Giménez said he didn’t know that a foreign national had illegally given $10,000 late last year to his ECO, Common Sense Now, and was now returning the money. [...] Giménez said he refunded $10,000 to Fernando Fraiz-Trapote on Monday after learning the Venezuelan businessman isn’t a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. ‘It’s one of those things that fall through the cracks sometimes during campaigns,’ he said, adding that he was glad to be able to return the money before his ECO closed its books. Fraiz-Trapote’s wife is a U.S. permanent resident who can legally make her own $10,000 contribution to Common Sense Now, Giménez said. He doesn’t know if that’s her plan.” [Miami-Herald, 6/4/12]

Giménez: “It’s One Of Those Things That Fall Through The Cracks Sometimes During Campaigns.” “Giménez said he refunded $10,000 to Fernando Fraiz-Trapote on Monday after learning the Venezuelan businessman isn’t a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. ‘It’s one of those things that fall through the cracks sometimes during campaigns,’ he said, adding that he was glad to be able to return the money before his ECO closed its books. Fraiz-Trapote’s wife is a U.S. permanent resident who can legally make her own $10,000 contribution to Common Sense Now, Giménez said. He doesn’t know if that’s her plan.” [Miami-Herald, 6/4/12]

Giménez’s Affiliated PACs Raised A Total Of $7,441,882.92 And Spent A Total Of $7,369,454.73

According to Miami-Dade County, Giménez’s knows affiliated PACs raised $7,441,882.92 and spent $7,369,454.73.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Raised</th>
<th>Spent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Sense Now!</td>
<td>$2,822,875.92</td>
<td>$2,807,768.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade Residents First</td>
<td>$4,619,007</td>
<td>$4,561,686.19</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,441,882.92</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,369,454.73</strong></td>
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[Note: Mayoral campaign finance spreadsheet saved on the DCCC Research Drive.]

[Miami-Dade County, accessed 10/16/19; 10/16/19; 10/16/19]
NOTE: Further research needed into the total number of Giménez-affiliated PACs, their contributors, and recipients.

**2020 Election**

**Jan. 2020: Giménez Announced His Run For Congress In A Twitter Post**

*Jan. 23rd, 2020: Giménez Announced His Run For Congress In A Twitter Post.* “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his run for Congress Thursday in a Twitter post that led with gratitude for President Donald Trump, and hours later the president returned the favor with his endorsement of Giménez to take on freshman Democratic Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell in what’s expected to be one of the most expensive and hard-fought races in the country.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

**Miami-Herald: Giménez Faced An “Uphill Campaign In An Increasingly Liberal District”**

*Miami-Herald: Giménez Faced An “Uphill Campaign In An Increasingly Liberal District.”* “While Giménez’s recruitment and candidacy are indicative of a new pragmatism by Trump Republicans eager to undo their midterm losses, the 65-year-old mayor faces an uphill campaign in an increasingly liberal district. Running in a presidential election year, he will test not only the boundaries of his popularity, but also the extent of the vulnerabilities of freshmen Democrats in the House. […] Still, in a district that went for Clinton over Trump by 16 points in 2016, Giménez will face considerable headwinds -- and if he can overcome them, it would likely be a bad sign for vulnerable Democrats in purple seats.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

**Giménez Announcement To Run For Congress Coincided A Week After His Final Mayoral ‘State Of The County’ Speech**

*Giménez Announcement To Run For Congress Coincided One A Week After His Final Mayoral ‘State Of The County’ Speech.* “Giménez’s campaign announcement came one week after a final "state of the county" speech in which the mayor laid out an argument that he helped pull Miami-Dade County from the depths of a recession and turn around its economy.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

**Sept. 2019: Giménez Said That He Would Decide In The Fall Whether To Run For Congress In 2020**

*Sept. 2019: Giménez Said That He Would Decide In The Fall Whether To Run For Congress In 2020.* “Republican Carlos Giménez, the term-limited mayor of Miami-Dade County, will decide later this fall whether to run for Congress in 2020 in a race that would pit his local popularity against the partisan tide of a district where the GOP is outnumbered by Democrats. The mayor this week said national Republicans were asking him to run for Congress, and a source familiar with the discussions said Giménez is looking at the District 26 seat held by Debbie Mucarsel-Powell, a freshman Democrat holding her first elected office.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

*Giménez Said That National Republicans Asked Him To Run For The 26th Congressional District.* “The mayor this week said national Republicans were asking him to run for Congress, and a source familiar with the discussions said Giménez is looking at the District 26 seat held by Debbie Mucarsel-Powell, a freshman Democrat holding her first elected office. 'The Republican Party has talked to me about running for Congress,' Giménez, a 65-year-old grandfather, said Tuesday evening. ‘At the end, my family will be a big part of any decision I make.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

*Giménez: “The Republican Party Has Talked To Me About Running For Congress […] At The End, My Family Will Be A Big Part Of Any Decision I Make.”* “The mayor this week said national Republicans were asking him to run for Congress, and a source familiar with the discussions said Giménez is looking at the District 26 seat held by Debbie Mucarsel-Powell, a freshman Democrat holding her first elected office. 'The Republican Party has talked to me about running for Congress,' Giménez, a 65-year-old grandfather, said
Tuesday evening. ‘At the end, my family will be a big part of any decision I make.’’ [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

Giménez: “I’m Going To Have To Start Raising Money For Whatever It Is I’m Running For.” “This is not the first time Giménez has blown his own deadline for an announcement about his future as he floated possible runs for county commission, Miami mayor and other local offices during 2019. He told the Miami-Herald editorial board last spring to expect a decision by the end of the summer. ‘I’m going to have to start raising money for whatever it is I’m running for,’ Giménez said at the time.” [Miami-Herald, 1/17/20]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Won’t Announce Campaign Plans This Week Because The ‘Time Is Not Right Yet.”’ [Miami-Herald, 1/17/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade’s Republican Mayor Might Run For Congress And Try To Unseat A Democrat.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

Giménez Said That A Congressional Seat Was Just One Of Several Targets He Was Considering For His Political Future

Giménez Said That A Congressional Seat Was Just One Of Several Targets He Was Considering For His Political Future. “The Cuban-born Giménez has held the nonpartisan mayor’s seat since 2011, winning three contested elections during his tenure and making him one of the best-known politicians in Miami-Dade. But a Congressional run would be the former county commissioner’s first try at a partisan race, a contest sure to highlight his history with President Donald Trump. For now, Giménez said a Congressional seat is just one of several targets he’s considering as he plans his political future after he departs the 29th Floor of County Hall in November 2020.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

Giménez Urged The Democratic Party To Host Their 2020 DNC Convention In Miami

Giménez Urged The Democratic Party To Host Their 2020 DNC Convention In Miami. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez sent Miami a letter of support this week, echoing the confidence that Miami is best suited for the convention because of the area’s track record with tourism. ‘Miami-Dade County is the perfect place for the 2020 DNC for a number of reasons, but primarily because of our diversity and experience in successfully hosting large, prominent events,’ Giménez wrote.” [Miami herald, 1/10/19]

2018 Election

Giménez Endorsed Democrat Phillip Levine’s Campaign For Governor Of Florida

Giménez Endorsed Democrat Phillip Levine’s Campaign For Governor Of Florida. “On Tuesday, Giménez communications chief Myriam Marquez confirmed the mayor is backing Levine in his primary fight against Gwen Graham, a former member of Congress for the Panhandle area; Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum; Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene and others from outside the Miami area.” [Miami-Herald, 8/21/18]

2016 Election

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election, But Stopped Short Of An Endorsement

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election. ‘‘Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in
the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

**Giménez: “I’m Not Going To Endorse Anybody […] But Between Donald Trump And Hillary Clinton, [...] Obviously, I Must Be Voting For Hillary Clinton.”** “Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

**Aug. 2016: Giménez Was The Only Elected Official To Attend An Event In Support Of Hillary Clinton**

“Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

**Giménez Expressed Support For Marco Rubio In The Republican Primary After Bush Dropped Out Of The Race**

“Giménez, who first endorsed Jeb Bush and then Marco Rubio for president, went as far as meeting with Clinton on Aug. 9 at the Borinquen Health Care Center in Miami’s Midtown neighborhood, near the Wynwood Zika outbreak. By design, to underscore his political importance, he was the only elected official invited. He spoke to national Clinton reporters, vowing not to endorse a presidential candidate ahead of his Aug. 30 reelection bid.” [Miami-Herald, 9/2/16]

**2015: Giménez Expressed Support Jeb Bush’s During The Republican Primary.** “Case in point: County Mayor Carlos Giménez, who didn’t get Bush’s backing in his first mayoral run in 2011 but won him over in 2012 (Giménez’s first run was in a special election). ‘He’ll make a great president, so I’ve got to put that above anything that happened in the past,’ said Giménez, who attended a small-dollar May fundraiser in Sweetwater for the political committee backing Bush. Giménez also has the Sunday morning tee time following Bush’s on the Biltmore Hotel’s golf course in Coral Gables.” [Miami-Herald, 9/3/15]

**2014: Giménez Offered Miami As A Possible Site To Host The 2016 DNC Convention**

“Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez offered the county’s AmericanAirlines Arena as a convention site for the Democrats in 2016. But despite an enthusiastic letter to Wasserman Schultz expressing interest, Giménez said the county still needed to analyze the hosting requirements before deciding whether to pursue the convention. Miami-Dade was joined by Miami and Miami Beach in Giménez’s Feb. 28 letter of interest.” [Miami-Herald, 4/23/14]

**2016: The AFL-CIO Endorsed Giménez’s Opponent Due To His Proposal To Hire For-Profit Companies To Run Government Services**

“Miami-Dade’s largest coalition of labor unions has endorsed Raquel Regalado in her challenge of county Mayor Carlos Giménez, with the South Florida AFL-CIO knocking the incumbent for his effort
to hire for-profit companies to run government services and facilities. ‘To public-sector unions, Giménez has consistently said he wants to privatize government,’ said Cynthia Hernández, spokeswoman for the AFL-CIO, an umbrella group that includes all county unions except for the ones representing fire and police employees. ‘We’ve seen departments that are under-staffed and not functioning well.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/30/16]

**2015 Election**

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### 2015: Giménez Raised More Than $1 Million For His Reelection Campaign In Just 31 Days

Giménez Raised More Than $1 Million For His 2016 Reelection Campaign In Just 31 Days. “Carlos Giménez probably set a record in Miami-Dade County by raising more than $1 million in political contributions in just 31 days. His top contributor: Duty Free Americas, a major retailer at the county-owned airport that has given $149,000 to Giménez’s reelection effort since January.” [Miami-Herald, 12/10/15]

**2014 Recall**

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### Aug. 2014: Due To Austerity Cuts On Public Services, A Local Firefighter Launched A Giménez Recall Effort; The Recall Campaign Ended Due To Poor Fundraising And Lack Of Organization

Aug. 2014: An Effort To Recall Giménez Began Due To His Austerity Measures; The Movement Was Led By A Retired Firefighter. “An effort to recall Carlos Giménez got off to a modest start Monday, with organizers gathering reporters to explain their plans to unseat the two-term Miami-Dade mayor. […] Led by retired firefighter Jack Garcia, the recall effort hopes to tap into anger at the mayor’s austerity measures throughout his three years in office.” [Miami-Herald, 8/11/14]

Garcia: Giménez “Would Put A Richshaw With Two Paramedics And A Band-Aid Kit If He Could Get Away With It.” “Giménez ‘would put out a rickshaw with two paramedics and a Band-Aid kit if he could get away with it,” Garcia told reporters in the courtyard outside County Hall. ‘This mayor owns nothing. He sends the blame everywhere else.'” [Miami-Herald, 8/11/14]

HEADLINE: “Effort To Recall Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez Officially Launches.” [Miami-Herald, 8/11/14]

Oct. 2014: Miami-Herald: “The Recall Campaign Was Officially ‘On Hold’ After Six Weeks Of Mediocre Fund-Raising And Few Signs Of Organization.” “The low-key effort to recall Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez ended Wednesday with no fanfare -- but only after its organizer declared victory on the mayor’s budget concessions. Jack Garcia, the retired firefighter behind the push, used an interview to say that the recall campaign was officially ‘on hold’ after six weeks of mediocre fund-raising and few signs of organizational muscle.” [Miami-Herald, 10/1/14]

**2012 Election**

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### Aug. 2012: Giménez Was Elected To Serve A Full Term As Miami-Dade Mayor

Aug. 2012: Giménez Was Elected To Serve A Full Term As Miami-Dade Mayor. “Giménez, then a county commissioner, was elected last year to complete the term of Mayor Carlos Alvarez, who was recalled by a frustrated electorate seeking a new direction at County Hall. Giménez’s first year as mayor amounted to a tryout for voters to judge him on at the polls Tuesday. […] Giménez will not be sworn into his new term until after the Nov. 6 general election. Martinez will remain commission chairman until then, during a key period in which the board will have to settle on a budget for the coming fiscal year.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/12]
2012: Giménez Was Endorsed By The Miami-Herald For A Full Term As Miami-Dade Mayor

2012: Giménez Was Endorsed By The Miami-Herald For A Full Term As Miami-Dade Mayor. “Mayor Giménez is creating the right climate for job growth, keeping vital services, such as police and fire safety, intact and continuing to reform government to restore public trust, which was shattered by years of pie-in-the-sky spending and huge cost overruns. He deserves four more years.” [Miami-Herald, 8/5/12]

2011 Election

Jun. 2011: Giménez Was Elected Miami-Dade Mayor In A Special Election To Serve Recalled Mayor Alvarez’s Term

Jun. 2011: Giménez Was Elected Miami-Dade Mayor In A Special Election To Serve Recalled Mayor Alvarez’s Term. “A bitter election campaign for interim mayor of Miami-Dade County ended Tuesday with Carlos Giménez, a former county commissioner and Miami city manager, narrowly defeating his opponent. Giménez pulled in 51 percent of the votes to 49 percent for former Hialeah Mayor Julio Robaina and will replace Carlos Alvarez, who was ousted in a recall election on March 15.” [South Florida Times, 6/30/11]

Alvarez Was Recalled Due To An Unpopular Property Tax Hike

Alvarez Was Recalled Due To An Unpopular Property Tax Hike. “Giménez has pledged to propose a budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 that reverses the property-tax rate hike that Alvarez successfully pushed through last year, an unpopular move that led to his targeting for recall.” [Miami Herald, 7/6/11]

Jan. 2011: Giménez Announced His Candidacy For Mayor Of Miami-Dade

Jan. 2011: Giménez Announced His Candidacy For Mayor Of Miami-Dade. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez has filed papers with the county elections department, formally entering the race to be the next mayor of Miami-Dade County.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

Apr. 2011: Giménez Formally Resigned From The County Commission To Continue His Run For Mayor

Apr. 2011: Giménez Formally Resigned From The County Commission To Continue His Run For Mayor. “The one wavering candidate, County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who had said Monday he might hold onto his seat on the board, came off the fence and entered the contest Monday. He formally resigned his county post Tuesday, triggering a race for his vacated seat. The County Commission will schedule that election on Wednesday.” [Miami-Herald, 4/12/11]

Giménez: ‘To Me The Obligation To Resign Was Clear, Both Morally And Legally.’ “‘To me the obligation to resign was clear — both morally and legally,’ Giménez said in a statement. Robaina’s spokeswoman Ana Carbonell, in an e-mail, said Robaina ‘has fully complied with state law regarding his resignation as Mayor of Hialeah.’ In response to inquiries about when incumbents have to resign to run, an attorney with the Florida State Department e-mailed Miami-Dade elections chief Lester Sola Monday about ‘sitting officeholders who are running for the ‘recalled’ seats.’ Assistant general counsel Gary Holland wrote that candidates must resign their office no later than qualifying day. ‘You may wish to remind sitting officers that they need to resign their current offices to run,’ he wrote.” [Miami-Herald, 4/12/11]

Nov. 2010: Giménez Opened A Political Action Committee Called Common Sense Now!

Nov. 2010: Giménez Opened A Political Action Committee Called Common Sense Now! “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a
while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

### 2008 Election

The Miami-Herald’s Editorial Board Called Giménez A “Progressive” County Commissioner And Welcomed His Unopposed Reelection

2008: The Miami-Herald’s Editorial Board Called Giménez A “Progressive” County Commissioner And Welcomed His Reelection. “On Tuesday, Mr. Giménez was automatically reelected because no one chose to challenge him. Mr. Giménez is a progressive, responsible commissioner. He likely would have earned this newspaper’s recommendation to be returned to office. Still, this is no way to promote a robust representational government in a county with more than two million residents and an annual budget larger than that of 20 states.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 6/23/08]

Giménez Won A Second Term For County Commission After Running Unopposed

Giménez Won A Second Term For County Commission After Running Unopposed. “Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez won a second term Tuesday because no one opposed him before the noon deadline, but two other commissioners must prepare for late challengers. Giménez, who has hinted at a run for Miami’s mayoral post in 2009, said he’ll make that decision in November.” [Miami-Herald, 6/17/08]


### 2004 Election

Giménez Defeated Xavier Suarez To Become A Miami-Dade County Commissioner In An Open Seat Race

Nov. 2004: Giménez Defeated Xavier Suarez To Become A Miami-Dade County Commissioner. “Giménez defeated Suarez by a 37 percent margin in the heated race to fill the seat County Commissioner Jimmy Morales gave up to run an unsuccessful campaign for county mayor. During his campaign, Giménez vowed to put an end to county corruption. ‘The commission should be responsible and make sure administration awards contracts honestly,’ Giménez said. Suarez attacked his opponent, citing numerous contributions to Giménez from influential Miami-Dade lobbyists. But Giménez, who managed a $500 million budget in Miami, shook off the criticism. ‘People looked at the records and understood what I’ve done in the past,’ he said. ‘I’ve proved myself.”’ [Sun Sentinel, 11/4/04]

Giménez’s County Commissioner Campaign Was Endorsed By The Miami-Herald

2004: Giménez’s County Commissioner Campaign Was Endorsed By The Miami-Herald. “The standout candidate in this race is Carlos Giménez, former Miami fire chief who showed his mettle when he was elevated to city manager following several scandals and the city’s near bankruptcy from 2000 to 2003. In that demanding job, Mr. Giménez displayed a firefighter’s steel, a knack for cutting through Miami’s political clutter, unquestioned integrity and a budgeting talent that ultimately balanced the city’s books. […] For County Commission District 7, The Herald recommends CARLOS GIMENEZ.” [Miami-Herald, 8/12/04]

2003: Giménez Announced His Candidacy To Run For Miami-Dade County Commissioner For The 7th District

Jun. 2003: Giménez Announced His Candidacy To Run For Miami-Dade County Commissioner. “Former Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez says he’s looking for a new challenge after helping to tidy up Miami’s
finances and moving on to the private sector. Now he intends to run for outgoing County Commissioner Jimmy Morales’ seat in 2004. Morales is running for county mayor. After leaving Miami with a budget surplus, Giménez says he can help the county tackle its budget mess. ‘I left the city with $120 million in reserves,’ Giménez said. ‘Now the county’s finances are in trouble . . . I must be a masochist or something, but I just like those kinds of challenges.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/23/03]

The Miami-Dade County Commission’s 7th District Included Parts Of Coral Gables, Miami, Pinecrest, South Miami, Key Biscayne, And East Kendall. “Morales’ district includes portions of Coral Gables and Miami, as well as Pinecrest, South Miami, Key Biscayne and East Kendall. The open seat has attracted five candidates: former Miami Mayor Xavier Suarez; attorney and former federal prosecutor Andres Rivero; Carlos Giménez, former Miami city manager and fire chief; retired Miami park and recreation manager Clyde Cates; and Coral Gables psychologist Hector Morales-George.” [Miami-Herald, 8/29/04]

**Debate Dodging**

### 2016: Giménez Declined To Appear In Several Debates Against His Opponent For Mayor

2016: Giménez Declined To Appear In Several Debates Against His Opponent For Mayor. “Incumbent Carlos Giménez on Wednesday declined another debate in the Miami-Dade mayoral race, this time rejecting a planned event by the League of Women Voters with a panel of reporters from the Miami-Herald, Miami Times, Univision and WLRN. Giménez’s campaign manager declined the invitation for the Sept. 28 debate in a brief email Wednesday that offered no explanation. The skipped event extends a pattern Giménez established in the seven-candidate mayoral primary, when the incumbent accepted only one invitation to appear alongside his main challenger, school-board member Raquel Regalado.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/16]

**HEADLINE:** “Carlos Giménez Declines Another Debate In County Mayoral Race.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/16]

**Miami-Herald Editorial: “Giménez’s Hide-And-Seek Strategy Regarding Debates Has Come Across As Small And Pevish”**

Miami-Herald Editorial: “Giménez’s Hide-And-Seek Strategy Regarding Debates Has Come Across As Small And Pevish.” “A good leader can engage in a debate frankly and thoroughly, knowing that at the end he and the other side must be closer, and thus emerge stronger,’ former South African President Nelson Mandela once remarked. Mayor Giménez’s hide-and-seek strategy regarding debates has come across as small and peevish. And while it may turn out to be sound political advice in terms of winning reelection, it lacks the kind of leadership and transparency one would expect from an incumbent mayor.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 10/20/16]

**EDITORIAL HEDLINE:** “Mayor Carlos Giménez Should Have Agreed To More Debates.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 10/20/16]

### 2011: Giménez Refused To Appear In Several Debates With His Opponent After He Had Agreed To Take Part In Them

Giménez Refused To Appear In Several Debates With His Opponent For Mayor Of Miami-Dade. “Political debate season is apparently over for Miami-Dade mayoral candidate Carlos Giménez. After the former county commissioner was a no-show at a face-off Monday, his campaign canceled Giménez’s appearances in a series of events scheduled this week against opponent Julio Robaina. […] While candidates often engage in posturing before agreeing to debates, it is unusual for them to cancel once they have agreed to take part. […] Giménez’s campaign also canceled a Wednesday debate organized by Miami-Dade College and Miami’s Downtown Development Authority, and a Tuesday forum hosted by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Miami-Dade County Architects and Engineering Society.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]
One Organization Had Paid Several Thousand Dollars To Put A Debate Together Before Giménez Declined To Appear. “‘We are very upset,’ said Carlos Gil, president of the Cuban-American civil engineers. Gil said his organization found out about the change of plans only after it called Giménez to confirm details about whether the candidate would also be joining the groups for lunch. ‘It was a total disrespect to the entire engineering community,’ said Gil, adding that the organizations paid several thousand dollars to put the forum together. The forum, expected to draw about a hundred people, will still take place, he added, but only with Robaina.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]

Miami-Herald: ‘While Candidates Often Engage In Posturing Before Agreeing To Debates, It Is Unusual For Them To Cancel Once They Have Agreed To Take Part.’ “While candidates often engage in posturing before agreeing to debates, it is unusual for them to cancel once they have agreed to take part. […] Giménez’s campaign also canceled a Wednesday debate organized by Miami-Dade College and Miami’s Downtown Development Authority, and a Tuesday forum hosted by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Miami-Dade County Architects and Engineering Society.” [Miami-Herald, 6/20/11]


**Committees**

*NOTE: Committees and subcommittees listed in italics represent chairmanships.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miami-Dade County</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Miami-Dade Expressway Authority</td>
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<td>Miami-Dade Budget And Finance Committee</td>
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<td>South Florida Regional Planning Council</td>
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<td>Miami-Dade Transportation Committee</td>
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[Miami-Herald, 2/7/17; Miami-Herald, 6/3/08; Miami-Herald, 1/23/06; Miami-Herald, 7/11/05]

**2008: Giménez Was Vice Chairman Of The County Budget And Finance Committee**

**2008: Giménez Was Vice Chairman Of The Budget And Finance Committee.** “‘People need to keep as much money in their pockets as possible right now,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez, vice chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. The biggest savings have gone to those who receive the newly doubled $50,000 homestead exemption or took advantage of a new law that lets them carry tax caps from one home to another. Those adjustments are the overwhelming cause of the change.” [Miami-Herald, 6/3/08]

**2006: Giménez Was Appointed To The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Which Reviewed Land-Use Changes In Miami-Dade, Broward, And Monroe Counties**

**2006: Giménez Was Appointed To The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Which Reviewed Land-Use Changes In Miami-Dade, Broward, And Monroe Counties.** “Martinez appointed Moss and Commissioner Carlos Giménez to replace Sorenson and to fill another seat that had been vacant for about a year. The 19-member planning council serves as an advisory panel to the Florida Department of Community Affairs in reviewing land-use changes in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. The group is composed of elected officials from the three counties and private individuals appointed by the governor. Giménez accepted Martinez’s appointment, calling it ‘a pretty cool assignment.’ Moss didn’t -- at first. ‘Effective immediately,’ Commissioner Dennis C. Moss has declined to serve on the South Florida Regional Planning Council Board,’ read the e-mail he sent to the council and the chairman’s office. It didn’t offer an explanation for his decision. Late Friday, Moss sent a second e-mail to
the Planning Council saying his staff had declined the post for him without consulting with him first.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/06]

**2005-2007: Giménez Was Chairman Of The Miami-Dade County Commission’s Transportation Committee**

*2005: Giménez Was Chairman Of The Miami-Dade County Commission’s Transportation Committee.*

“Regardless, Winton -- with the aid of County Commissioners Jose ‘‘Pepe’’ Diaz, Bruno Barreiro and Transportation Chairman Carlos Giménez -- intends to ask the Metropolitan Planning Organization to conduct a serious study on the viability of a suppressed cargo railway.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/05]
Family Lobbying

### Significant Findings

- **✓** Giménez’s sons were lobbyists with county business interests.
  - Columnist: “They shouldn’t be able to get away with constantly making a buck off representing clients with county business before their father. It’s a blatant conflict of interest -- and nepotism in plain sight.”
  - Miami Times: “Has anyone else noticed that whenever the mayor’s son presents an item before the County Commission, it gets passed with no problem, regardless of whom it affects?”
- **✓** Giménez’s sons worked for the firm that built the collapsed FIU pedestrian bridge which killed four people; the disaster was blamed on poor construction.
  - Giménez had family ties to the owners responsible for the deadly bridge collapse.
  - Giménez continued to support giving county contracts to MCM, the firm responsible for the deadly beige collapse.
  - Giménez was in favor of extending a $130 million airport contract to MCM.
  - In response to Giménez extending a county airport contract with MCM, a state lawmaker slapped Giménez with a bill that required airport authorities to hold public hearings for public contracts.
  - MCM and the Munilla family have contributed at least $7,250 to Giménez’s campaigns.
  - Miami-Herald: Giménez and MCM had strong political connections.
- **✓** Giménez was strongly in favor of bringing an unpopular Formula 1 race to Miami while his son C.J. was a lobbyist for the race; Giménez threatened to veto any opposition to the race.
  - Residents opposed the race over harmful pollution; Giménez rejected claims of health-related concerns.
  - Giménez claimed to have recused himself from Formula 1 race negotiations due to his son being a lobbyist on behalf of Formula 1, but he continued to discuss the race with the Miami Dolphins.
  - Residents opposed the race over harmful pollution
  - Giménez rejected claims of health-related concerns and vetoed any ordinance that opposed the unpopular Formula 1 race
  - Miami Times: “Giménez is acting like a dictator.”
- **✓** Giménez’s son was an executive of a company that received nearly $5 million in taxpayer subsidies at Giménez’s request.
  - Julio Giménez was the owner of a steel company that sought to build a steel mill in Homestead.
✓ Giménez recommended the county grant his son's steel mill a $5 million subsidy, even after he had recused himself from negotiations.

✓ Julio Giménez’s steel mill was awarded $4.8 million in county subsidies, the largest award of its kind in the county’s history.

Giménez’s Sons Were Lobbyists For Companies With County Business Interests

C.J., And Julio Giménez Were Registered Lobbyist With City, County, And State Interests

Carlos J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist In Miami-Dade County. [Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts, accessed 4/8/20]

Carlos J. Giménez Has Been A Registered Lobbyist In The City Of Miami. [Miami City Clerk, 12/15/10, 12/30/19, 11/20/14, 12/9/09, 12/21/18, 12/10/08, 12/10/12, 12/12/07, 12/16/16, 12/14/11, 1/10/07]

Carlos J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist With The State Of Florida. [Florida Lobbyist Registration and Compensation, accessed 4/8/20, 4/8/20]

Julio Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist In Miami-Dade County. [Miami-Dade County Clerk of Courts, accessed 4/8/20]

Giménez’s Sons Were Lobbyists For Companies That Had County Business Interests

Santiago Column: Giménez’s Sons Were Registered Lobbyist For Companies With County Business Interests. “Mayor Carlos Giménez’s lobbyist sons have a right to make a living as they see fit. But they shouldn’t be able to get away with constantly making a buck off representing clients with county business before their father. It’s a blatant conflict of interest -- and nepotism in plain sight. The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Santiago Column: “It’s A Blatant Conflict Of Interest, And Nepotism In Plain Sight.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez’s lobbyist sons have a right to make a living as they see fit. But they shouldn’t be able to get away with constantly making a buck off representing clients with county business before their father. It’s a blatant conflict of interest -- and nepotism in plain sight. The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Santiago Column: Giménez’s Sons Kept “Popping Up As Employees Of Contractors Or Representatives Of Entities Seeking To Do Business With County Government.” “The Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust is chock-full of inquiries and complaints about Giménez and his sons dating back to when he was first elected mayor in 2011. But nothing ever comes of them. The sons, both registered lobbyists with the county, keep popping up as employees of contractors or representatives of entities seeking to do business with county government.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

HEADLINE: Santiago Column: “The Ethics Of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez And His Lobbyist Sons Stink.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]
Miami Times: “The Mayor Has Run Miami-Dade County As If It Were Under A Monarchy.” The mayor has run Miami-Dade County as if it were under a monarchy form of government and the Board of County Commissioners must vote as he (the King) pleases. And now, Giménez has threatened to veto the 7-6 county commission vote from Oct. 29 that prohibited Formula one racing in Miami Gardens. The mayor’s re-engagement in the process is biased and based largely on a newly issued opinion by the Commission on Ethics and Public Trust that has insanely ruled that Giménez faces no conflict of interest in wielding his immense power against the will of the district commissioner, the municipality under her purview and the overwhelming majority of the people themselves. Do you think that a Black mayor could veto the will of the Hispanic majority, have their sons on deals like the mayor has had with the blessing of the Ethics Commission? No, a Black mayor would come under intense scrutiny from that same strategically positioned Commission on Ethics that opens the door for one class of people and shuts the door on another.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami Times: “Has Anyone Else Noticed That Whenever The Mayor’s Son Presents An Item Before The County Commission, It Gets Passed With No Problem, Regardless Of Whom It Affects?” “Is it just me, or has anyone else noticed that whenever the mayor’s son presents an item before the County Commission, it gets passed with no problem, regardless of whom it affects? To illustrate the point, let’s take an inventory of a few projects that the mayor’s sons were a part of and how the County Commission acted on them. There’s the David Beckham stadium and the $5 million subsidy to Homestead steel mill deals. Then there’s Related Urban’s Liberty Square/Lincoln Gardens deal known as Liberty City Rising in which Miami-Dade County Chairwoman Audrey Edmonson suffered a crushing defeat. But this defeat was a particularly bitter pill for the community because it essentially vacated a federal rule that created single-member districts in Miami-Dade County. And now, Giménez is poised to unleash the sweeping power of his office again, this time against Commissioner Barbara Jordan and the Miami Gardens residents - as he terms out of office.” [Miami Times, 10/6/19]

Miami-Herald: Santiago Column: Giménez Was An Ethically Challenged, Chameleon That Considered Money First Over People. “Residents, led by former commissioner Betty Ferguson, have filed suit alleging that the races violate county and city noise ordinances. ‘This fight is not over,’ Jordan said during a rally on the ground floor of County Hall, shortly after a majority of commissioners, divided along racial lines, voted against her legislation to keep F1 from coming to Miami Gardens. And that’s how it’s done, how you force ethically challenged, chameleon Giménez and his cohorts to consider people instead of money first.” [Miami Heard, Santiago Colum, 2/21/20]

Santiago Column: Giménez’s Son Was A Lobbyist For David Beckham Who Sought To Bring An MLS Franchise And Stadium To Miami; Giménez Refused To Recuse Himself From Potential County Deals “Son Carlos J. Giménez is a lobbyist for the David Beckham group -- and Mayor Giménez has waltzed all over town from the onset of the campaign to bring Major League Soccer to Miami with Beckham and his investors in the quest to build a stadium -- on public land, of course. Father and son. Beckham stardom. Big money.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 12/14/18]

Giménez Said That His Son’s Employment By The Beckham Group Did Not Prevent Him For Leading The County’s Talks With The Group. “Giménez has met with Beckham partner Marcelo Claure about a potential Miami headquarters for the $5 billion Latin American hedge fund that Claure runs for his employer, SoftBank. The Beckham group employs one of Giménez’s sons, C.J. Giménez, as a lobbyist in the city of Miami for the Melreese proposal. Giménez said his son’s employment by the Beckham group does not prevent him from leading the county’s talks with the Beckham group for other deals tied to the MLS venture. ‘My son is being paid as a lobbyist to deal with the city of Miami,’ Giménez said. ‘It has nothing to do with Miami-Dade County.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/19]
Giménez: “My Son Is Being Paid As A Lobbyist To Deal With The City Of Miami […] It Has Nothing To Do With Miami-Dade County.” “Giménez has met with Beckham partner Marcelo Claure about a potential Miami headquarters for the $5 billion Latin American hedge fund that Claure runs for his employer, SoftBank. The Beckham group employs one of Giménez’s sons, C.J. Giménez, as a lobbyist in the city of Miami for the Melreese proposal. Giménez said his son’s employment by the Beckham group does not prevent him from leading the county’s talks with the Beckham group for other deals tied to the MLS venture. ‘My son is being paid as a lobbyist to deal with the city of Miami,’ Giménez said. ‘It has nothing to do with Miami-Dade County.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/19]

Giménez’s Son, C.J., Lobbied To Bring The Headquarters Of SoftBank To Miami While His Father Was Also Courting The Bank To Establish Their Headquarters In The County

Giménez’s Son Lobbied To Bring The Headquarters Of SoftBank To Miami. “While his son works as a city lobbyist for the Miami Freedom Park project, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez played golf with one of the venture’s partners, offered to fly to Japan to meet with another and volunteered to pitch a third on establishing a Miami headquarters. ‘Let’s have a meeting with Mike Finney from the Beacon Council,’ Giménez wrote to David Beckham’s lead local partner, Jorge Mas, in a March 7 text message. ‘When are you available? You’ll really like Mike.’ The county mayor was answering a Mas question about who should ‘spearhead’ a presentation to Marcelo Claure, the Beckham partner and former Sprint CEO who is now heading up a $5 billion Latin American investment fund for Sprint’s owner, Softbank. Giménez and Mas are both trying to get SoftBank’s Latin America fund to open headquarters in Miami, and the texts show new details about the mayor’s role.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

Giménez Played Golf With Softbank’s Partner And Offered The Bank A Pitch To Establish Their Headquarters In Miami. “While his son works as a city lobbyist for the Miami Freedom Park project, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez played golf with one of the venture’s partners, offered to fly to Japan to meet with another and volunteered to pitch a third on establishing a Miami headquarters. ‘Let’s have a meeting with Mike Finney from the Beacon Council,’ Giménez wrote to David Beckham’s lead local partner, Jorge Mas, in a March 7 text message. ‘When are you available? You’ll really like Mike.’ The county mayor was answering a Mas question about who should ‘spearhead’ a presentation to Marcelo Claure, the Beckham partner and former Sprint CEO who is now heading up a $5 billion Latin American investment fund for Sprint’s owner, Softbank. Giménez and Mas are both trying to get SoftBank’s Latin America fund to open headquarters in Miami, and the texts show new details about the mayor’s role.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

HEADLINE: “Beckham Partner Has Friend In Miami-Dade’s Mayor And A Lobbyist In The Mayor’s Son.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/19]

C.J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist For A Company That Contracted Most Of The Red-Light Camera Programs In Miami

Giménez’s Son Was A Registered Lobbyist For A Company That Contracted Most Of The Red-Light Camera Programs In Miami. “Miami-Dade County is forging ahead with a plan for a controversial red-light camera program despite concerns that it could swamp the traffic court system. And the technology company that dominates the business can boast a valuable advocate: the mayor’s lobbyist son. Carlos Giménez Jr., the son of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, is listed as a lobbyist for American Traffic Solutions, the company that contracts with most of the red-light camera programs in South Florida, records show.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/11]

Giménez Said That He Would Directly Not Oversee Red-Light Camera Plans To Avoid Conflicts Of Interest. “The county has yet to award, or advertise for, a contract to any company. The younger Giménez, a lawyer-lobbyist for Becker & Poliakoff, registered to lobby earlier this year for ATS with the city of Miami, which contracts with the Arizona-based company for its camera program. The mayor says he will not oversee
the plan directly. ‘In an effort to avoid any appearance of impropriety, I will delegate oversight of this issue to the deputy mayor overseeing public safety, regardless of which companies show interest in the program,’ Giménez said in a statement.” [Miami-Herald, 9/28/11]


2017: Giménez Was A Board Member Of The County’s Toll Board; C.J. Giménez Was A Registered Lobbyist To The Board At The Time Of His Father’s Appointment

Giménez’s Son Was A Registered Lobbyist To The Board At The Time Of His Father’s Appointment; He Recused Himself After His Father’s Appointment. “One of Giménez’s sons, Carlos J. Giménez, is registered to lobby MDX board members and administrators on behalf of contractor MCM, according to the most recent registration data on the agency’s website. He filed his registration form in late 2015 at a time when MCM was bidding on MDX projects it did not win, MDX spokesman Mario Diaz said. Board members must recuse themselves from items with ties to family members, and that would include the mayor’s son, Diaz said. On Wednesday, Hernández said the younger Giménez withdrew his lobbying registration from MDX that day, hours after the mayor’s appointment. ‘C.J. Giménez cannot lobby Miami-Dade County or the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority as long as his father is mayor or is on the board of the MDX,’ he said. C.J. Giménez did not respond to a request for comment.” [Miami-Herald, 2/7/17]

Giménez’s Sons Worked For The Firm That Built The Collapsed FIU Pedestrian Bridge Which Killed Six People; Giménez Continued To Legislative In Favor Of The Construction Firm Responsible

Giménez’s Sons Worked For The Firm That Built The Collapsed FIU Pedestrian Bridge Which Killed Six People; The Disaster Was Blamed On Poor Construction

Giménez’s Sons Were Lobbyists And Executives For MCM, The Firm Who Built The FIU Bridge That Collapsed. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said he spoke by phone with Munilla in the hours after the collapse while the mayor was in Hong Kong during a trade mission. One of Giménez’s sons, lobbyist C. J. Giménez, has registered to lobby for MCM in the past, and his other son, Julio, used to work for the company as a construction executive.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

Mar. 2018: The Florida International University Pedestrian Bridge Collapse Killed Four People. “Just before the bridge’s concrete main span abruptly gave way on Thursday, crushing four people in cars to death and injuring others, a contractor’s crews were conducting stress tests on the incomplete structure, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said. The 950-ton span, assembled by the side of the road over a period of months, was hoisted into place in a matter of hours on Saturday morning.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

HEADLINE: “Did Construction Technique Lead To FIU Pedestrian Bridge Collapse?” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]
HEADLINE: “Meet MCM And FIGG, The Two Firm’s Behind FIU’s Collapsed Pedestrian Bridge.”
[Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]


The Deadly FIU Bridge Collapse Was Blamed On Flawed Design

The Deadly FIU Bridge Collapse Was Blamed On Flawed Design. “During a hearing Tuesday on last year’s deadly Florida International University pedestrian footbridge collapse, the National Transportation Safety Board concluded that the bridge’s ‘catastrophic failure’ stemmed from a flawed design with ‘significant errors.’ All of the major parties involved in the project -- from the university to the Florida Department of Transportation and the project’s engineers and contractors -- came in for harsh criticism during the public hearing, something they have largely avoided as the NTSB conducted a closed-doors investigation over the past 19 months while victims and their families demanded answers.” [Miami-Herald, 10/22/19]

Giménez Had Family Ties To The Owners Of The Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse

Giménez’s Wife’s Cousins Were The Owners Of The Construction Firm Responsible For The Deadly Bridge Collapse At FIU. “In past years, the company has hired both of Giménez’s sons -- Julio as a construction executive and C.J. as a registered lobbyist. The Munillas and the Giménezes have family ties -- the mayor’s wife, Lourdes, is a cousin to the Munilla brothers, and C.J. Giménez has offered the firm pro bono communications advice after the bridge collapse, according to someone who has spoken to him.” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Giménez’s Son Offered Free Communications Advice To The Faulted Construction Firm After The Pedestrian Bridge Collapse At Florida International University. “In past years, the company has hired both of Giménez’s sons -- Julio as a construction executive and C.J. as a registered lobbyist. The Munillas and the Giménezes have family ties -- the mayor’s wife, Lourdes, is a cousin to the Munilla brothers, and C.J. Giménez has offered the firm pro bono communications advice after the bridge collapse, according to someone who has spoken to him.” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Giménez: “The Munilla Brothers Have Known My Son Since He Was Born. They Call Him And Ask Him For Advice.” “The Munilla brothers have known my son since he was born. They call him and ask him for advice,’ Giménez said from China, where he is leading a county trade mission. ‘My son is a 40-year-old attorney. I don’t really know what he is doing for MCM,’ Giménez said. ‘They are calling him, and asking him for advice. He’s given them free advice.’” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]

Julio Giménez Was A Former Construction Executive At The Faulted Construction Company. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said he spoke by phone with Munilla in the hours after the collapse while the mayor was in Hong Kong during a trade mission. One of Giménez’s sons, lobbyist C. J. Giménez, has registered to lobby for MCM in the past, and his other son, Julio, used to work for the company as a construction executive.” [Miami-Herald, 3/15/18]

Aug. 2019: Giménez And His Family Vacationed In Chicago With MCM’s Owner, According To An Instagram Post. “Giménez, and his wife, Lourdes, were in Chicago Sunday with MCM partner Pedro Munilla and his wife, Madeline, according to an Instagram post from a mutual friend who said she showed the couples around the Windy City. Lourdes Giménez is a Munilla cousin, and both Giménez sons have worked for the company in past years.” [Miami-Herald, 8/1/19]

Giménez: “I Try To Keep My Distance, [And Separate] My Activities And Those Of My Relatives […] I’m Very Aware Of Where The Lines Are Drawn.”

Giménez: “I Try To Keep My Distance, [And Separate] My Activities And Those Of My Relatives […] I’m Very Aware Of Where The Lines Are Drawn.” “MCM said C.J. Giménez only worked for the company as a lobbyist for a short time in 2015. Julio Giménez left MCM about a year after his father became mayor in 2011, and Mayor Giménez recused himself from MCM-related contracts during Julio’s employment there. ‘I try to keep my distance, [and separate] my activities and those of my relatives,’ he said. ‘I’m very aware of where the lines are drawn.’” [Miami-Herald, 3/19/18]


**HEADLINE: “Miffed About MIA’s Renewed Deal With FIU Bridge Builder, Lawmaker Pushes Ethics Bill.” [Miami-Herald, 1/15/20]**

**MCM And The Munilla Family Have Contributed At Least $7,250 To Giménez**
Miami-Herald: Giménez And MCM Had Strong Political Connections

Miami-Herald: Giménez And MCM Had Strong Political Connections. “General contractor MCM -- Munilla Construction Management -- filed for bankruptcy after the accident, although the firm, which has strong political connections to Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, has continued to win county work. ‘The MCM Family is heartbroken for those who were affected by the failure of the FIU pedestrian bridge. Throughout this very difficult time, our MCM family has prayed for the families who lost loved ones and everyone involved,’ the firm said in a statement. ‘We are a family-owned and operated company with a 35-year history. This is the first time in our over three decades of operation that we have ever experienced anything like this tragic accident. We will continue to work closely with all parties to resolve ongoing legal and financial issues in an expeditious manner.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/22/19]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Bringing An Unpopular Formula 1 Race To Miami While His Son C.J. Was A Lobbyist For The Race; Giménez Threatened To Veto Any Opposition To The Race

Giménez Repeatedly Vetoed Ordinances That Opposed The Unpopular Formula 1 Race

Giménez Said That He Would Veto Ordinances To Prohibit The Formula 1 Race. “Miami-Dade County will not be dropping the green flag on Formula One racing anytime soon after commissioners passed a resolution and an ordinance Tuesday that may become roadblocks in the way of the event. The actions came in response to protests by Miami Gardens residents who are strongly opposed to bringing an annual Formula One race to Hard Rock Stadium and a public road outside it. Commissioners passed a resolution that was amended extensively after hours of public hearing and debate from residents, Hard Rock employees, business owners and F-1 fans. The resolution would give commissioners the power to prohibit road closures related to racing events near or in residential areas. […] But Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said there’s a "good possibility" that he would veto those two measures. The ordinance still needs to come back to the commission for a second vote. Giménez said he has to take action on the resolution within 10 days after that. […] Right now, Giménez said he has leverage with his veto power. There are enough commissioners against the items that opponents couldn’t gather the two-thirds vote needed to override his veto, he said. ‘Nobody is going to be 100 percent happy, but we need to come to a middle ground,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

Nov. 2019: Giménez Vetoed An Effort To Prevent The Race From Taking Place That Residents Called An Unwelcome Addition To Their Neighborhoods. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez issued a rare veto Friday to rescue a planned Formula One auto race around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, a proposed event residents have called an unwelcome addition to their neighborhoods. Giménez said he wanted to give race opponents more time to reach a compromise with the Miami Dolphins and their owner Stephen Ross, who has been trying to bring the race to the Miami area under a 10-year deal. The first race would be run at Hard Rock in 2021 and held annually after that. The mayor had recused himself from decisions related to the race because one of his sons, C.J. Giménez, was a paid lobbyist for the event. Giménez jumped into the fray when Formula One faced unexpected opposition last month from the county commissioner representing Miami Gardens, Barbara Jordan. Giménez’s office said the mayor’s son stopped representing the Ross-backed entity pursuing the race in March.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/19]

Giménez: “I Believe It Is Premature To Attempt To Block An Event Of The Magnitude Of Formula One Outright, […] I Respectfully Urge The Board To Uphold My Veto.” “‘While I remain sensitive to residents’
It is premature to attempt to block an event of the magnitude of Formula One outright,' Giménez said. ‘I respectfully urge the board to uphold my veto and allow my office more time to continue this dialogue with all parties.’” [South Florida Business Journal, 11/8/19]

**Feb. 2020: Giménez Vetoed Another Anti-F1 Ordinance Which Would Have Required City Approval Of A Race.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez backed the plan by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to bring an F1 Grand Prix to Hard Rock each May, and in November vetoed a prior Jordan resolution designed to stymie the race plans. He was ready to veto Jordan’s second piece of anti-F1 legislation on Wednesday, which would have required city or county approval of a race already allowed by Miami-Dade zoning rules for the stadium. Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

**Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “Mr. Mayor, Throughout This All Of This Process, You Have Been My Biggest Disappointment.”** “Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

**Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “You Convinced Me You Were The Best Thing Since Sliced Bread […] Mr. Mayor, You’re A Chameleon.”** “Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

**Commissioner Barbara Jordan: “You Need To Come With A Warning Label: Buyer Beware.”** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez backed the plan by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to bring an F1 Grand Prix to Hard Rock each May, and in November vetoed a prior Jordan resolution designed to stymie the race plans. He was ready to veto Jordan’s second piece of anti-F1 legislation on Wednesday, which would have required city or county approval of a race already allowed by Miami-Dade zoning rules for the stadium. Jordan used Wednesday’s debate to cap a stark split between her and the Dolphins and Giménez himself, a Republican mayor the longtime Democrat endorsed during his 2016 reelection campaign. ‘Mr. Mayor, throughout all of this process, you have been my biggest disappointment,’ Jordan said to Giménez, seated two chairs away on the dais. She then seemed to invoke Giménez’s embrace of President Donald Trump during the mayor’s launch of a congressional campaign this year after announcing in 2016 he planned to vote for Hillary Clinton. ‘You convinced me you were the best thing since sliced bread,’ Jordan said of Giménez. ‘Mr. Mayor, you’re a chameleon,’ she said. ‘You need to come with a warning label: Buyer beware.’ Giménez did not respond to Jordan’s comments during the meeting.” [Miami-Herald, 2/19/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami Gardens To Giménez’s Veto: ‘This Isn’t Over.’” [Miami Times, 11/13/19]

COLUMN HEADLINE: “His Son Was A Formula One Lobbyist. Mayor Is Now Pushing Unpopular Racing. It’s Wrong.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]


Residents Opposed The Race Over Harmful Pollution; Giménez Rejected Claims Of Health Related Concerns

Miami Gardens Residents opposed the race over harmful pollution and called it a nuisance. “Residents opposing the event call it a nuisance, bringing excessive noise and air pollution to a city that’s already regularly exposed to the disruption that comes with an NFL stadium that’s increasingly adding events to its calendar, such as April’s two-week Miami Open tennis tournament. The Dolphins, joined by the administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez, reject claims of health concerns related to F1 cars’ exhaust and engine noise and call the race a welcome boon to the local economy.” [Miami-Herald, 1/21/20]

Miami Gardens residents filed a lawsuit alleging that the race violated county and city noise ordinances. Residents, led by former commissioner Betty Ferguson, have filed suit alleging that the races violate county and city noise ordinances. “This fight is not over,’ Jordan said during a rally on the ground floor of County Hall, shortly after a majority of commissioners, divided along racial lines, voted against her legislation to keep F1 from coming to Miami Gardens. And that’s how it’s done, how you force ethically challenged, chameleon Giménez and his cohorts to consider people instead of money first.” [Miami-Herald, Santiago Column, 2/21/20]

Miami Heard: Giménez Rejected Claims Of Formula 1 Pollution Health Related Concerns. “Residents opposing the event call it a nuisance, bringing excessive noise and air pollution to a city that’s already regularly exposed to the disruption that comes with an NFL stadium that’s increasingly adding events to its calendar, such as April’s two-week Miami Open tennis tournament. The Dolphins, joined by the administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez, reject claims of health concerns related to F1 cars’ exhaust and engine noise and call the race a welcome boon to the local economy.” [Miami-Herald, 1/21/20]


Giménez Claimed To Have Recused Himself From Formula 1 Race Negotiations Due To His Son Being A Lobbyist On Behalf Of Formula 1, But He Continued To Discuss The Race With The Miami Dolphins

2019: C.J Giménez Lobbied On Behalf Of Formula 1 To Bring A Race To Miami While Giménez Supported It As Mayor. “Until March of this year, Giménez’s lobbyist son, C.J, was getting a paycheck from Formula One, the international group vying to bring that form of auto racing to Miami-Dade. The group’s controversial proposal to turn downtown Miami into a raceway included the use of county-run PortMiami facilities. Giménez appropriately recused himself, acknowledging that his son’s involvement posed a conflict of interest for him. County commissioners review, approve, and deny port deals, and as the top county administrator, the mayor gets to shepherd projects, and approve or veto commissioners’ decisions. That’s a lot of power. In a memo to county commissioners on May 14, 2018, Giménez wrote that he was removing himself from Formula One matters and turning over decisions for his deputy mayor to handle ‘out of an abundance of caution.’ That choice of words was a
flashing yellow light, a warning sign that Giménez wasn’t all in on staying out of the issue.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]

Santiago: “Giménez Desperately Needs One Of Those Bright Yellow ‘Ethics For Dummies Manuals.’” “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez desperately needs one of those bright yellow ‘Ethics for Dummies’ manuals. Because the ever-pleasing Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, which doesn’t ever seem to find a conflict of interest where there is patently one with Giménez and his lobbyist sons, isn’t cutting it.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 10/30/19]

Giménez Formally Recused Himself In May 2018 And Unrecused Himself In Oct. 2019 Because His Son Was No Longer A Lobbyist For Formula 1. “Internal emails released as part of a public-records request showed the Dolphins lobbyists hoped to win the F1 subsidy agreement in July from the county commission. But that effort stalled, quickly followed by a commission push to block the yearly race from coming to Miami Gardens altogether. On Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his veto of a commission resolution opposed by the Dolphins that would ban the road closures needed to run the race at Hard Rock. The emails extend the timeline of Giménez’s office helping advance F1 at a time when Giménez had publicly recused himself from the matter due to a son, C.J. Giménez, being hired as a race lobbyist when the event was trying to use city and county land to hold the event in downtown Miami. Ross, a billionaire real estate developer based in New York, has the rights to extend the F1 circuit to Miami if he can win governmental approval for the event. The county mayor issued a formal recusal memo on May 14, 2018, citing his son’s lobbying work. Late last month, Giménez issued a new memo lifting that recusal, saying his son no longer worked for Formula One. The subject of the memo was Giménez’s opposition to the commission effort to block Formula One from coming to Miami Gardens, an event opposed by a group of neighbors complaining of noise, traffic and air pollution. Giménez’s office said the younger Giménez stopped his lobbying work in March 2019. A source close to the Dolphins said Friday that the younger Giménez, who helped with the 2017 campaign of Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo, was hired to win Miami approvals and was dropped after the race shifted to Miami Gardens.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/19]

Giménez Claimed To Have Recused Himself From Formula 1 Race Negotiations Due To His Son Being A Lobbyist On Behalf Of Formula 1, But He Continued To Discuss The Race With The Miami Dolphins. “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez whose outright corruption has rendered him morally and ethically bankrupt. On May 14, 2018, the mayor recused himself from participating in any decision-making tied to Formula One petitions because his son CJ was lobbying on behalf of Formula One racing at the time. But public records show that on Oct. 21, the mayor had a meeting with a ‘Steve Ross’ whom this writer believes to be Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, two days prior to the Miami Gardens Council meeting where the members unanimously rejected Formula One in their city. One week later, on Oct. 28, Giménez sent a memo that rescinded his recusal and suddenly weighed-in heavily on motor racing events in Miami-Dade County. Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ yanked the chain of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez and influenced his involvement in the event’s relocation bid to Miami Gardens.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Giménez Disused With The Miami Dolphins The State Of The Formula 1 Race Beyond The Timeline Of Giménez’s Recusal. “Internal emails released as part of a public-records request showed the Dolphins lobbyists hoped to win the F1 subsidy agreement in July from the county commission. But that effort stalled, quickly followed by a commission push to block the yearly race from coming to Miami Gardens altogether. On Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his veto of a commission resolution opposed by the Dolphins that would ban the road closures needed to run the race at Hard Rock. The emails extend the timeline of Giménez’s office helping advance F1 at a time when Giménez had publicly recused himself from the matter due to a son, C.J. Giménez, being hired as a race lobbyist when the event was trying to use city and county land to hold the event in downtown Miami. Ross, a billionaire real estate developer based in New York, has the rights to extend the F1 circuit to Miami if he can win governmental approval for the event. The county mayor issued a formal recusal memo on May 14, 2018, citing his son’s lobbying work. Late last month, Giménez issued a new memo lifting that recusal, saying his son no longer worked for Formula One.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/19]
Miami Times: Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ Yanked The Chain Of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez And Influenced His Involvement In The Event’s Relocation To Miami Gardens.” “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez whose outright corruption has rendered him morally and ethically bankrupt. On May 14, 2018, the mayor recused himself from participating in any decision-making tied to Formula One petitions because his son CJ was lobbying on behalf of Formula One racing at the time. But public records show that on Oct. 21, the mayor had a meeting with a ‘Steve Ross’ whom this writer believes to be Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, two days prior to the Miami Gardens Council meeting where the members unanimously rejected Formula One in their city. One week later, on Oct. 28, Giménez sent a memo that rescinded his recusal and suddenly weighed-in heavily on motor racing events in Miami-Dade County. Apparently ‘Steve Ross’ yanked the chain of Mayor ‘Fidel Castro’ Giménez and influenced his involvement in the event’s relocation bid to Miami Gardens.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Was A Top Dolphins Ally In The F1 Fight.” “Giménez is a top Dolphins ally in the F1 fight who has already vetoed one of Jordan’s ordinances designed to stop the race. On Monday, his office said he accepted one $4,000 ticket from Ross for Super Bowl 54. A county commissioner this week confirmed he accepted free tickets, too. The county’s top ethics lawyer last week cleared Giménez to accept tickets from Ross.” [Miami-Herald, 2/5/20]

Miami Times: “Giménez Is Acting Like A Dictator”

Giménez: “Nobody Is Going To Be 100 Percent Happy.” “Barbara Jordan brought two measures before the Miami-Dade County Commission Tuesday aimed at making it harder for Formula One races to be held in and around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Right now, Giménez said he has leverage with his veto power. There are enough commissioners against the items that opponents couldn’t gather the two-thirds vote needed to override his veto, he said. ‘Nobody is going to be 100 percent happy, but we need to come to a middle ground,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

HEADLINE: “Carlos Giménez Is Acting Like A Dictator.” [Miami Times, 11/6/19]

Miami Times: “Giménez Veto Sent ‘A Clear Message To The Black Community: We Don’t Care What Your County Commissioner Says, Or Your City Council, Or Your Grassroots Coalition.’” “This is bad. This is really, really bad. I mean this is worse than I could have imagined for Blacks of every walk of life in Miami. On Tuesday, Nov. 19, the Board of County Commissioners embarrassed the rank and class of Miami Gardens by sustaining Mayor Carlos Giménez’s veto of their votes to protect Miami Gardens from racing. By doing so, Giménez sent a clear message to the Black community: We don’t care what your county commissioner says, or your city council, or your grassroots coalitions. We are in charge. This was one of the worse votes taken in the history of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. A vote so bad that it’s almost certain to ignite a cultural divide that Miami hasn’t seen in decades. A vote that spat in the face of the pride of Black Miami by essentially ignoring every ounce of its local government and grassroots activism collectively. An unprecedented consensus against a race in their backyard, disregarded in a theft of democracy - by a show of force that exposed a corrupt government. This is Miami-Dade County. Carlos (Fidel Castro) Giménez continues to insist that he speaks for Miami Gardens residents, in full knowledge of the fact that there isn’t an iota of support for this race in Miami Gardens. Is everybody wrong, Carlos? In his veto message, he even bewailed the commission auditor’s rebuke of the race in the city, while asking for more time to ‘negotiate.’ But as Commissioner Barbara Jordan warned the Dolphins, the county and all other enemies of the community, its time to, "Get Ready!"” [Miami Times, 11/20/19]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Runs Over Jordan With Veto.” [Miami Times, 11/20/19]

Giménez’s Son Was An Executive Of A Company That Received Nearly $5 Million In Taxpayer Subsidies At Giménez’s Request
May 2019: Julio Giménez Was The Owner Of A Steel Company That Sought To Build A Steel Mill In Homestead

**Julio Giménez Was A Co-Owner Of Miami-Steel LLC.** “Miami-Dade Steel LLC, co-owned by Gustavo Lopez, Shana Cox and Julio Giménez, who is the son of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, wants to purchase the 123-acre site at 28451 S.W. 127th Ave. The land would be sold to the company for $16.81 million. The developer has 18 months to conduct due diligence on the property, but Julio Giménez said they aim to complete the process and close on the land in 12 months.” [South Florida Business Journal, 5/8/19]

The County Commission Approved A Land Deal That Allowed Miami-Steel LLC To Build A Mill In Homestead; Giménez’s Son Had Lobbied The County To Approve The Deal. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Tuesday unanimously approved a land deal for partners that include a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, and swatted back a suggestion that officeholders’ relatives should be banned from doing business with the county. The vote reserves 123 acres of county-owned land near Homestead for Julio Giménez and partners. The partnership wants to spend nearly $300 million developing a mini steel mill that uses electric-powered machinery to convert scrap metal into rebar and other raw building materials. Miami-Dade Steel LLC has about 18 months to raise the money and obtain permits before having to pay the $16.8 million needed to purchase the land. The county mayor recused himself from the proposal, allowing top aides to handle negotiations with the steel group, which has pledged to create more than 200 well-paying jobs there.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/19]

HEADLINE: “County’s Mayor’s Son Wins Approval For Land Sale. Commissioners Won’t Ban Family Deals.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/19]

HEADLINE: “County Oks Deal For Steel Mill Co-Owned By Mayor’s Son.” [South Florida Business Journal, 5/28/19]

HEADLINE: “Steel Mill With Mayor’s Son As Owner On Track For $5 Million Miami-Dade Subsidy.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

Sept. 2019: Giménez Recommended That The County Grant His Son’s Steel Mill A $5 Million Subsidy, Even After He Had Recused Himself From Negotiations

**Sept. 2019: Giménez Recommended The County To Grant His Son’s Steel Mill A $5 Million Subsidy After He Had Recused Himself From County Negotiations.** “The administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez is recommending county commissioners approve a $5 million subsidy package for a $224 million steel mill proposed for the Homestead area by a company partially owned by one of the mayor’s sons. Linked to future hiring, the money for the ‘micro’ mill would be paid out over 10 years if the Esteel facility meets hiring and investment requirements included in the county agreement. The county program is available to all businesses either expanding or moving to Miami-Dade, but applications can be rejected by the administration or County Commission.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

**Giménez Op-Ed: Julio Registered As A Lobbyist On A Project That Involved A Proposed Steel Mill And “I Immediately Recused Myself.”** “My son Julio is a construction executive who has not been directly involved in any county projects until this year, when he registered as a lobbyist in July on a project that involves a proposed steel mill. I immediately recused myself and assigned a deputy mayor to deal directly with that project and, as required by the County Charter, had the commission chair decide on whether the project ever goes before commissioners.” [Miami-Herald, Giménez Op-Ed, 12/19/18]

**2017: Giménez Formally Recused Himself From The Miami-Steel LLC County Negotiations.** “Giménez formally recused himself in 2017 when son Julio Giménez began pursuing a county-owned site for the factory, which would use electric-powered machinery to convert scrap metal into rebar and other raw building
materials. The recommendation for the $4.9 million incentive package released Thursday night came from Jack Osterholt, one of four deputy mayors under Giménez.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/19]

Oct. 2019: Giménez’s Son Steel Mill Was Awarded $4.9 Million In County Subsidies, The Largest Award Of Its Kind In The County’s History

Oct. 2019: Giménez’s Son Steel Mill Was Awarded $4.9 Million In County Subsidies, The Largest Award Of Its Kind In The County’s History. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Thursday briskly approved a $4.9 million subsidy package for a $224 million electric steel mill proposed by a partnership that includes a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, the largest award of its kind that the county has on record. The proposal to rebate a portion of Esteel’s construction and equipment costs passed without discussion, including the two No votes from Esteban "Steve" Bovo and Daniella Levine Cava. Mayor Giménez, who formally recused himself from decisions on son Julio Giménez’s steel venture in 2017, was not present for the vote.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

Giménez’s Deputy Mayor, Jack Osterholt, Recommended That The County Commission Approved The $4.6 Million Award To Giménez’s Son’s Steel Mill. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Thursday briskly approved a $4.9 million subsidy package for a $224 million electric steel mill proposed by a partnership that includes a son of Mayor Carlos Giménez, the largest award of its kind that the county has on record. […] The recommendation to approve the award came from Jack Osterholt, a deputy mayor under Giménez. There was no presentation before the vote. Julio Giménez, a construction executive, paired with Leroy Jones, a longtime county vendor, to lobby for the steel project, which is sponsored by Commissioner Dennis Moss, who represents the Homestead area. Another partner is Gustavo Lopez, who described himself as a steel-mill investor. He has not responded to interview requests.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

HEADLINE: “Steel Mill Owned In Part By Mayor’s Son Wins $4.9 Million Subsidy, No Questions Asked.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]
## Significant Findings

- Much of Giménez’s political donations came from developers, construction firms, and real-estate lawyers to whom he gave preferential treatment.

- Giménez’s campaign received significant contributions from prominent business interests and raised alarms about whether he would be vulnerable to pressure from lobbyists.

- From 2005-2016, Giménez awarded Odebrecht hundreds of millions of dollars’ worth of no-bid government contracts; Odebrecht was one of Giménez’s top contributors.

- Giménez awarded no-bid contracts to Odebrecht and associates while they contributed at least $58,000 to Giménez.

- From 2001-2016, It was revealed that Odebrecht secured lucrative government contracts by offering bribes to elected officials.

- In 2016, Odebrecht executives and politicians were found guilty in a cash-for-contracts corruption investigation by the Department of Justice.

- Giménez consistently supported measures that benefitted the Miami Dolphins, one of his top donors.

- Giménez was strongly in favor of granting the Dolphins’ stadium permission and a $2.5 million subsidy to host an unpopular Formula 1 race.

- Giménez campaign finance chair and campaign manager were lobbyists partnered with construction companies that received county contracts and subsidies.

- Giménez filmed a promotional video for a potential monorail project developed by his former campaign finance chair and campaign manager months before the bid was presented to the county for subsidies.

- Giménez’s campaign finance chair and his family have contributed $25,750 to Giménez’s campaigns.

- Giménez supported his top donor’s Casino resort project in Miami after he had cracked won on video gaming machines because he said they could be used for gambling.

- Giménez was in favor of subsidizing the construction of the SkyRise tower in Miami with taxpayer funds; the project was being developed by one of his campaign donors.

## Pay To Play

### Much Of Giménez’s Political Donations Came From Developers, Construction Firms, And Real-Estate Lawyers
Much Of Giménez Mayoral PAC Donations Came From Developers. “Some Miami-Dade residents received robo-calls last week attacking county mayoral candidate Carlos Giménez over his political committee, Common Sense Now, which has raised $277,000, much of it in donations from developers. The phone message chides Giménez, a former Miami-Dade commissioner, for the ‘special interest slush fund,’ and cites a recent article in the Miami New Times.” [Miami-Herald, 5/7/11]

One Of Giménez Top Mayoral Donors Was Miami Builder Coastal Construction Group. “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end. Donors include Miami builder Coastal Construction Group, which wrote a check for $10,000. Developer Martin Z. Margulies, a financial backer of the campaign to unseat Alvarez, contributed $2,500. Giménez’s PAC has paid $11,314 to political consulting firm BYG Strategies.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

One Of Giménez Top Mayoral Donors Was Developer Martin Z. Marguelis. “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end. Donors include Miami builder Coastal Construction Group, which wrote a check for $10,000. Developer Martin Z. Margulies, a financial backer of the campaign to unseat Alvarez, contributed $2,500. Giménez’s PAC has paid $11,314 to political consulting firm BYG Strategies.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez’s PAC Received Thousands Of Dollars from Developers, Construction Firms, And Real Estate Lawyers.” “Giménez began preparing to run for mayor in 2010, when he opened a political committee called Common Sense Now to raise his public profile. The committee has raised $279,000, including thousands of dollars from developers, construction firms and real-estate lawyers – players in the County Hall power structure that Giménez has sought to stand above. Among the donations: $2,000 from Baker Construction, a contractor on the Florida Marlins stadium that Giménez so adamantly opposed.” [Miami-Herald, 5/9/11]

Giménez Received $1,000 From A Developer Known To Mismanage County Spending And Delay Construction Projects

Giménez Received $1,000 From A Developer Known To Mismanage County Spending And Delay Projects. “Key county commissioners vowing to rid the Miami-Dade Housing Agency of widespread misspending have reaped thousands of dollars in campaign donations from developers and consultants involved in some of the agency’s most troubled building projects, The Miami-Herald has found. The flow of money to commissioners -- dating back years -- underscores the ties between county leaders and companies whose overdue loans and delayed projects have outraged Miami in recent weeks and sparked local, state and federal investigations. […] Commissioner. Barbara Jordan received $500 from Rivero and his associates; so did Audrey Edmonson. Rivero contributed $250 to Commissioner Katy Sorenson in 2001. Commissioner Rebeca Sosa received $1,250 from donors affiliated with Delant Construction; Carlos Giménez received $1,000.” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/06]

Giménez’s Campaign Received Significant Contributions From Prominent Business Interests, And Raised Alarms About Whether Or Not He Would Be Vulnerable To Pressure From Lobbyists

Giménez’s Campaign Received Significant Contributions From Prominent Business Interests, And Raised Alarms About Whether Or Not He Would Be Vulnerable To Pressure From Lobbyists. “Suarez has gone after Giménez, who has raised substantial sums from influential figures in Miami. Giménez, who has raised more than $366,000, has contributions from prominent business interests, including car dealer Alan Potamkin and high-powered attorney Stanley Price. Suarez, who raised about $183,470, questioned whether his opponent would be vulnerable to pressure from lobbyists. ‘We should establish disclosure fees to limit lobbyists’ influence [and] start electing commissioners who are honest,’ Suarez said.” [Sun Sentinel, 10/25/04]
Civic Activist: “It Seems [Giménez’s] Very Comfortable With Special Interests.” “We should establish disclosure fees to limit lobbyists’ influence [and] start electing commissioners who are honest,’ Suarez said. Political observers say Suarez has a point. ‘It seems he’s very comfortable with special interests,’ civic activist Santiago Leon said of Giménez. ‘There’s no room for that on the board of commissioners.’ Giménez did not address the question of whether he would be influenced by lobbyists, but said laws should limit such pressures on elected officials. ‘Public figures must be honest and make changes,’ said Giménez, who sought to put the onus for scrutinizing lobbyist influence on the media. ‘In the past there were a lot of backroom deals,’ Giménez said. ‘When the media is asleep bad things happen.” [Sun Sentinel, 10/25/04]

**Giménez Recommended CH2M Hill For An $8.8 Million County Contract; CH2M Hill Contributed To Giménez’s $28,500 Super PACs Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Residents First**

Oct. 2007: **Giménez Recommended CH2M Hill INC. For A $8.8 Million County Contract.** In October 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “CONTRACT AWARD RECOMMENDATION BETWEEN CH2M HILL, INC. FOR PROPOSED UPGRADES TO THE SOUTH DISTRICT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND ITS APPURTENANT FACILITIES IN THE AMOUNT OF $8,800,000.00 - PROJECT NO. E06-WASD-14; CONTRACT NO. E06-WASD-14.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 072584, 10/2/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2011-2016: **CH2M Hill INC. Contributed $28,500 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Residents First PACs.** [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

**Giménez Recommended CES Consultants For A $825,000 County Contract; CES Consultants Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PAC**

Oct. 2007: **Giménez Recommended CES Consultants INC. For A $825,000 County Contract.** In October 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “CONTRACT AWARD RECOMMENDATION BETWEEN CES CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR DESIGN OF UPGRADES FOR THE MIAMI-DADE AND SANITARY SEWER GRAVITY MAINS IN THE AMOUNT OF $825,000.00 - PROJECT NO. E06-WASD-09 GOB; CONTRACT NO. E06-WASD-09.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 072477, 10/2/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2016: **CES Consultants INC. Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PAC.** [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Pro Sound By $276,483.82; Pro Sound Contributed $1,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC**

Feb. 2007: **Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Pro Sound INC. By $276,483.82.** In February 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 TO PROJECT NO. I112A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE (PASI) PROJECT AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WITH PRO SOUND, INC., TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC ADDRESS AND FIRE ANNUNCIATION SYSTEM FOR CONCOURSE E-SATELLITE AND CONCOURSE G; INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY $276,483.82.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-129-07, Vote 070073, 2/6/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Dec. 2010: **Pro Sound INC. Contributed $1,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC.** [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]
Jun. 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Awarding Budget Construction Co. INC. A $1,155,000 County Contract. In June 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT AWARD RECOMMENDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,155,000.00 BETWEEN BUDGET CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE PEOPLE’S TRANSPORTATION PLAN (PTP) PROJECT ENTITLED INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT CONTRACT (PROJECT – CICC 7360-0/08 REQUEST FOR PRICE QUOTATION (RPO) NO. 20090106).” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-683-10, Vote 092662, 6/15/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2011: Budget Construction Co. INC. Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

Odebrecht

2005-2016: Giménez Awarded Odebrecht Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars’ Worth Of No-Bid Government Contracts; Odebrecht Was One Of Giménez’s Top Contributors

Giménez Awarded No-Bid Contracts To Odebrecht And Associates While They Contributed At Least $58,000 To Giménez

2015-2016: Odebrecht Construction INC. Contributed $41,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PACs. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/15/20]

2015: Odebrecht Contributed $15,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents First PAC. “It was the debut report from Miami-Dade Residents First, the Giménez political action committee formed in early January to get a jump start on raising the campaign cash needed for 2016. […] A quick scan of the Miami-Dade Residents First report shows the biggest checks came from companies and individuals with business before the county, and from large developers. Odebrecht USA, a major contractor at MIA recently awarded a $65 million no-bid contract extension, gave $15,000 on Jan. 29.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

2015: Odebrecht Construction INC. Contributed $1,000 To Giménez’s Campaign Committee. [Miami-Dade Ethics Commission, accessed 4/9/20]

2012-2016: Parsons Construction INC. Contributed $16,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami Resident’s First PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/15/20]

May 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parson-Odebrecht By $2,557,135.80. In May 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 10 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. CM@RISK (POJV) AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, INCREASING THE CONTRACT BY A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $2,557,136.80; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE CHANGE ORDER AND TO
Oct. 2009: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parsons-Odebrecht By $13.06 Million. In October 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 9 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. (POJV) AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR A VALUE OF ZERO ADDITIONAL DOLLARS, PROVIDING FOR A NON-COMPENSABLE TIME EXTENSION, AND MODIFYING VARIOUS CONTRACT TERMS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE CHANGE ORDER AND TO PERFORM ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO ENFORCE ITS TERMS; DELEGATING TO THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO, SOLELY IN THE EVENT OF A COURT JUDGMENT AGAINST POJV BY HENSEL PHELPS CONSTRUCTION CO., PAY POJV UP TO THE MAXIMUM ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF $13.06 MILLION; AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBSTITUTION OR INCLUSION OF COUNTY AS PARTY DEFENDANT TO LAWSUIT BY ZURICH AGAINST POJV. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-1130-09, Vote 092632, 10/6/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]


Jul. 2008: Giménez Voted In Favor Of A $342,278,032 Parsons-Odebrecht Contract With Miami International Airport. In September 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING MIA MOVER APM SYSTEM, MDAD PROJECT NO. J104 AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WITH PARSONS-ODERBRECHT JOINT VENTURE; IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $ 342,278,032.15; AUTHORIZING MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SAME AND TO EXERCISE TERMINATION PROVISIONS THEREOF AND THOSE DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY IDENTIFIED IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PROCURE VARIOUS COMPONENT ITEMS AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS THERETO SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY, AND WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING WITH RESPECT TO SUCH PROCUREMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE AND SECTION 5.03(D) OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CHARTER; AND FINDING SUCH WAIVER TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND WAIVING BID PROTEST PROCEDURES.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-735-08, Vote 081751, 7/1/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Sept. 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Waving Competitive Bidding And Authorizing Negotiations With Parsons-Odebrecht For A County Contract. In September 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION REGARDING MIA MOVER AUTOMATED PEOPLE MOVER (“APM”) SYSTEM, PROJECT NO. RFP-MDAD-04-04/J104A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, REJECTING ALL PROPOSALS, WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING, AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATIONS WITH PARSONS ODEBRECHT, JOINT VENTURE, WITH BOMBARDIER-PCL, LLC AND WITH SLATTERY SKANSKA, INC., AND DIRECTING MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO RECOMMEND A CONTRACT WITH ONE OF THEM TO THIS BOARD.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-945-07, Vote 072080, 9/4/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 WITH PARSONS/ODEBRECHT JOINT VENTURE (POJV);
APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED CONTRACT BETWEEN POJV AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY;
INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY $503,459,716; EXTENDING THE CONTRACT TIME BY 393 CALENDAR DAYS;
SETTLING A STAFFING RELATED DELAY CLAIM FOR $8,800,000;
AND APPROVING PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BONDS IN AN AMOUNT LESS THAN THE FULL CONTRACT PRICE.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-624-07, Vote 071542, 5/22/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Mar. 2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing A County Contract With Parson-Odebrecht By $49,000,000. In March 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOUTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. H010A AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER 8 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN PARSONS-ODEBRECHT J.V. AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY UP TO $49,000,000, AND OTHERWISE TO MODIFY VARIOUS CONTRACT TERMS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SAME.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-367-07, Vote 070757, 3/22/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]


Feb. 2006: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Guaranteeing Payments To Parsons-Odebrecht In The Event Of An Audit On A County Contract. In February 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 TO PROJECT NO. H010A FOR SOUTH TERMINAL PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WITH PARSONS ODEBRECHT JOINT VENTURE; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO IDENTIFY AN ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCE IN THE EVENT IT IS NECESSARY FOR AN AUDIT OF THE SOUTH TERMINAL PROGRAM [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 060037].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-149-06, Vote 081751, 2/7/06; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Jun. 2005: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Waiving Formal Bid Procedures To Grant Parsons-Odebrecht County Contracts. In June 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BID PROCEDURES AND PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2-8.1(B) CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH PARSONS/ODEBRECHT JOINT VENTURE (POJV) FOR A MANAGING GENERAL CONTRACTOR CONTRACT FOR THE NORTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AUTHORIZING AVIATION DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANNEXES AND WORK ORDERS; AUTHORIZING COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME AND EXERCISE CANCELLATION AND OTHER PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN; AND WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-377-04; REQUESTING INSPECTOR GENERAL TO PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND DIRECTING COUNTY MANAGER TO REPORT ON CONTRACT STATUS [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 051584] [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 8A1A AND 8A1E].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-738-05, 6/8/05; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2001-2016: Odebrecht Was Securing Lucrative Government Contracts By Offering Bribes To Politicians
Odebrecht Was A Brazil-Based Construction Company Specialized In Mass Transit Systems And Public-Works Projects. “Brazil-based Odebrecht is Latin America’s largest construction company, specializing in large-scale public-works projects. Odebrecht has won contracts to build mass transit systems in Rio de Janeiro, Quito, Panama City and Caracas. It has constructed highways, ports, dams and airports — including Miami International Airport. It built facilities for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil and infrastructure for Brazil’s state-owned oil company, Petrobras.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

Odebrecht Constructed The Miami International Airport. “Brazil-based Odebrecht is Latin America’s largest construction company, specializing in large-scale public-works projects. Odebrecht has won contracts to build mass transit systems in Rio de Janeiro, Quito, Panama City and Caracas. It has constructed highways, ports, dams and airports — including Miami International Airport. It built facilities for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil and infrastructure for Brazil’s state-owned oil company, Petrobras.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]


Odebrecht Secured Government Contracts By Offering Bribes To Influential Politicians. “Why have prosecutors linked this Brazilian company to so many instances of corruption? In theory, governments award contracts for these types of massive construction projects through an open and competitive bidding process. This bidding process is important to keep costs down and to ensure that the most qualified firms receive government-funded contracts. In practice, bidding for these public-works contracts is far from competitive. Odebrecht’s standard procedure has been to secure lucrative contracts by offering kickbacks to influential politicians, according to press reports. Between 2001-2016, Odebrecht paid $788 million in bribes — for 100 projects in 12 countries, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

2001-2016: Odebrecht Paid $788 Million In Bribes According To The U.S. Department Of Justice. “In practice, bidding for these public-works contracts is far from competitive. Odebrecht’s standard procedure has been to secure lucrative contracts by offering kickbacks to influential politicians, according to press reports. Between 2001-2016, Odebrecht paid $788 million in bribes — for 100 projects in 12 countries, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.” [Washington Post, 5/23/19]

BBC: Odebrecht Paid Off Politicians To Secure Lucrative Contracts Aboard. “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn. The construction giant paid off politicians, political parties, officials of state-owned enterprises, lawyers, bankers and fixers to secure lucrative contracts in Brazil and abroad.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

Miami-Herald: Money Destined For Politicians’ Pockets Was Managed By Executives Who Operated In Miami. “Although Odebrecht has a major Miami-based subsidiary, which has built arenas, highway improvements and airport expansions, that subsidiary has not been linked to any of the illicit payments. However, some of the money destined for politicians’ pockets was managed by executives of the parent company who operated for a time out of South Florida. […] Fernando Migliaccio, based in Miami, was an important figure in Odebrecht’s S.A.’s Division of Structured Operations, which handled the processing of corrupt payments to politicians.” [Miami-Herald, 6/25/19]

2016: Odebrecht Executives And Politicians Were Found Guilty In A Cash-For-Contracts Corruption Investigation By The Department Of Justice

2016: Odebrecht Admitted Guilt In A Cash-For-Contracts Corruption Scandal In 12 Countries. “After Brazilian multinational Odebrecht admitted guilt in a cash-for-contracts corruption scandal in 12 nations, it vowed to change its ways. But Brazil’s authorities are still wrestling with an encrypted computer system used to run the
firm’s illicit payment system. The federal police building in Curitiba, in the southern state of Parana, has hardly been out of the news. In June 2015, the now-convicted former chief executive, Marcelo Odebrecht, was brought here.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

**Odebrecht’s Chief Executive And Brazilian President Lula Da Silva Were Convicted On Corruption Charges.** “After Brazilian multinational Odebrecht admitted guilt in a cash-for-contracts corruption scandal in 12 nations, it vowed to change its ways. But Brazil’s authorities are still wrestling with an encrypted computer system used to run the firm’s illicit payment system. The federal police building in Curitiba, in the southern state of Parana, has hardly been out of the news. In June 2015, the now-convicted former chief executive, Marcelo Odebrecht, was brought here. More recently, the HQ received former president Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, jailed for corruption on charges related to the wider Lava Jato (Car Wash) investigation based here.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

**Odebrecht Was Forced To Pay A Record-Breaking $3.5 Billion Fine.** “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

**The Case Was Brought By The US Department Of Justice With Brazil And Switzerland.** “In the case brought by the US Department of Justice, with Brazil and Switzerland in December 2016, Odebrecht and its petrochemical subsidiary, Braskem, admitted bribery to the tune of $788m (£553m) and agreed a record-breaking fine of at least $3.5bn.” [BBC, 4/22/18]


HEADLINE: “The Largest Foreign Bribery Case In History.” [BBC, 4/22/18]

HEADLINE: “Brazil’s Odebrecht Fined At Least $2.6BN For Bribery.” [BBC, 12/21/16]


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**Miami Dolphins**

**Giménez Consistently Supported Measures That Benefitted The Miami Dolphins, One Of His Top Donors**

Miami-Herald: **Giménez Has Been An Ally Of Miami Dolphins Owner Steve Ross In County Government.** “Giménez has been an ally of Ross in county government, negotiating a subsidy deal in 2014 worth up to $5.75 million a year for the Dolphins and vetoing county legislation that would hamper his efforts to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock. His administration also agreed to pay $4 million in Super Bowl expenses, including covering $1 million worth of hotel rooms for NFL players this week. Rodney Barreto, chairman of the Super Bowl Host Committee, is an owner of the Coral Gables lobbying firm, Floridian Partners, which represents the Dolphins in county talks. Steve Ross Dolphins owner Stephen Ross gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez a pair of $4,000 Super Bowl tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

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**The Miami Dolphins Were Amongst Giménez’s Top Campaign Contributors**

The Miami Dolphins Were Amongst Giménez’s Top Campaign Contributors. “Duty Free Americas, which runs shops at county-owned Miami International Airport, secured fourth place with $55,000 in donations, and the
Miami Dolphins, which negotiated a stadium-subsidy package with Giménez last year, rounded out the Top 5 with just under $51,000 in donations.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

Giménez Supporting Subsidizing Renovations For The Dolphins’ Stadium

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using County Funds For The Renovation Of The Dolphins’ Stadium With A Tax Increase On Hotels. “Giménez endorsed a plan late Monday to provide the Dolphins with about $7.5 million a year to help fund the renovation, if county voters approve raising mainland hotel taxes to 7 percent from 6 percent. At a special meeting at noon Wednesday, commissioners will vote to set a May 14 countywide referendum, and to approve the deal pending voter ratification.” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/13]

2011: Giménez Voted In Favor The Dolphins Stadium Project. In March 2011, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO APPLICATION REQUESTING AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN FILED FOR CONCURRENT PROCESSING WITH PROPOSED CHANGES TO ‘DOLPHIN CENTER NORTH’ DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE; INSTRUCTING THE COUNTY MANAGER WHETHER OR NOT TO TRANSMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS; REQUESTING FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO REVIEW THE APPLICATION; RESERVING THE RIGHT TO TAKE FINAL ACTION AT A LATER DATE; AND DECLARING INTENT TO CONDUCT ONE OR MORE SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC HEARINGS.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-187-11, Vote 110379, 3/3/11; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

2009: Giménez Voted In Favor The Development Of The Dolphin Stadium Project. In December 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING ISSUANCE OR REISSUANCE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE CURRENT PAR OUTSTANDING OF THE AUTHORITY’SOUTSTANDING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS (DOLPHINS STADIUM PROJECT), SERIES 1985 BONDS, SERIES 2000 BONDS, SERIES 2006 BONDS AND SERIES 2007 BONDS, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WERE USED TO FINANCE OR REFINANCE ALL OR A PART OF THE COSTS OF THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF LANDSHARK STADIUM AND RELATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS THERETO FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOUTH FLORIDA STADIUM LLC.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. MORE SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC HEARINGS.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-1378-09, Vote 092943, 12/1/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Giménez Said That He Wanted The Marlins To Continue Paying Leasing Fees To The Miami Dolphin To Continue Playing Games At Their Stadium Rather Than The Marlins Build Their Own Stadium

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of The Marlins Continuing To Pay The Dolphin’s Leasing Fees To Play Games At Their Stadium Rather Than Them Build Their Own Stadium. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez says the Marlins should go back to the drawing board, cut a deal with the Dolphin Stadium folks and secure a lease for five more years. Ideally, he said, the Orange Bowl site would be turned into a professional soccer stadium, which the county has $50 million it can float in bonds. (Florida International University built a nice one for less than that.) And then the city and county could look at a downtown site for a stadium, he said, and even then, the taxpayers’ exposure shouldn’t be for more than about a third of the cost.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/09]

Giménez Falsely Claimed That The Miami Dolphins Were The Only Team In The NFL That Paid Property Taxes
Giménez Falsely Claimed That The Miami Dolphins Were The Only Tea In The NFL That Paid Property Taxes. “The New York Giants and the New York Jets don’t pay property taxes on MetLife stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. The city receives a payment in lieu of property taxes - about $7.2 million through the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority. Giménez said the Miami Dolphins ‘are the only NFL team in the entire nation that pays property taxes.’ That’s not accurate. We rate this claim False.” [Tampa Bay Times, 4/28/13]

Giménez Was Strongly In Favor Of Granting The Dolphins’ Stadium Permission To Host An Unpopular Formula 1 Race; The Dolphins Were One Of Giménez’s Top Contributors

The Miami Dolphins Were Amongst Giménez’s Top Campaign Contributors. “Duty Free Americas, which runs shops at county-owned Miami International Airport, secured fourth place with $55,000 in donations, and the Miami Dolphins, which negotiated a stadium-subsidy package with Giménez last year, rounded out the Top 5 with just under $51,000 in donations.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

Giménez Was Strongly In Favor Of Granting The Dolphins’ Stadium Permission To Host Formula 1 Races. “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said there’s a “good possibility” that he would veto those two measures. The ordinance still needs to come back to the commission for a second vote. Giménez said he has to take action on the resolution within 10 days after that. With a possible annual economic impact of $400 million from the F-1 races, Giménez said he wants the residents, the Dolphins and race organizers to reach an agreement. John Lyons, who said he’s worked in the hotel business for 37 years, said some individuals will be affected, but that Miami will be highlighted around the world. ‘We keep walking away, we can’t keep walking away from major events,’ Lyons said. CUP21 Consulado News rk.JPGBarbara Jordan brought two measures before the Miami-Dade County Commission Tuesday aimed at making it harder for Formula One races to be held in and around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Right now, Giménez said he has leverage with his veto power. There are enough commissioners against the items that opponents couldn’t ‘gather the two-thirds vote needed to override his veto, he said. ‘Nobody is going to be 100 percent happy, but we need to come to a middle ground,’ Giménez said. […] Since 2017, a group led by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross has sought to bring Formula One races to the Miami area.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

Residents Of Miami Gardens And Critics Of The Nearby Formula 1 Race Said That It Would Cause Heavy Traffic, Noise, And Negative Health And Environmental Impacts. “That’s when organizers started thinking about Hard Rock Stadium and its surrounding property, which are all owned by Stephen Ross. He’d cover the costs, including a $40 million custom track that would mostly run through the stadium grounds and make the race eligible for a marque-event grant under a 2014 agreement with the county. Denise White, a Miami Gardens resident for more than 40 years, said there is already heavy traffic and congestion from events at the stadium. White and dozens of other residents echoed the same concerns about the noise, traffic interruptions and health and environmental impacts caused by breathing in the cars’ fumes. Other residents called the proposal "environmental racism," by disproportionately moving the event from an area of affluence to a poorer one filled with people of color who would be exposed to the effects. In 2017, a study partially funded by the Environmental Protection Agency found that people of color were more likely to be exposed to harmful air pollution -- and suffer from it -- than white people across the U.S., according to The Guardian.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

Miami-Herald Editorial: Many Residents In The Predominantly African-American City Saw The Potential For Pollution, Traffic Jams, Street Closures, Gas Fumes And Ear-Piercing Noise. “Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, along with Giménez, sees the proposed racing extravaganza as a multimillion-dollar event to attract fans, tourists and revenue. Many residents in this predominantly African-American city, however, see the potential for pollution, traffic jams, street closures, gas fumes and ear-piercing noise. However, on Tuesday a county commission auditor’s report of these complaints described them as "flawed." These complaints about noise and pollution have not plagued the race in other cities. Still, the concerns are real. Credit the county mayor for holding meetings recently with residents’ representatives and others to hear them out.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 11/20/19]
Giménez Was In Favor Of Providing The Miami Dolphins With $2.5 Million In Subsidies To Help Pay For The Formula 1 Race.

In a July 12 email, the Dolphins executive in charge of lobbying, Marcus Bach-Armas, described the F1 grant amendment being spearheaded by the Mayor’s Office. Moon, who also serves as budget director and was promoted to deputy mayor in July, said she was brought into the talks on a potential Formula One incentive payment in May. The $2.5 million yearly payout appeared to be settled by the Giménez administration.

“We have agreed to $2.5 million for Formula One, no increase to the cap for now,” Moon wrote county lawyer Monica Rizo on Oct. 1. While the agreement sets a $2.5 million payout as a starting point for Formula One, the payment could go higher under the terms in the most recent draft Moon sent Rizo on Oct. 9. The contract calls for both sides to agree on a firm to conduct an economic-impact analysis of Formula One after it came to Hard Rock for its second year in 2022.”

Miami Herald: Giménez Was A Key Ally In The Dolphin’s Effort To Bring Formula 1 Racing To Their Stadium.

“The Dolphins’ lobbying team is fighting county legislation that would block Ross from bringing Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium, and Giménez is a key ally in that effort. He has already vetoed one anti-F1 ordinance, and another one the mayor opposes is scheduled for a final vote Tuesday.”

Miami Monorail Project

Giménez Filmed A Promotional Video For A Potential Monorail Project Developed By His Former Campaign Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Before The Contract Bid Was Presented To The County For Subsidies.

Audrey Edmonson, the chairwoman of the Miami-Dade commission, said she joined Mayor Carlos Giménez and Lourdes Giménez in February for the filming in a local studio used to create a digital version of the trio traveling on the would-be monorail. She and others who saw the final version describe a computerized monorail gliding by the Miami skyline. Real-life versions of the Giménezes and Edmonson board the digitized train and happily peer out the superimposed windows at local sites -- a virtual ride produced for a transit venture now at the center of a county bidding contest to develop one of the busiest commuting corridors in Miami-Dade. “This was a promotional video the mayor and Audrey were in,” said Ralph Garcia-Toledo, a lobbyist and partner in Genting’s monorail proposal who also served as fundraising chairman for Giménez’s 2016 reelection bid.

“The mayor looking at the skyline, getting on the train -- everything is virtual -- and showing sites of downtown Miami, Miami Beach, stuff like that.” Filming occurred Feb. 8, according to Edmonson’s calendar. That’s about three months before Genting and partners submitted the proposal -- which is still confidential -- to Giménez on May 9.
I to use its planned casino site in downtown Miami as a station for a privately run monorail subsidized with county dollars.” [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

**Giménez Agreed To Be In The Video After His Former Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Requested His Help In Securing A County Subsidy For The Monorail Project.** Myriam Marquez, Giménez’s communications director, said the mayor agreed to be in the video after Garcia-Toledo and fellow monorail partner Jesse Manzano-Plaza, Giménez’s 2016 campaign manager, requested help securing Genting’s final backing of the Miami-Dade project. ‘Ralph and Jesse came to them and said: ‘We want Genting -- Genting is interested in having a transit station... and being part of that Beach link. We want to show them county officials’ interest in having this project done,’’ Marquez said. She equated the video to other promotional appearances the mayor has made, such as in a clip driving a driverless car Ford is testing in the Miami area. ‘Had he been asked by any other company to be part of a video about something that’s important for the community, he’d do it,’ Marquez said. [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

**Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair And Campaign Manager Were Partners With A Casino Company In A Bid To Build A Monorail System Between Miami And Miami Beach.** “Giménez’s role as the county’s chief procurement officer has also brought controversy. Two of his top political operatives from his 2016 reelection bid, campaign manager Jesse Manzano-Plaza and fundraising chairman Ralph Garcia-Toledo, are partners with casino company Genting in a bid to build a monorail system between Miami and Miami Beach. Giménez has praised the proposal, which sparked a bidding process to invite competing offers.” [Miami-Herald, 1/14/20]

**Toledo And Plaza Worked With Genting In Submitting The Monorail Program To Giménez.** “Genting, the casino company that owns the former Herald property, joined two lobbyists who helped lead Mayor Carlos Giménez’s 2016 reelection campaign in submitting the confidential monorail proposal to the mayor in May. […] It’s not known how much the Genting consortium, which includes former Giménez finance chair Ralph Garcia-Toledo and campaign manager Jesse Manzano-Plaza, wants Miami-Dade to pay each year for the monorail system.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/20]

**HEADLINE: “Weeks Before Genting’s Monorail Bid, Miami-Dade Mayor And Wife Filmed Promo For Train.”** [Miami-Herald, 12/14/19]

**Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair Was The Owner Of A Construction Management Company That Received County Contracts To Help Build Public Transit Fueling Stations**

**Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chairman Was The Owner Of A Construction Management Company Received A County Contract To Help Build Public Transit Fueling Stations.** “That effort stalled once it landed on the desk of transit director Alice Bravo. She overruled the staff and insisted it start fresh by trying to negotiate a new deal to buy buses through New Flyer, a Canadian bus maker already producing 300 natural-gas buses from a $321 million Miami-Dade contract approved in early 2017 to launch its compressed-gas fleet. That bus order was part of a larger agreement with fuel company Trillium to not only order the county’s first natural-gas buses, but to build two fueling stations to service them as well. […] A small construction-management firm owned by Ralph Garcia-Toledo, finance chairman for Giménez’s 2016 reelection campaign, was part of the 2017 Trillium contract, but said the developer makes no money from vehicle purchases since it only serves as a middle man for Miami-Dade and bus makers. ‘Trillium has nothing to do with buses,’ he said. ‘And I have even less.’ […] But it may not be the last twist in the road to new buses for Miami-Dade. The Giménez administration is proposing a $47 million increase to the Trillium deal to build a third fuel depot, a move the inspector general said all but commits Miami-Dade to a bus fleet run on compressed natural gas.” [Miami-Herald, 11/23/19]

**Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair Lobbied Giménez And “Played An Insider Role” In Defeating The $1.3 Billion Metrorail Extension Plan Into South Dade**
Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair, And Lobbyist, Played An Insider Role In Helping Giménez Defeat The $1.3 Billion Metrorail Extension To South Dade. “A year before he partnered with the Genting casino developer to pitch the county on a monorail to Miami Beach, lobbyist Ralph Garcia-Toledo played an insider role in helping Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez defeat a $1.3 billion Metrorail extension to South Dade. Garcia-Toledo, chairman of Giménez’s campaign-donor operation in 2016, accompanied the mayor and county transit chief Alice Bravo in five private meetings with elected officials, according to Bravo’s office and Garcia-Toledo. The officials held seats on a Miami-Dade transportation board that was deciding between a rail expansion that county consultants said wasn’t financially viable and the administration’s proposal for a $243 million system of modernized rapid-transit buses that would leave money to build transit projects elsewhere.” [Miami-Herald, 7/9/19]


Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair Was A Subcontractor For The County’s Sewer Department And A Registered Lobbyist

“Regalado accused Giménez of having close ties to lobbyists, including finance chairman Ralph Garcia-Toledo, a subcontractor for the county’s sewer department and a registered lobbyist for his own firm, G-T Construction. She pointed to his grown children’s connections to county contracts as well, including a daughter-in-law working for a firm on another sewer project and a son who was employed by a construction firm that does county work.” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

2004-2015: Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair And His Family Have Contributed $25,750 To Giménez’s Campaigns

2010-2015: Garcia-Toledo And His Family Contributed $21,000 To Giménez’s Common Sense Now! And Miami-Dade Resident First PACs. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

2004-2011: Garcia-Toledo And His Family Contributed At Least $4,750 To Giménez’s County-Level Campaigns. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

Casino

Giménez Supported His Top Donor’s Casino Resort Project In Miami

Miami-Herald: Giménez Was In Favor Of Constructing A Massive Casino In Downtown Miami. “The tensions rose when Giménez was elected mayor in 2011 and said he wanted to rethink Miami-Dade’s economic-development strategy. That same year, Giménez and Nero ended up on opposite sides of the debate on Genting Group’s plan to build a massive casino in downtown Miami, with Nero a leading voice against the push and Giménez citing casinos as job creators.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/13]

2011: Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Casino-Style Gaming In Miami. “And they both threw their support behind allowing limited casino-style gaming in greater Miami. ‘We have to limit it in the areas that it exists,’ Robaina said. ‘I’m OK with maybe one or two sites, but I’m not OK with having Las Vegas Two come down to Miami or Miami Beach,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 6/8/11]

One Of Giménez's Top Donors Was A Malaysian Gaming Company That Wanted To Build A Casino Resort In Miami. “Leon Medical Center, a top HMO in the Miami area, came in first with $75,000 in total donations. Second place went to the $65,000 from Genting, the Malaysian gaming company that wants to build a casino resort
on the old Miami-Herald site in downtown Miami. Turnberry, the developer hoping for a change in county zoning rules for a western shopping center, took third place with $60,000.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

HEADLINE: “A Look Back At Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez’s Top Donors.” [Miami-Herald, 2/10/15]

2013: Giménez Supported Genting’s Project And Said That Casinos Were Job Creators

Mar. 2013: Giménez Supported Genting’s Project And Said That Casinos Were Job Creators. “The tensions rose when Giménez was elected mayor in 2011 and said he wanted to rethink Miami-Dade’s economic-development strategy. That same year, Giménez and Nero ended up on opposite sides of the debate on Genting Group’s plan to build a massive casino in downtown Miami, with Nero a leading voice against the push and Giménez citing casinos as job creators.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/13]

2011: Giménez Had Cracked Down On Video Gaming Machines Because He Said That They Could Be Used For Illegal Gambling

Giménez Was In Favor Of Forming A Task Force To Examine Video Amusement Machines Which Could Be Used For Illegal Gambling. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez wants to form a task force to examine the proliferation of ‘illegal’ video gaming machines in the county — taking aim at a cottage industry allied with Hialeah Mayor Julio Robaina, Giménez’s opponent in the race for county mayor. Giménez has drafted legislation that would create a task force of federal and local law enforcement agencies to examine video amusement machines — which can be easily used for illegal gambling, critics say — and suggest potential reforms.” [Miami-Herald, 4/7/11]

Giménez Called On His Opponent To Return Campaign Contributions From Donors With Ties To The Industry. “Giménez issued a statement Wednesday calling on Robaina to return campaign contributions from donors with ties to the maquinitas. Before the election that led to the runoff, Robaina had returned some contributions from companies that own maquinitas. Robaina said at the debate that the machines can be used legally and defended issuing permits for the maquinitas on the grounds that it increases government revenue. ‘The machines themselves are illegal,’ Giménez said as Robaina shook his head. ‘Are we going to sell our soul because of revenue? I don’t think so.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/8/11]

Jun. 2011: Giménez: “Are We Going To Sell Our Soul Because Of Revenue? I Don’t Think So.” “Robaina said at the debate that the machines can be used legally and defended issuing permits for the maquinitas on the grounds that it increases government revenue. ‘The machines themselves are illegal,’ Giménez said as Robaina shook his head. ‘Are we going to sell our soul because of revenue? I don’t think so.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/8/11]

SkyRise

Giménez Was In Favor Of Subsidizing The Construction Of The SkyRise Tower With Taxpayer Funds; The Project Was Being Developed By One Of His Campaign Donors

Giménez Was In Favor Of Constructing The SkyRise Tourist Attraction With Taxpayer Help. “The Giménez launch could bring some awkward timing, depending on who his early donors are. He recently won a hard-fought fight to secure a $9 million economic-development grant for SkyRise Miami, a tourist attraction being developed by one of his earliest political patrons, Jeff Berkowitz. Jorge Luis Lopez, a Miami-Dade lobbyist close to Giménez, is representing Giménez donor Wayne Rosen in his own pursuit of a grant for a project Rosen is building in Palmetto Bay.” [Miami-Herald, 1/9/15]

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one of his earliest political patrons, Jeff Berkowitz. Jorge Luis Lopez, a Miami-Dade lobbyist close to Giménez, is representing Giménez donor Wayne Rosen in his own pursuit of a grant for a project Rosen is building in Palmetto Bay.” [Miami-Herald, 1/9/15]

SkyRise Dropped Its $9 Million County Subsidy Bid After Legal Challenges

SkyRise Dropped Its $9 Million County Subsidy Bid After Legal Challenges. “SkyRise Miami has dropped its pursuit of a $9 million subsidy from Miami-Dade, prompting a mayoral candidate to declare victory in her lawsuit against the proposed 1,000-foot observation tower and its claim on county dollars. Developer Jeff Berkowitz said he was unable to meet county requirements for the economic-development grant funded by property taxes, telling Miami-Dade administrators in a March 30 letter that ‘we … regretfully hereby and permanently withdraw our application’ for the funding.” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/16]

## Ethics

### Significant Findings

- **✓** Giménez was named in a federal lawsuit in which a construction company ordered potential subcontractors to raise money for his reelection campaign; the lawsuit was withdrawn.

- **✓** Giménez made an unsolicited pitch to the Miami-Dade County Public School’s oversight board for his consulting services while his wife was a public-school principal in Miami-Dade; he told the oversight board that his consulting services would be “cheap.”

- **✓** Giménez failed to live up to a campaign promise at the direction of a lobbyist.
  - **✓** Giménez opposed expanding Miami’s Metrorail system into South Dade after making Metrorail expansion a campaign promise.
  - **✓** Giménez campaign finance chair was a lobbyist who accompanied him to meetings on the deal and “played an insider’s role” in defeating the plan.

- **✓** Giménez had close ties to a Miami commissioner accused of public corruption.

- **✓** Giménez nominated a convicted felon charged with tax evasion to a position on the county’s cultural affairs commission.

- **✓** Homestead-Miami speedway filed a lawsuit against Miami charging that the city violated sunshine laws by not holding public negotiations for a race that Giménez helped broker as City manager.

- **✓** Giménez said that he wanted to limit the influence of lobbyists and have contracts awarded honestly, but he repeatedly voted to take away public oversight of the county’s bidding process, voted to loosen lobbying regulations, and opposed police investigations into cases of public corruption.

- **✓** Giménez violated city commission conditions by granting a proposed developer airtime on the city’s television station.

- **✓** Giménez wanted the Miami Marlins to provide county commissioners with suites and infield seats in exchange for County financing for a new stadium.

- **✓** Giménez reportedly accepted two Super Bowl tickets from the Miami Dolphins as gifts; he accepted only on tickets after he received scrutiny for the gifts.

- **✓** Giménez voted to allow county commissioners to solicit gifts on behalf of nonprofit organizations.

- **✓** Giménez voted to allow county commissioners to waive term limits for members of county boards.

### Campaign Finance Violations

**Giménez Was Named In A Federal Lawsuit In Which A Construction Company Ordered Potential Subcontractors To Raise Money For His Reelection Campaign; The Lawsuit Was Withdrawn**
Giménez Was Named In A Federal Lawsuit In Which A Construction Company Ordered Potential Subcontractors To Raise Money For His Reelection Campaign; The Lawsuit Was Withdrawn. “In the federal lawsuit, which was recently withdrawn, plaintiff Tom Derington claims Square Edge, a construction company behind the 10-block retail and residential complex in downtown Miami, instructed him to tap would-be subcontractors to raise money for Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson and Teresa Sarnoff, who was then running for the Miami City Commission seat being vacated by her husband, Marc Sarnoff.” [Miami-Herald, 10/10/16]

HEADLINE: “Lawsuit Links Miami World Center Work To Campaign Cash.” [Miami-Herald, 10/10/16]

NOTE: Further research needed into the details of the straw donor lawsuit and why it was withdrawn.

Conflict Of Interest

Giménez Made An Unsolicited Pitch To The Miami-Dade County Public School’s Oversight Board For His Consulting Services; His Wife Was A Public School Principal In Miami-Dade County

Giménez Joined Steel Hector & Davis, An International Law Firm, As A Government Operations And Efficiency Consultant

Jan. 2003: Giménez Joined Steel Hector & Davis, An International Law Firm, As A Government Operations And Efficiency Consultant. “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez, who is credited with helping to bring stability and integrity back to a city administration damaged by divisive politics, is leaving the city to join an international law firm. Giménez, who in August announced his retirement after 28 years of service to the city, joins Steel Hector & Davis in Miami as a government operations and efficiency consultant on Feb. 15. The former fire chief, who retires from his $140,000 job with a $120,000 pension, has led the city administration since May 2000. He decided to step down after discussing his future with Mayor Manny Diaz. In his new job, Giménez, 49, will focus on corporate relocation, reorganization, expansion and government incentive packages. He also will work with the law firm’s lawyers and government consultants in Tallahassee. ‘I am very excited about joining such a prestigious law firm,’ Giménez said. ‘I am looking forward to the new challenges ahead, while continuing to serve the community I love.’” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]

Giménez Made An Unsolicited Pitch To State-Appointed Oversight Board Members For Miami-Dade County Public Schools Consulting Services

2003: Giménez Made An Unsolicited Pitch To State-Appointed Oversight Board Members For Miami-Dade County Public Schools Consulting Services. “Two former municipal managers made an unsolicited pitch on Tuesday to the state-appointed oversight board for Miami-Dade County public schools, offering their services as staff consultants. Although any such contract would probably require a public bidding process, several oversight members have met individually with former Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez and former Broward County Manager Jack Osterholt. Oversight Chairman Ed Easton said he spoke with the pair at least three times and discussed preliminary prices, but he would not disclose any details. ‘I have generic numbers from them, but I don’t think it would be appropriate to talk about it here,’ Easton said at the oversight board’s monthly meeting. Giménez said the price would be ‘cheap.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/2/03]

2003: Lourdes Giménez Was A Principal In The Miami-Dade County Public School System. “Education: B.A., public administration, Barry University, 1999; completed management training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1993. Personal: 49, married to Lourdes Giménez, a principal in the Miami-Dade County public school system. They have three children, Carlos, 25, an attorney; Julio, 24, who is studying finance at the University of Miami; and Lourdes, 22, an education major at Florida International University.” [Sun Sentinel, 1/26/03]
Giménez Told Oversight Board Members That His Consulting Services Would Be “Cheap.” “Two former municipal managers made an unsolicited pitch on Tuesday to the state-appointed oversight board for Miami-Dade County public schools, offering their services as staff consultants. Although any such contract would probably require a public bidding process, several oversight members have met individually with former Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez and former Broward County Manager Jack Osterholt. Oversight Chairman Ed Easton said he spoke with the pair at least three times and discussed preliminary prices, but he would not disclose any details. ‘I have generic numbers from them, but I don’t think it would be appropriate to talk about it here,’ Easton said at the oversight board’s monthly meeting. Giménez said the price would be ‘cheap.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/2/03]

Giménez Failed To Live Up To A Campaign Promise At The Direction Of A Lobbyist

Giménez Opposed Expanding Miami’s Metrorail System Into South Dade After Making Metrorail Expansion A Campaign Promise

2017: Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding Miami’s Metrorail System To South Dade. “Carlos Giménez message is to Move ForwardMayor Carlos Giménez has a vision for the future of Miami-Dade’s public transportation. Ad approved by Carlos Giménez, for Mayor of Miami-Dade County. The mayor reads widely and exhaustively now -- as opposed to the year when he tried to shut down 50 percent of the county’s libraries and got the surprise of his political life -- and the big news of his budget reveal is his discovery that technology will revolutionize transportation as we know it -- and quicker than we could imagine! Riding the rails is a thing of the past, not worth the investment, Giménez says as the county rolls out $376 million worth of long-overdue new Metrorail cars over the next two years but no expansion plans.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 7/21/17]

Giménez Opposed Metrorail Expansion After He Made It A Campaign Promise In 2016. “When he ran for reelection as mayor in 2016, Giménez aired a campaign ad portraying him on a Metrorail car under the headline ‘More Rail Lines,’ but he has opposed plans to expand the existing Metrorail system as too expensive and outdated. Instead, he’s pushed for more affordable options under the SMART Plan process, an effort launched in 2016 to re-study six of the corridors laid out in the original 2002 tax plan.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

Giménez: What “People Understand Was ‘Promised’ Was Never Possible […] The Promises Made Could Never Be Kept.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez, in office since 2011, recently issued a memo prepared by his budget office that describes a tax plan doomed by overly optimistic predictions on costs, federal aid and the overall financial health of Miami-Dade’s bus and rail operations. It cited flawed projections on fare growth, far too conservative forecasts for pay and benefits of transit workers, and construction estimates that would end up growing significantly. What “people understand was ‘promised’ was never possible,” the Dec. 3 memo reads, ‘if realistic revenue and expense projections were applied from the beginning.’ Giménez added in an interview Tuesday: ‘The promises made could never be kept. The revenues were overstated. The expenses were understated. ... We needed to be honest with the people [and] set the record straight.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

HEADLINE: “How Miami-Dade Collected $3 Billion And Still Can’t Afford To Expand Metrorail.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

Giménez’s Campaign Finance Chair, A Lobbyist, Accompanied Him To Meetings On The Deal And “Played An Insider Role” In Defeating The Plan

Giménez’s Former Campaign Finance Chair, And Lobbyist, Played An Insider Role In Helping Giménez Defeat The $1.3 Billion Metrorail Extension To South Dade. “A year before he partnered with the Genting casino developer to pitch the county on a monorail to Miami Beach, lobbyist Ralph Garcia-Toledo played an insider role in helping Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez defeat a $1.3 billion Metrorail extension to South
Dade. Garcia-Toledo, chairman of Giménez’s campaign-donor operation in 2016, accompanied the mayor and county transit chief Alice Bravo in five private meetings with elected officials, according to Bravo’s office and Garcia-Toledo. The officials held seats on a Miami-Dade transportation board that was deciding between a rail expansion that county consultants said wasn’t financially viable and the administration’s proposal for a $243 million system of modernized rapid-transit buses that would leave money to build transit projects elsewhere.” [Miami-Herald, 7/9/19]


Giménez: “Trains Are 19th Century Technology”

Giménez: “Trains Are 19th Century Technology.” “Riding the rails is a thing of the past, not worth the investment, Giménez says as the county rolls out $376 million worth of long-overdue new Metrorail cars over the next two years but no expansion plans. ‘I’m looking to the future,’ the mayor said. ‘Trains are 19th century technology.’ Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez discusses transportation planMiami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez and Budget Director Jennifer Moon discuss the county’s transit future with the Miami-Herald Editorial Board on July 19, 2017. So what does he propose? Let us ride buses!” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 7/21/17]


2007: Giménez Said That He Was Not “A Fan Of Light Rail,” And That Miami-Dade County Didn’t Have The “Density For Trains”

2007: Giménez Said That He Was Not “A Fan Of Light Rail,” And Opposed Its Increased Funding. “To combat that, the commissioner noted the benefits of sustained growth within the present Urban Development Boundary. Within seconds, Lawrence Percival, executive vice president of the federation, asked Giménez to comment on the strongly opposed CSX proposal, part of a county transit study that recommends the implementation of commuter trains along the railway. ‘I used to be a fan of light rail, but not anymore,’ said Giménez, who does not believe expected ridership, 3,708 per day, justifies the expected capital cost of $177 million.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/07]

Giménez: “We Just Don’t Have The Density For Trains Right Now.” “Opposing sides claimed victory Thursday after county officials adopted a contentious traffic strategy for Kendall while delaying its implementation for further study. […] Commissioner Carlos Giménez did, unsatisfied with the study’s narrow options. ‘Who’s paying for this? We just don’t have the density for trains right now, and the numbers prove it,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/6/07]

Corrupt Ties

Giménez Had Close Ties To A Miami Commissioner Accused Of Public Corruption

Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo Was Accused Of Inappropriately Using City Funds

Miami Commissioner Joe Carollo Was Accused Of Using City Funds To Buy A Paella Dinner And Other Supplies For Diaz De La Portilla’s Campaign For County Commission. “Miro was for years one of Carollo’s closest allies. But the pair infamously had a falling-out after Miro claimed he witnessed Carollo use city funds to buy paella and other supplies for Diaz de la Portilla’s 2018 county commission campaign — actions that, if true, are transparent violations of the law. Miro then alerted the authorities about his boss’ conduct and has repeatedly claimed he was fired in retaliation for cooperating with law enforcement.” [Miami New Times, 10/17/19]
**HEADLINE:** “Ex-Carollo Aide Said In Court The Miami Commissioner ‘Engaged In A Felony.’”  
[Miami New Times, 10/17/19]

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**Giménez And His Family Endorsed Carollo’s Campaign For Miami Commissioner**

**Giménez And His Family Endorsed Carollo’s Campaign For Miami Commissioner.** “The seeds of a split between Carlos Giménez and Francis Suarez came weeks after Suarez’s lopsided win in the November 2017 mayor’s race. In a campaign for an open seat on the City Commission, Giménez and family backed former Miami Mayor Joe Carollo. Suarez’s father, County Commissioner Xavier Suarez, rallied support for Alfonso ‘Alfie’ Leon.” [Miami-Herald, 10/31/18]

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**Giménez’s Daughter-In-Laws Were Consultants Of Carollo’s Political Committee**

**Giménez’s Daughter-In-Laws Were Consultants Of Carollo’s Political Committee.** “ECOs, similar to a political action committees but with different rules, can refer to a candidate or issue only ‘without expressly advocating the election or defeat.’ Seems that ‘say no to’ and adding the punch number advocates defeat. But it’s no surprise, first, because it’s Joe Carollo, who cares very little about those technicalities and, second, because his alleged mailer consultant is Tania Cruz, the daughter-in-law of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who is relatively new at this. […] And she ain’t the only one in her family on Carollo’s payroll. Barby Rodriguez Giménez, the other daughter-in-law married to the bad boy son, got paid $14,269 for ‘consulting’ also. If you add it all up, the Giménez clan has been paid at least $175,000 by Carollo since last year.” [Political Cortadito, 10/16/18]

**HEADLINE:** “Joe Carollo Pays Carlos Giménez Clan More Than $175K In Total.” [Political Cortadito, 10/16/18]

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**Carollo Was A Consultant For Giménez’s 2015 Reelection Campaign**

**Carollo Was A Consultant For Giménez’s 2015 Reelection Campaign.** “It was a race that revived decades of political scores and allegiances: The elder Suarez was ousted as Miami mayor in 1997 by Carollo, who later appointed Giménez as his city manager. As Giménez geared up for reelection in 2015, one of his first hiring moves was a $6,000 monthly consulting fee for Carollo.” [Miami-Herald, 10/31/18]

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**Giménez Was Appointed City Manager By Then-Miami Mayor Carollo**

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**Giménez Nominated A Convicted Felon Who Was Charged With Tax Evasion To A Position On The County’s Cultural Affairs Commission**

**Giménez Nominated Monty Trainer, Who Was Convicted Of Tax Evasion And Released From Federal Prison, To An Unpaid Position On The Cultural Affairs Commission.** “There was a time when Monty Trainer owned a chain of seven restaurants, dazzled city and county officials with his hospitality and wielded so much power from a back table at his Coconut Grove establishment that some renamed Miami City Hall ‘Monty’s Hall.’ Then, in the late 1980s came his arrest on tax evasion charges, conviction and 133 days in federal prison -- all of which might have derailed his social standing in other cities. […] But Trainer said the most important moment since he left prison came when county commissioners appointed him to an unpaid position on the Cultural Affairs Commission in April. It made him feel like the community had finally accepted him anew, he said. ‘He has given to the cultural community,’ said former Miami City Manager and now County Commissioner Carlos
Giménez, who made the nomination. ‘He paid his debts to society, and I feel that he should be given a second opportunity to serve the community.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

HEADLINE: “Older Trainer Creates A New Image; Monty Trainer, A One-Time Power Broker Who Owned A Chain Of Restaurants, Has Worked To Overcome His Conviction For Tax Fraud And Is Trying To Recast Himself As A Philanthropist.” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

2005: Giménez Said That Monty Trainer Had “Paid His Debts To Society…”

Giménez: “He Has Given To The Cultural Community, […] Paid His Debts To Society, And I Feel Like He Should Be Given A Second Opportunity To Serve The Community.” “There was a time when Monty Trainer owned a chain of seven restaurants, dazzled city and county officials with his hospitality and wielded so much power from a back table at his Coconut Grove establishment that some renamed Miami City Hall ‘Monty’s Hall.’ Then, in the late 1980s came his arrest on tax evasion charges, conviction and 133 days in federal prison -- all of which might have derailed his social standing in other cities. […] But Trainer said the most important moment since he left prison came when county commissioners appointed him to an unpaid position on the Cultural Affairs Commission in April. It made him feel like the community had finally accepted him anew, he said. ‘He has given to the cultural community,’ said former Miami City Manager and now County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who made the nomination. ‘He paid his debts to society, and I feel that he should be given a second opportunity to serve the community.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

…When Trainer Was Still Repaying $256,000 That He Owed To The IRS

2005: Trainer Was Still Repaying The $256,000 That he Owed TO The Internal Revenue Service. “…Trainer said the most important moment since he left prison came when county commissioners appointed him to an unpaid position on the Cultural Affairs Commission in April. It made him feel like the community had finally accepted him anew, he said. ‘He has given to the cultural community,’ said former Miami City Manager and now County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who made the nomination. ‘He paid his debts to society, and I feel that he should be given a second opportunity to serve the community.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

Trainer Was Infamous For Being A Political Insider Who Raise Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars For Political Campaigns

Trainer Was Infamous For Being A Political Insider Who Raise Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars For Political Campaigns. “There was a time when Monty Trainer owned a chain of seven restaurants, dazzled city and county officials with his hospitality and wielded so much power from a back table at his Coconut Grove establishment that some renamed Miami City Hall ‘Monty’s Hall.’ […] Not everyone agrees. Some residents don’t think an ex-felon, who says he is still repaying the $256,000 he owes the Internal Revenue Service, should be appointed to civic boards. Others, like longtime Coconut Grove resident Terry Peters, say they’re disappointed -- but not surprised -- that a man who worked the political system to help make the once-bohemian Grove more commercial has received a political appointment. ‘Monty’s been calling the shots for a long time,’ he said. At the time of his conviction in 1988, Trainer was by all accounts a powerful, charming presence with enviable connections at City Hall, someone who gave and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars a year to charities and political campaigns. Aspiring politicos were always brought to Trainer’s restaurant to meet the man at the back table. ‘I love being in the background. I love politics, and the restaurant business gave me the ability to be political,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

Trainer Had Been Criticized For “Calling The Shorts For A Long Time” At Miami City Hall. “There was a time when Monty Trainer owned a chain of seven restaurants, dazzled city and county officials with his hospitality and wielded so much power from a back table at his Coconut Grove establishment that some renamed Miami City Hall ‘Monty’s Hall.’ […] Not everyone agrees. Some residents don’t think an ex-felon, who says he is still repaying the $256,000 he owes the Internal Revenue Service, should be appointed to civic boards. Others, like longtime
Coconut Grove resident Terry Peters, say they’re disappointed -- but not surprised -- that a man who worked the political system to help make the once-bohemian Grove more commercial has received a political appointment. 'Monty’s been calling the shots for a long time,’ he said. At the time of his conviction in 1988, Trainer was by all accounts a powerful, charming presence with enviable connections at City Hall, someone who gave and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars a year to charities and political campaigns. Aspiring politicos were always brought to Trainer’s restaurant to meet the man at the back table. 'I love being in the background. I love politics, and the restaurant business gave me the ability to be political,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/4/05]

**Ethics Rules And Lobbying Regulations**

Homestead-Miami SpeedwayFiled A Lawsuit Against Miami Charging That The City Violated Sunshine Laws By Not Holding Public Negotiations For A Race That Giménez Helped Broker

Homestead-Miami SpeedwayFiled A Lawsuit Against Miami Charging That The City Violated Sunshine Laws By Not Holding Public Negotiations For A Race That Giménez Helped Broker. “Under the final deal, Raceworks will pay the city a $50,000 fee for every race, plus $1 for every ticket sold, said City Manager Carlos Giménez. Raceworks will also absorb the costs of the city services it uses, including fire, police, solid waste, and barricade storage, city officials say. […] A few issues remain unresolved. For one thing, Homestead-Miami Speedway filed a lawsuit against Miami, charging that the city violated the Sunshine Law by not holding negotiations for a race in downtown Miami in public. The suit is pending. Homestead city leaders and Speedway officials have campaigned strongly against the race, claiming South Florida racing fans cannot financially support another race. Also, Raceworks officials said they are still negotiating with the Miami Exhibition and Sports Authority over the extent of the quasi-public agency’s involvement in the event.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/01]

Giménez Claimed That He Wanted To Limit The Influence Of Lobbyists On The County Commission And Make Sure Administration Contracts Were Awarded Honestly…

2004: Giménez Said That He Wanted To Limit The Influence Of Lobbyists On The County Commission And Make Sure Administration Contracts Were Awarded Honestly. “Giménez defeated Suarez by a 37 percent margin in the heated race to fill the seat County Commissioner Jimmy Morales gave up to run an unsuccessful campaign for county mayor. During his campaign, Giménez vowed to put an end to county corruption. 'The commission should be responsible and make sure administration awards contracts honestly,’ Giménez said. Suarez attacked his opponent, citing numerous contributions to Giménez from influential Miami-Dade lobbyists. But Giménez, who managed a $500 million budget in Miami, shook off the criticism. […] Giménez said he wants to limit the influence of lobbyists on the County Commission, make the commission’s work more open to public scrutiny and help restore the public’s trust. ‘I, along with the help of the six other commissioners, would like to put reforms and make changes,’ he said.” [Sun Sentinel, 11/4/04]

…But Repeatedly Voted In Favor Of Taking Away Public Oversight Of The County’s Contract Bidding Process…

Giménez Consistently Voted In Favor Of Shifting The Responsibility Of Awarding County Contracts Away From The County Commission

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Exempting County Contract Renewals From Committee Review. In July 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: ‘ORDINANCE RELATING TO RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION; AMENDING SECTION 2-1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO
Provide that options to renew contracts shall be exempt from committee.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 072247, 7/24/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Delegating Authority To The County Manager To Advertise County Contracts.** In June 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE DELEGATING TO THE COUNTY MANAGER THE AUTHORITY TO ADVERTISE CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PURCHASES OF SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND SERVICES INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITHOUT PRIOR COMMISSION APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR THE INCLUSION OF MEASURES APPROVED BY THE REVIEW COMMITTEE RELATING TO SMALL AND COMMUNITY BUSINESS PROGRAMS IN ADVERTISEMENT; REQUIRING QUARTERLY REPORTS OF ADVERTISED CONTRACTS; INCREASING THE THRESHOLD AMOUNTS OF CONTRACTS AUTHORIZED TO BE AWARDED WITHOUT FORMAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING; AMENDING SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND A SUNSET PROVISION.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 71151, 6/5/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Manager To Purchase Professional Services Without Commission Approval.** In November 2004, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO LIMIT ADMINISTRATIVE EXERCISE OF OPTIONS TO RENEW CONTRACTS WITHIN COUNTY MANAGER’S DELEGATED AWARD AUTHORITY; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN CODE AND EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 1/27/05, accessed 1/31/20]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Manager To Modify Contracts For The Miami International Airport’s North Terminal Without Commission Approval.** In July 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AUTHORIZING
COUNTY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE, TO AMEND OR MODIFY CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS RELATING TO NORTH TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WITHOUT THE NEED FOR PRIOR COMMISSION APPROVAL IN AMOUNTS THAT ARE THE LESSER OF 15% OF CONTRACT AMOUNT OR $10 MILLION DOLLARS FOR CONTRACTS UNDER $150,000,000 AND 10% OF CONTRACT AMOUNT FOR CONTRACTS OVER $150,000,000, AND AS OTHERWISE LIMITED HEREIN; AUTHORIZING COUNTY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO WAIVE BIDS UP TO $1,000,000; AUTHORIZING TIME EXTENSIONS BEFORE AND AFTER EXPIRATION OF CONTRACT TIME; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND A SUNSET PROVISION.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 7/6/06, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Voted To Change The Timing Of The Reporting Requirement For Contracts Valued Over $1 Million By The County Managers Without Commission Approval

Giménez Voted To Change The Timing Of The Reporting Requirement For Contracts Valued Over $1 Million By The County Managers Without Commission Approval. In January 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO CHANGE THE TIMING OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR CONTRACTS VALUED OVER $1 MILLION ADVERTISED BY THE COUNTY MANAGER WITHOUT PRIOR COMMISSION APPROVAL; DELETING THE SUNSET PROVISION CONTAINED IN ORDINANCE NO. 05-15 WHICH DELEGATES TO THE COUNTY MANAGER THE AUTHORITY TO ADVERTISE CONTRACTS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND PURCHASES OF SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND SERVICES INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITHOUT PRIOR COMMISSION APPROVAL; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 12B8].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 12/6/05, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Requiring Restitution When A Person Violates Conflict Of Interest Or Ethical Campaign Practices


Giménez Was In Favor Of Allowing The Citizens Independent Transportation Trust To Hire Its Own Consultants Without Commissioner Approval

Giménez Was In Favor Of Allowing The Citizens Independent Transportation Trust To Hire Its Own Consultants Without Commissioner Approval. “Many Miami-Dade voters who supported the half-cent sales tax for transportation in 2002 were swayed to support the plan because they were promised an independent watchdog group similar to the Public Health Trust that would oversee spending. Once the tax was approved, county commissioners and then-Mayor Alex Penelas pulled what many have decried as a bait-and-switch with voters when they created a 15-member Citizens Independent Transportation Trust that, in the words of some of its own inaugural members, is neither independent nor a trust. [...] Commissioners also refused, on a 9-3 vote, to discuss a Giménez proposal to allow the CITT to hire its own consultants without commission approval.” [Miami-Herald, 7/10/06]
Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Facilitating And Expediting The Award Of Construction Contracts To Small Businesses. In November 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE REVISING AND CODIFYING THE MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS PROGRAM AND FACILITATING AND EXPEDITING THE AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO SMALL BUSINESSES; CREATING A PROCESS TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A ROTATIONAL POOL TO DISTRIBUTE WORK AMONG PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS IN AN EQUITABLE MANNER; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS, AND AWARD CONTRACTS UP TO THE THRESHOLD AMOUNT SET FORTH IN SECTION 2-8.1(B); AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS; CREATING SECTION 2-8.2.7.01 OF THE CODE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-101, Vote 092490, 11/3/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing The Commission’s Authority To Award And Reject Contracts Designed To Provide Opportunities For Small Businesses. In July 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-8 INCREASING THE AUTHORITY DELEGATED TO AWARD AND REJECT MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 081474].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-81, Vote 081757, 7/1/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Giménez Consistently Voted In Favor Of Reducing The Time Period To File Bid Protests

2006: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Reducing The Time Period To File Bid Protests To Three Days. In June 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING BID PROTEST PROCEDURES IN SECTION 2-8.4 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO SHORTEN THE TIME TO FILE A BID PROTEST FROM TEN DAYS TO THREE WORKING DAYS.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 6/6/06, accessed 1/31/20]

2005: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Reducing The Time Period To File Bid Protests To Five Days. In January 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING PILOT PROGRAM FOR EXPEDITED PURCHASING; DEFINING CERTAIN CONTRACTS FOR INCLUSION WITHIN PILOT PROGRAM, ESTABLISHING A TERM OF EFFECTIVENESS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO SELECT PROPOSALS WITHOUT THE USE OF SELECTION COMMITTEES; REDUCING THE PERIOD TO FILE A BID PROTEST TO FIVE (5) DAYS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 050026].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 11/27/05, accessed 1/31/20]

…Voted In Favor Loosening Lobbying Rules…

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Making Contract Lobbyist Conflict Waiver Requests Exempt From Committee Review

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Making Contract Lobbyist Conflict Waiver Requests Exempt From Committee Review. In November 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; AMENDING SECTION 2-1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO PROVIDE THAT CONTRACT LOBBYIST CONFLICT WAIVER
REQUESTS ARE EXEMPT FROM COMMITTEE REVIEW; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-98, 091804, 11/3/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Not Requiring Principals Who Appeared As Lobbyists On Behalf Of Corporations To Pay Lobbyist Registration Fees

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Not Requiring Principals Who Appeared As Lobbyists On Behalf Of Corporations To Pay Lobbyist Registration Fees. In February 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-1.1(S) OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CODE OF ETHICS ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE THAT ANY PRINCIPAL WHO APPEARS AS A LOBBYIST ON BEHALF OF A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER ENTITY SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY LOBBYIST REGISTRATION FEES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Boar of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 100087, 2/2/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Considering The Repeal Of An Ethics Law Which Prohibited Contract Bidders From Speaking To County Staffers Who Weighed In On Contract Awards

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Considering The Repeal Of An Ethics Law Which Prohibited Contract Bidders From Speaking To County Staffers Who Weighed In On Contract Awards. “A decade after Miami-Dade commissioners adopted new ethics laws including a ‘Cone of Silence’ for bidders, the commission is considering repealing the reforms. Outgoing Commission Chairman Bruno Barreiro wants to repeal the law, which severely restricts lobbyists’ influence over contract awards at County Hall. Specifically, the ‘Cone of Silence’ ordinance prohibits bidders, their agents and elected officials from speaking to county staffers who are weighing contract awards. […] Commissioners voting in favor of hearing Barreiro out: Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, Carlos Giménez, Dorrin Rolle, Natacha Seijas, Katy Sorensen, Barbara Jordan and Barreiro. Commissioners Audrey Edmonson, Sally Heyman, Rebeca Sosa and Javier Souto voted against. Commissioners Dennis Moss and Joe Martinez were absent.” [Miami-Herald, 11/21/08]


…Voted In Favor Of Dissolving The Citizens Oversight Committee…

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Dissolving The Citizens Oversight Committee. In November 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BOND ORDINANCE, ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 25B OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING ORDINANCE 96-115 BY REVISIGN DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN PROJECT SCOPES AND FUNDING IN EXHIBITS ‘A’ AND ‘B’; AMENDING CHAPTER 25B TO DISSOLVE THE CITIZENS’ OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, TO TRANSFER ITS POWERS AND DUTIES TO COUNTY MAYOR OR MAYOR’S DESIGNEE AND TO ESTABLISH SUNSET DATE FOR SNP BOND PROGRAM; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 101700].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-79, Vote 102235, 11/4/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

…And Opposed Police Investigations In Cases Of Public Corruption
Giménez Sponsored A Bill To Ban County Police From Investigating Cases Of County Public Corruption; The FBI Opposed Giménez’s Proposal

Giménez Sponsored A Bill To Ban County Police From Investigating Cases Of County Public Corruption. “Miami-Dade County commissioners took the first step today to prevent the county police department from overseeing investigations into wrongdoing at County Hall. The ordinance, provided last week by Commissioner Carlos Giménez, was the first shot at curbing the authority of County Mayor Carlos Alvarez since the public enhanced his powers in a referendum vote Tuesday. Alvarez now oversees most of the county’s department directors, including police Director Robert Parker. Commissioners voted 10-2 today in favor on the first reading of an amended item that was proposed by Giménez that would make the Florida Department of Law Enforcement the lead agency in any investigation of a public official. It was amended slightly from the measure Giménez submitted last week. The initial ordinance would have forced the Miami-Dade County Police Department out of the loop in any investigation; the amended ordinance says the department can still investigate, but only under the direct supervision of FDLE or another agency. Giménez said the move was not directed at Alvarez but was an attempt to prevent a mayor who now oversees the police department from using the unit for political gain.” [Miami-Herald, 1/25/07]

Miami-Herald: Miami-Dade County Commissioners Passed A Controversial Ordinance That Stripped The Police Department’s Public Corruption Unit Of Many Of Its Powers To Investigate Corruption. “Miami-Dade County commissioners unanimously passed a controversial ordinance today that strips the police department’s public corruption unit of many of its powers to investigate corruption at County Hall. Now, an outside law enforcement agency will take the lead on any investigation involving the mayor or any of the 13 commissioners, though the county police department will make its resources available. The new law also authorizes Police Director Robert Parker to negotiate agreements with agencies like the state attorney’s office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI. The ordinance, proposed by Commissioner Carlos Giménez, originally called for the county’s police department to step aside during any investigation into county employees or elected officials. Giménez was concerned that among the powers the county mayor’s office gained in the January ‘strong mayor’ vote was authority over the police director. Giménez was worried investigations could be politicized.” [Miami-Herald, 3/8/07]


Miami-Herald: Giménez’s Measure Would Have Left The County’s Corruption Unit Completely Out Of The Investigative Loop. “Amos Rojas Jr., who heads up the Miami field office for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, said he’s worried about funding and personnel. Giménez said his plan would call for county money to go to the FDLE, although there are no specifics yet. Giménez’s measure in its original form -- which would have left the corruption unit completely out of the investigative loop -- had officials at some federal agencies shaking their heads. The U.S. Attorney’s Office and the FBI shunned the proposal.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/07]

Miami FBI Was Against Giménez Proposal Because County Detectives Could Provide Critical Evidence In Local Corruption Cases That Developed Into Federal Probes. “Although several in the policing community are upset with Giménez’s plan, State Attorney Katherine Fernández Rundle has remained neutral, and Amos Rojas, the man in charge of the FDLE’s field office, said he’s concerned about funding and personnel. Giménez has said his plan would call for county money to go to FDLE, although there are no specifics yet. The Giménez plan does not sit well with Jonathan Solomon, who heads the FBI’s regional field office in Miami. He said Miami-Dade detectives provide critical evidence in local corruption cases that can develop into federal probes.” [Miami-Herald, 1/25/07]

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Miami Police Investigating Corrupt City Officials Because Of A Potential Conflict Of Interest

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Miami Police Investigating Corrupt City Officials Because Of A Potential Conflict Of Interest. “Six weeks ago, Miami Mayor Joe Carollo suggested that a police sergeant received a $20,000 pay increase as a reward for writing a politically embarrassing memo that said the mayor had
sought an investigation into Cuban spies at City Hall. Sgt. Bob Fielder lost the pay increase this week. Police Chief Raul Martinez returned Fielder’s salary to $58,367 a year by rescinding a promotion given by his predecessor William O’Brien and the former city manager, Donald Warshaw. Martinez said Wednesday that he took the action after City Manager Carlos Giménez asked Martinez whether Fielder ought to remain in his post as a special assistant to the police chief. His job was to investigate corruption in Miami. Martinez said Giménez told him that he did not want Miami police carrying out investigations of city officials because of potential conflicts of interest. Giménez said he discussed Fielder’s status with Carollo, but received no directive from the mayor on what to do.” [Miami-Herald, 7/27/00]

**Giménez Violated City Commission Conditions To Not Allow A Proposed Developer With Programming On The City’s Television Station**

Giménez Received $100,000 From The Commission To Inform Voters About An Upcoming Redevelopment Referendum Under Conditions Not To Allow The Developer Any Air Time On The City’s Television Station. “With the exception of Regalado, Giménez has continued to have a good relationship with commissioners. Regalado, a consistent foe of Carollo’s, has said publicly several times that Giménez refuses to work with him. He said the days leading up to Thursday’s argument were no exception. A short time ago, Regalado said, he met with Giménez to iron out some plans to inform the public about Watson Island. They agreed not to use the proposed developer in any programming on the city’s television station, NET 9, he said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

**Giménez Violated The Agreement And Provided The Proposed Developer Programming On The City’s Television Station.** “A short time ago, Regalado said, he met with Giménez to iron out some plans to inform the public about Watson Island. They agreed not to use the proposed developer in any programming on the city’s television station, NET 9, he said. Regalado said he later learned Giménez went back on his word. Asked if Carollo has had anything to do with their friction, Regalado said, ‘That’s the obvious answer. I just feel like I’m wasting my time.’ Asked if Giménez’s resignation would affect his reelection chances, Carollo said, ‘I’m not concerned with what’s going to affect my race. I’m concerned with the well-being of the city.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

**Giménez Voted Against Prohibiting People With Pending Lawsuits Against The County To Serve On The County Board**

**Giménez Voted Against Prohibiting People With Pending Lawsuits Against The County To Serve On The County Board.** In March 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO COUNTY BOARDS; AMENDING SECTION 2-11.38 TO PROVIDE THAT ANY PERSON WHO HAS A PENDING LAWSUIT AGAINST THE COUNTY SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO SERVE ON A COUNTY BOARD UNLESS THIS REQUIREMENT IS WAIVED BY TWOTHIRDS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 073594].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 080972, 3/18/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

**Gifts**

**Giménez Frequently Accepted Tickets To Exclusive Events**

2007: *Giménez Wanted The Miami Marlins To Provide County Commissioners With Suites And Infield Seats In Exchange For County Financing On A News Stadium*

**Giménez Wanted A New Marlins Stadium To Provide County Officials With Two Free Suites And 22 Infield Seats At Every Home Game In Exchange For County Financing.** “Miami-Dade County commissioners on Thursday deferred voting on a financing plan for a proposed $525 million stadium in Little Havana for the Florida
Marlins until their first meeting in January. […] There was late discussion Thursday on the ball club that focused mainly on a Miami-Herald story that noted part of the baseball agreement called for Miami and Miami-Dade officials to receive two free suites and 22 infield seats at every home game. […] Commissioner Carlos Giménez suggested cutting the number of seats but believed it was probably a good idea to keep a suite for special events.” [Miami-Herald, 12/21/07]

**Giménez Said That He At Least Wanted The Marlins To Keep Suites Available For County Commissioners To Entertain Guests.** “The preliminary plan calls for the Marlins to give city and county officials two suites and 22 infield box seats at every Marlins home game, for free. The same or similar seats would be available at cost to government officials should the team make the playoffs. The plan was similar to one enacted by Major League Baseball’s recently relocated franchise, the Washington Nationals, and its district commissioners. Yet after the report ran, some commissioners went to pains to say they may be reluctant to pocket freebies. Commissioner Natacha Seijas said she would prefer to pay her own way. Commissioner Carlos Giménez said his preference would be for the Marlins to keep a suite available for the city or county to buy, should they need it for a special event. ‘We can always purchase it for the day,’ said Giménez, adding that otherwise, the club could use it for entertaining guests or kids from the Boys and Girls Club.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

**HEADLINE: “Free Baseball Tickets A Delicate Matter”** [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

**2006: Giménez Accepted $1,2000 Worth Of Tickets To The Vizcayan Ball From The Miami Performing Arts Center**

Giménez Accepted $1,2000 Worth Of Tickets To The Vizcayan Ball From The Miami Performing Arts Center. “Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, Audrey Edmonson, Carlos Giménez, Sally Heyman and Rebeca Sosa were comped $16,500 worth of tickets to the opening night of the Performing Arts Center. Diaz accepted $1,245 worth of tickets to sporting events; Giménez accepted $1,200 worth of tickets to the Vizcayan Ball; Commissioner Javier Souto accepted $565 worth of airfare and hotel rooms for a trip to Brazil; and Sosa got two massages worth $300 aboard a cruise ship.” [Miami-Herald, 10/26/07]


**2006: Giménez Said That He Refused Any Gift Over $100, Including Sports And Concert Tickets**

Giménez Said That He Refused Any Gift Over $100, Including Sports And Concert Tickets. “Commissioners who didn’t file offered various reasons for not doing so. Seijas said she hasn’t received anything valued over 100 bucks. ‘I don’t know what kind of gift baskets you’re getting,’ she said to her fellow commissioners. ‘All I get are cheapy ones.’” Giménez said he refuses any gift over $100, including sports and concert tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 6/26/06]

**2020: Giménez Reportedly Accepted Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From The Miami Dolphins As Gifts; He Accepted Only One Ticket After He Received Scrutiny For The Gifts**

Giménez Reportedly Accepted Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From The Miami Dolphins As Gifts. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez accepted a gift of two $4,000 Super Bowl tickets from Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, according to an ethics report, a gift made at a time when the congressional candidate is helping the real estate mogul bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. The planned gift was revealed in a memorandum from Jose Arrojo, the executive director of Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. It was obtained by el Nuevo Herald through a public records request. The memo concluded Giménez was free to accept the tickets, since they weren’t offered in exchange for favorable treatment from the mayor. The memo states that ‘Mr. Ross has offered to gift, and Mayor Giménez has accepted, two event tickets valued at $8,000.’ The report does not say whether Ross actually gave the tickets to Giménez. Giménez’s office did not respond to inquiries about the mayor’s
plans for the tickets. Late Friday, a senior Giménez advisor sent an email to Arrojo disputing his memo’s wording. Legislative Affairs director Nicole Tallman wrote in the 9:59 p.m. email that ‘the Mayor did not accept the tickets prior to the issuance of the ethics opinion, as indicated in your opinion.’ Arrojo wrote back that the opinion remains the same "the transaction [Giménez] is considering.”’ [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

HEADLINE: “Dolphins Owner’s Super Bowl Gift To County Mayor Carlos Giménez; Two $4,000 Tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

HEADLINE: “Fighting The Dolphins On F1, Commissioner Demands Info On Free Super Bowl Tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 2/5/20]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Accepted A Gift Of Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From Miami Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross, According To An Ethics Report”

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Accepted A Gift Of Two $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets From Miami Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross, According To An Ethics Report.” “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez accepted a gift of two $4,000 Super Bowl tickets from Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, according to an ethics report, a gift made at a time when the congressional candidate is helping the real estate mogul bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. The planned gift was revealed in a memorandum from Jose Arrojo, the executive director of Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. It was obtained by el Nuevo Herald through a public records request. The memo concluded Giménez was free to accept the tickets, since they weren’t offered in exchange for favorable treatment from the mayor. The memo states that ‘Mr. Ross has offered to gift, and Mayor Giménez has accepted, two event tickets valued at $8,000.’ The report does not say whether Ross actually gave the tickets to Giménez. Giménez’s office did not respond to inquiries about the mayor’s plans for the tickets. Late Friday, a senior Giménez advisor sent an email to Arrojo disputing his memo’s wording. Legislative Affairs director Nicole Tallman wrote in the 9:59 p.m. email that ‘the Mayor did not accept the tickets prior to the issuance of the ethics opinion, as indicated in your opinion.’ Arrojo wrote back that the opinion remains the same "the transaction [Giménez] is considering.”’ [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

Miami-Herald: “Dolphins Owner Stephen Ross Gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez A Pair Of $4,000 Super Bowl Tickets.” “Giménez has been an ally of Ross in county government, negotiating a subsidy deal in 2014 worth up to $5.75 million a year for the Dolphins and vetoing county legislation that would hamper his efforts to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock. His administration also agreed to pay $4 million in Super Bowl expenses, including covering $1 million worth of hotel rooms for NFL players this week. Rodney Barreto, chairman of the Super Bowl Host Committee, is an owner of the Coral Gables lobbying firm, Floridian Partners, which represents the Dolphins in county talks. Steve Ross Dolphins owner Stephen Ross gave Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez a pair of $4,000 Super Bowl tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 1/31/20]

Giménez Admitted To Have Accepted One $4,000 Ticket After He Received Scrutiny For The Gift. “After staying mum on the subject for three days, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez’s office said Monday he accepted one $4,000 ticket to the Super Bowl from Dolphins owner Stephen Ross and bought a second for his wife. Ross also offered $3,000 tickets to county commissioners ahead of a vote this week on his plan to bring Formula One racing to Hard Rock Stadium. At least one commissioner accepted the offer. Giménez’s press secretary, Patricia Abril, released a statement Monday saying the mayor ‘accepted one ticket for himself, as he had official duties to perform at the event... The mayor wanted his wife to go with him to the event, and he paid for her ticket.’ Giménez’s office said the mayor paid Ross by check for the second ticket for Lourdes Giménez. The statement came after el Nuevo Herald obtained a county ethics memo Friday saying Giménez had accepted an offer from Dolphins owner Stephen Ross to get two free tickets worth $4,000 each. The county’s top ethics lawyer last week cleared Giménez to accept the Ross tickets, saying the $8,000 gift did not qualify as the kind of "quid pro quo" offer that would trigger a violation of Miami-Dade law.”
HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor: I Accepted A Super Bowl Ticket From Dolphins Owner, Paid For 2nd.”  
[Miami-Herald, 2/3/20]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Banning All Gifts To County Commissioners From Anyone Who Isn’t A Friend Or Family Member

Giménez Was In Favor Of Banning All Gifts To County Commissioners From Anyone Who Isn’t A Friend Or Family Member. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez has proposed a cap of $100 per gift, touching off a lengthy debate earlier this month in the commission chambers. Commissioner Katy Sorenson had already been working on her own version of a ban on $100-and-up gifts, which could be up for public hearing in July. Chairman Joe Martinez and Commissioner Carlos Giménez said they plan on drafting their own amendments to tighten the gift-giving ordinance. Giménez’s fix: Ban all gifts, regardless of value, from anyone who isn’t a friend or family member. "That would keep it simple,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 6/26/06]

Giménez: “I Have A Big Cuban Family”

Giménez: “I Have A Big Cuban Family.” “The majority of the commission were open to the $100 cap with exemptions for friends and family -- although many pointed out that who, exactly, constitutes a friend or family is open to interpretation. ‘I have a big Cuban family,’ said Giménez. So big, in fact, that he and another commissioner, Natacha Seijas, are related.” [Miami-Herald, 6/26/06]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Solicit Gifts On Behalf Of Nonprofit Organizations

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Solicit Gifts On Behalf Of Nonprofit Organizations. In July 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-11.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CODE OF ETHICS ORDINANCE (‘ETHICS ORDINANCE’); AMENDING DEFINITION OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY TO INCLUDE DOMESTIC PARTNER, STEPCHILDREN AND STEPPARENTS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC PARTNER AND CONTRACT STAFF; AMENDING DEFINITION OF EMPLOYEE; PROVIDING THAT CONTRACT STAFF MUST COMPLY WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ETHICS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING THAT COMMISSION STAFF MAY SOLICIT GIFTS ON BEHALF OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AMENDING JURISDICTION OF ETHICS COMMISSION TO INCLUDE CONTRACT STAFF AND CONSULTANTS; INCREASING FINES WHERE PERSON INTENTIONALLY VIOLATES ETHICS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 101676].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-48, Vote 101904, 4/6/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Open Records

Giménez’s Office Deleted His Phone Data After A Trip To China And Claimed It Was Done By Mistake

Giménez’s Office Deleted His Phone Data After The Trip To China And Claimed It Was Done By Mistake. “Myriam Marquez, spokeswoman for Mayor Carlos Giménez, the elected official who supervises the IT department and led the trade mission, described the ‘wiping’ of the data as a mistake. It was discovered after the Miami-Herald requested text messages from the county employee who organized the March 13-27 trip. Marquez said the deletions were part of an effort to protect against Chinese computer viruses that might have been embedded in the phones, but that the data should have been preserved as public records.” [Miami Herald, 4/25/18]
Miami-Herald Requested Text Messages From The County Employee Who Organized The Trip. “Myriam Marquez, spokeswoman for Mayor Carlos Giménez, the elected official who supervises the IT department and led the trade mission, described the ‘wiping’ of the data as a mistake. It was discovered after the Miami-Herald requested text messages from the county employee who organized the March 13-27 trip. Marquez said the deletions were part of an effort to protect against Chinese computer viruses that might have been embedded in the phones, but that the data should have been preserved as public records.” [Miami-Herald, 4/25/18]

HEADLINE: “After Trip To China, Miami-Dade Wiped Data From Phones Used By Top County Officials.” [Miami-Herald, 4/25/18]

NOTE: Further research needed into any possible ethics violations and open records violations.

2011 Mayoral Recall

Giménez Was In Favor Of A Recall Of The Incumbent Mayor While He Was Considering A Run For Mayor Himself; One Of His Top Donors Was Financial Backer Of The Recall

In 2011, Giménez Was In Favor Of A Recall Election On Mayor Alvarez. “Under the county charter, the commission can schedule a special election for a new mayor, who would then serve the remainder of Alvarez’s term. Or commissioners can appoint someone to fill the mayor’s post until the next countywide election. Commission Chairman Joe Martinez and Commissioner Giménez both said they are considering a run for mayor if Alvarez is recalled. Martinez said he’s running for the job in 2012 no matter what. The 10 commissioners who voted in favor of the March 15 recall election: Martinez, Giménez, Dennis Moss, Audrey Edmonson, Jean Monestime, Bruno Barreiro, Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, Rebeca Sosa, Javier Souto and Sally Heyman.” [Miami-Herald, 1/14/11]

Giménez Also Said That He Was Considering A Run For Mayor If Alvarez Was Recalled. “Under the county charter, the commission can schedule a special election for a new mayor, who would then serve the remainder of Alvarez’s term. Or commissioners can appoint someone to fill the mayor’s post until the next countywide election. Commission Chairman Joe Martinez and Commissioner Giménez both said they are considering a run for mayor if Alvarez is recalled. Martinez said he’s running for the job in 2012 no matter what. The 10 commissioners who voted in favor of the March 15 recall election: Martinez, Giménez, Dennis Moss, Audrey Edmonson, Jean Monestime, Bruno Barreiro, Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, Rebeca Sosa, Javier Souto and Sally Heyman.” [Miami-Herald, 1/14/11]

One Of Giménez Top Mayoral Donors Was A Financial Backer Of The Campaign To Unseat Mayor Alvarez. “Giménez’s frustration with Miami-Dade government and interest in the county executive job has been evident for quite a while, even as he’s remained publicly coy about his intentions. In November Giménez opened a political action committee, called Common Sense Now!, and raised $150,367 by year-end. Donors include Miami builder Coastal Construction Group, which wrote a check for $10,000. Developer Martin Z. Margulies, a financial backer of the campaign to unseat Alvarez, contributed $2,500. Giménez’s PAC has paid $11,314 to political consulting firm BYG Strategies.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

Term Limits

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Waive Term Limits For Members Of County Boards

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The County Commission To Waive Term Limits For Members Of County Boards. In January 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2,
SECTION 2-11.38.2 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO PROVIDE THAT COUNTY COMMISSION MAY BY SPECIFIED VOTE WAIVE TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF COUNTY BOARDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 092998].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-06, Vote 093256, 1/21/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]
Relationships

**Significant Findings**

- **2016:** Giménez said that he would vote for Hillary Clinton in the general election but came short of an endorsement.
  
  - Giménez: “I’m not going to vote for Donald Trump, that’s for sure… I’m voting for Hillary Clinton.”
  
  - Giménez was the only local elected official to attend an event in support of Clinton.

- **2007:** Giménez was a Miami-Dade County Co-chair for Rudy Giuliani’s 2008 Presidential campaign.
  
  - Giménez: “I think Mayor Giuliani’s message is a pragmatic one.”

- Carlos Curbelo was a Giménez donor and said that Giménez was the “strongest challenger” in a congressional primary.

**Hillary Clinton**

**Oct. 2016: Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election, But Came Short Of An Endorsement**

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election. “‘Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “I’m Not Going To Endorse Anybody […] But Between Donald Trump And Hillary Clinton, […] Obviously, I Must Be Voting For Hillary Clinton.” ““Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “I’m Not Going To Vote For Donald Trump, That’s For Sure… I’m Voting For Hillary Clinton”

“Running for reelection in 2016, Giménez went on television days after Trump’s Access Hollywood vulgar comments about women became public to call for the Republican nominee to drop out of the presidential race over his ‘despicable’ remarks from 2005. Giménez then said: ‘I’m not going to vote for Donald Trump, that’s for sure…I’m voting for Hillary Clinton’” [Miami herald, 1/23/20]
Aug. 2016: Giménez Was The Only Local Elected Official To Attend An Event In Support Of Hillary Clinton.
“Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

Giménez Was A Miami-Dade County Chair For Rudy Giuliani’s 2008 Presidential Campaign.
“Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

Giménez: “I Think Mayor Giuliani’s Message Is A Pragmatic One.”
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2020: Carlos Curbelo Said That Giménez Was The “Strongest Challenger” In A Congressional Primary.
“Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

2008: Curbelo Donated $500 To Giménez’s Campaign For County-Level Office.
“Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]
Donald Trump

**Significant Findings**

- **2020:** Giménez announced his run for Congress in a tweet containing gratitude for a Trump visit to Doral, and Trump returned the favor with his endorsement that same day.
  - *Miami-Herald:* Giménez greeted Trump at the Miami International Airport in a high-profile welcome arranged by The White House.
- **Giménez refused to answer reporters’ questions about his positions on Trump’s impeachment.**
- **Giménez used a conversation with Trump during Hurricane Dorian to speak about the possibilities of hosting G-7 at Trump’s Doral resort.**
- **Giménez faced an ethics probe to determine if Trump improperly lobbied him during a round of golf.**
- **Giménez encouraged Trump to host a G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral golf resort.**
  - *Giménez said that he would assist Trump in “any way possible” host G-7 at Trump’s Doral resort.*
- **2019:** Giménez said that he was “disturbed” by chants calling for Congresswomen to be sent back to their countries, and he called on Trump to “not tolerate that type of behavior.”
- **2017:** Giménez criticized Trump for his “ambiguity” in blaming both sides for the deadly violence in Charlottesville.
- **2017:** Giménez attended Trump’s presidential inauguration.
- **2016:** Giménez said that he would vote for Trump and urged him to step down as his party’s nominee, after the release of the Access Hollywood tape.

**Impeachment**

**Giménez Refused To Answer Reporters’ Questions About His Positions On Trump’s Impeachment**

*Dec. 2019: Giménez Refused To Answer Reporter’s Questions About His Positions On Trump’s Impeachment.* “One of her big-name potential challengers, outgoing Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, won’t even talk about impeachment. ‘No comment,’ Giménez said, after a Tuesday County Commission meeting in downtown Miami. Told the impeachment question was related to an article about Mucarsel-Powell Giménez responded: ‘Who?’” [Miami-Herald, 12/4/19]

*Miami-Herald: “Giménez Won’t Even Talk About Impeachment.”* “One of her big-name potential challengers, outgoing Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, won’t even talk about impeachment. ‘No comment,’ Giménez said, after a Tuesday County Commission meeting in downtown Miami. Told the impeachment question was related to an article about Mucarsel-Powell Giménez responded: ‘Who?’” [Miami-Herald, 12/4/19]
Conflicts Of Interest

Giménez Faced An Ethics Probe To Determine If Trump Improperly Lobbied Him During A Round Of Golf

Trump Expressed His Interest In Buying The County-Owned Course While Golfing With Giménez

Giménez Faced An Ethics Probe To Determine If Trump Improperly Lobbied Him During A Round Of Golf; The Miami-Dade Ethics Commission Cleared Giménez. “Miami-Dade’s ethics commission rejected a complaint by blogger that claimed Trump improperly lobbied Giménez during their round at the Crandon Park golf course in late 2013. Trump reportedly criticized the condition of the county-owned course and offered to buy it. Giménez said that wasn’t possible, but eventually was in talks with Trump’s organization about outsourcing management to the celebrity developer.” [Miami-Herald, 6/17/15]


In August 2013, Giménez Played Golf With Trump At A County Owned Golf Course, And Trump Expressed His Interest In Buying The Course. “Trump visited Crandon Park Golf Course in October 2013 to play a round with County Mayor Carlos Giménez. Talk turned to Trump’s vision of rehabilitating the public facility; in fact, Trump wanted to buy the place.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 8/10/15]

Giménez’s Son Lobbied For Trump While Trump Was Discussing A Potential Takeover Of A County Owned Course With Giménez. “Giménez cited his son’s lobbying work in Doral for Trump, saying a recusal was necessary to remove any question about financial conflict for the golf-course mogul -- who also recently became a top contributor to the mayor’s reelection effort. The recusal announcement was made in a memo to county commissioners, saying Giménez had just learned that Miami-Dade received an unsolicited Crandon proposal from Trump. The document did not mention Giménez’s active role in the county’s talks with Trump, which aides detailed after inquiries from the Miami-Herald.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

C.J. Giménez Said That He Also Talked To His Father About Trump’s Proposals

Giménez’s Son Said That He Talked To His Father About Trump’s Proposals To Take Over The Golf Course. “The younger Giménez said he interviewed Trump as a client in 2013. While he said he strictly avoids county business, the younger Giménez said he did advise Russo on how he might craft a proposal for Crandon. ‘My role was extremely limited. Only in providing Mr. Russo guidance on legal and procedural issues,’ he said. ‘I had absolutely zero interaction with anyone at the county in this matter.’ He said he did talk to his father about Trump’s interest in submitting a proposal. His father was ‘just asking to see what the status is,’ the younger Giménez said. ‘I didn’t have a lot of information because I wasn’t involved. My response was Ed was working on it.’” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Mar.-Arp. 2015: After Giménez Recused Himself From Trump’s Attempted Purchase, Trump Sent Him A Letter About The Course; He Directed Trump To County Administrators


Trump And Giménez Shared Correspondence About Trump’s Desire To Purchase The County Owned Golf Course, And Giménez Directed Him To County Administrators. “On March 5, Trump signed a letter to Giménez proposing to renovate, ‘rebrand’ and operate the golf course. Trump asked how ‘to move this process forward.’ Attached was a project summary titled ‘Initial Offer.’ On April 15, Giménez wrote Trump that his framework was ‘intriguing.’ He directed Trump’s attention to the county’s Unsolicited Proposals Ordinance, which
governs the processing of such projects. On July 2, following many meetings and emails between Trump’s project representative and county administrators, Trump signed a transmittal letter to the county’s parks director. The subject line: ‘Unsolicited Offer for Crandon Golf Course.’” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 8/10/15]

Giménez To Trump: “I Look Forward To Further Discussions Regarding Crandon Golf Course And Appreciate Your Interest In Improving The Game Of Golf In Our Community.” “I look forward to further discussions regarding Crandon Golf Course and appreciate your interest in improving the game of golf in our community,’ Giménez wrote to Trump, who bought the Doral Golf Resort in 2012.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Feb. 2015: Giménez Said That He Recused Himself From Trump’s Proposals To Take Over The Crandon Golf Course. “Giménez told CBS 4 reporter Jim DeFede on Feb. 15. ‘Out of an abundance of caution, I said ‘I’m going to recuse myself. You work with Jack Kardys.’ ‘The recusal issue first surfaced on Feb. 10, the day the Miami-Herald revealed Trump had submitted a detailed Crandon proposal to the county’s Parks Department in July. The next day, Giménez sent a memo to county commissioners formally recusing himself from the Crandon matter. ‘On Feb. 10, 2015, I became aware that Miami-Dade County received an unsolicited proposal from the Trump organization to assume management of the Crandon Golf Course in Key Biscayne,’ Giménez wrote in the Feb. 11 memo.” [Miami-Herald, 2/22/15]

2015: Giménez Solicited Donations From Trump For His Reelection Campaign After They Discussed The Potential Crandon Golf Course Take Over

Giménez Solicited The Donations After Trump Offered To Take Over The County Owned Crandon Golf Course. “Giménez solicited the donation after Trump, whose Doral resort is one of the largest hotels in Miami-Dade, was in talks with Giménez and his administration about taking over the county-owned Crandon golf course. The potential deal fizzled shortly before Trump entered the presidential race in June 2015. His harsh comments at the announcement about undocumented immigrants from Mexico prompted Giménez to return the donation.” [Miami-Herald, 9/25/19]

2015: Trump Was A Major Contributor To Giménez’s Reelection Campaign. “Giménez cited his son’s lobbying work in Doral for Trump, saying a recusal was necessary to remove any question about financial conflict for the golf-course mogul -- who also recently became a top contributor to the mayor’s reelection effort. The recusal announcement was made in a memo to county commissioners, saying Giménez had just learned that Miami-Dade received an unsolicited Crandon proposal from Trump. The document did not mention Giménez’s active role in the county’s talks with Trump, which aides detailed after inquiries from the Miami-Herald.” [Miami-Herald, 2/11/15]

Giménez Retuned Trump’s Donations After He Launched A Bid For President

Jun. 2015: Giménez Retuned Trump’s Donations After Trump Launched His Presidential Bid With Controversial Comments About Illegal Immigrants From Mexico. “The would-be deal fizzled once the proposal became public in early 2015, on the heels of Trump making a $15,000 donation to Giménez’s reelection effort. Documents released at the time included a March 5, 2014, letter to the mayor in which Trump wrote he would like to pump millions into rehabbing the waterfront course and ‘MAKE IT GREAT!’ Giménez returned the donation in June, after Trump launched his presidential bid with controversial comments about illegal Mexican immigrants that brought him an official denunciation from the Miami-Dade County Commission.” [Miami-Herald, 8/31/16]

G-7 Summit

Giménez Encouraged Trump To Host The G-7 Summit At His Doral Golf Resort
Giménez Said That He Spoke With Trump About Hosting The G-7 Summit At Trump’s Doral Resort.

“Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Said He Spoke To Trump Himself During A Call The President Made To The Mayor When Hurricane Dorian Threatened Miami.” “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Giménez Said That He Would Assist Trump In “Any Way Possible” To Host G-7 At Trump’s Doral Resort.

“Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Giménez Urged Trump To Still Host The G-7 Summit In Miami After Trump Withdrew His Plans To Hold It At His Golf Resort. With the news, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Republican who spoke to Trump personally about the summit this summer, urged the White House to stick with plans to hold it in the Miami area. In a text message with the Trump administration’s contact for local governments, Giménez suggested bringing world leaders to the county-owned Vizcaya Museum and Gardens. ‘I hope Miami will still be considered for G-7,’ Giménez wrote William Crozer, Trump’s deputy director of intergovernmental affairs. ‘It would be an honor. If there’s anything I can do, please let me know.’ Giménez, a potential congressional candidate in 2020, said Trump called him ahead of Hurricane Dorian in late August, and that the conversation included the president telling him the G-7 might be coming to Doral. In his text to Crozer, Giménez included a link to Vizcaya, a historic estate that’s attracted global events in the past. Bill Clinton brought the 1994 Summit of the Americas to the Miami area, and Ronald Reagan used it as a stop when Pope John Paul II visited the United States in 1987. ‘We hosted the conference of the Americas 20 years ago at Vizcaya,’ Giménez wrote in the text released by the mayor. ‘It is a spectacular venue and very good security wise... Reagan also met Pope John Paul there.’ ‘We can make it happen,’ Giménez wrote. ‘You won’t find a more spectacular venue in all America.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/20/19]
## Racist Attacks

### Giménez Said That He Was “Disturbed” By Chants Calling For Congresswomen To Be Sent Back To Their Countries, And Called On Trump To “Not Tolerate That Type Of Behavior”

Giménez said he was ‘particularly disturbed’ by campaign rally chants. He added that ‘any president from any political persuasion should not tolerate that type of behavior.’ ‘We should be able to discuss ideas and disagree on them. Whether a U.S. citizen was born in this country or came here (as I did as a child or arrived as an adult) and became a U.S. citizen by choice is immaterial,’ Giménez said.” [Tampa Bay Times, 7/19/19]

### Jul. 2019: Trump Tweeted That Four Congresswomen Should “Go Back” To Their Home Countries, Even Though All Were Citizens, And Three Were Born In The U.S.

Jul. 2019: Trump Tweeted That Four Congresswomen Should “Go Back” To Their Home Countries, Even Though All Were Citizens, And Three Were Born In The U.S. “Two days after Trump tweeted that four Democratic freshmen should “go back” to their home countries — though all are citizens and three were born in the U.S.A. — Democrats muscled the resolution through the chamber by 240-187 over near-solid GOP opposition. The rebuke was an embarrassing one for Trump even though it carries no legal repercussions, but if anything his latest harangues should help him with his die-hard conservative base.” [Associated Press, 7/16/19]

**HEADLINE:** “House Condemns Trump ‘Racist’ Tweets In Extraordinary Rebuke.” [Associated Press, 7/16/19]

### Giménez Condemned Trump’s Remarks Calling Haiti And Other Countries A “Shithole”

Giménez condemned as ‘shameful’ President Donald Trump’s reported use of ‘shithole’ to describe Haiti and other countries, releasing a sharp rebuke of a president who has singled out the mayor for praise from the White House. ‘If true, President Trump’s remarks are very unfortunate and shameful,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez said in the statement issued after 10 p.m. Thursday.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/18]

**HEADLINE:** Miami-Dade’s Republican Mayor Calls Trump’s Reported Slander Of Haiti “Shameful” If True. [Miami-Herald, 1/11/18]

### Giménez Criticized Trump For His “Ambiguity” In Blaming Both Sides For The Deadly Violence In Charlottesville

Giménez criticized Trump for his “ambiguity” in blaming both sides for the deadly violence in Charlottesville. “Attorney General Jeff Sessions commended Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez for shedding his
jurisdiction’s ‘sanctuary city’ status on a day when Giménez ripped President Donald Trump for his ‘ambiguity’ about blame for the deadly violence at a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va.” [Palm Beach Post, 8/17/17]

**Trump’s Inauguration**

**2017: Giménez Attended Trump’s Presidential Inauguration.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez has told associates he plans to attend Donald Trump’s presidential inauguration after a fall campaign that saw the Republican mayor endorse Hillary Clinton and call on Trump to withdraw from the race.” [Miami-Herald, 1/13/17]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Republican Mayor Who Backed Clinton Plans To Attend Trump Inauguration.” [Miami-Herald, 1/13/17]

**2020 Elections**

**Giménez Announced His Run For Congress In A Twitter Post Containing Gratitude For A Trump Visit At Trump Doral…**

Jan. 23rd, 2020: Giménez Announced His Run For Congress In A Twitter Post Containing Gratitude For A Trump Visit At Trump Doral… Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his run for Congress Thursday in a Twitter post that led with gratitude for President Donald Trump, and hours later the president returned the favor with his endorsement of Giménez to take on freshman Democratic Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell in what’s expected to be one of the most expensive and hard-fought races in the country. […] Giménez launched his campaign for Florida’s 26th Congressional District via tweet from a new campaign Twitter account at 2:24 p.m., hours before President Donald Trump was set to travel to Doral for an appearance at the Republican National Committee winter meeting, held at his own resort. ‘Welcome to Miami @realDonaldTrump. Thank you for all you’ve done for our economy & to fight socialism,’ Giménez tweeted in something of a departure from his normally moderate tone. ‘I look forward to standing w/ you against the radical left who are determined to turn the U.S. into Venezuela. I’m running!’” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]

Jan. 23 2020: Giménez: “Welcome To Miami @RealDoladTrump […] I’m Running!” GIMENEZ: “Welcome to Miami @realDonaldTrump. Thank you for all you’ve done for our economy & to fight socialism. I look forward to standing w/ you against the radical left who are determined to turn the U.S. into Venezuela. I’m running! Join the #FL26 fight here >>.” [Twitter, @CarlosGimenezFL, 1/23/20]

[Twitter, @CarlosGimenezFL, 1/23/20]
**Jan. 23rd, 2020: Trump Endorsed Giménez’s Campaign For Congress.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez announced his run for Congress Thursday in a Twitter post that led with gratitude for President Donald Trump, and hours later the president returned the favor with his endorsement of Giménez to take on freshman Democratic Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell in what’s expected to be one of the most expensive and hard-fought races in the country. ‘Carlos will win big, very exciting,’ read the message posted on Trump’s Twitter account at 9:52 p.m. “Great for Florida, great for USA! He has my complete and total Endorsement!” [Miami-Herald, 2/23/20]

**Jan. 23rd 2020: Trump: Carlos Will Win Big. Very Exciting. Great For Florida, Great For USA! He Has My Complete And Total Endorsement!** [Twitter, @realDonaldTrump, 1/23/20]


**Miami-Herald: Giménez Greeted Trump At The Miami International Airport In A High-Profile Welcome Arranged By The White House**

**Miami-Herald: Giménez Greeted Trump At The Miami International Airport In A High-Profile Welcome Arranged By The White House.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez greeted President Donald Trump at Miami International Airport on Thursday in a high-profile welcome arranged by the White House as the Republican mayor runs for Congress three years after saying he was voting for Hillary Clinton. Giménez was at the bottom of the stairs and shook Trump’s hand when the president stepped off Air Force One at 5:40 p.m. at the county-run airport on his way to a Republican event booked at the president’s Doral golf resort. Giménez’s official welcoming role for Trump came hours after he thanked Trump on Twitter while announcing his entry into the Republican primary for the District 26 seat held by one-term Democrat Debbie Mucarsel-Powell.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/20]


**2016 Presidential Elections**

**After The Access Hollywood Tape, Giménez Said That He Wouldn't Vote For Trump, Urged Trump To Step Down As His Party’s Nominee And Claimed He Voted For Clinton**

**Giménez Said That He Wouldn’t Vote For Trump In 2016.** “Pushed into a run-off against a rival who has already denounced Donald Trump, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said for the first time Wednesday he was not planning to vote for the GOP nominee.” [Miami-Herald, 8/31/16]
Giménez Said That Trump Should Step Down As His Party’s Nominee. “Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee.” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez’s Decision Came After The Release Of The Access Hollywood Tape Where Trump Made Lewd Comments About Women. “The apparent snub may be evidence of a lasting grudge between Trump and Giménez, who tried to distance himself from his fellow Republican at a time when the 2016 presidential campaign overlapped with the mayor’s own reelection bid. During a televised debate with challenger Raquel Regalado in October of that year, Giménez called on Trump to drop out of the race because of Trump’s lewd comments about women captured by an Access Hollywood recording.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/18]

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election, But Came Short Of An Endorsement

Giménez Said That He Would Vote For Hillary Clinton In The General Election. “‘Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “I’m Not Going To Endorse Anybody […] But Between Donald Trump And Hillary Clinton, […] Obviously, I Must Be Voting For Hillary Clinton.” “‘Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor, Carlos Giménez, said Sunday that he would vote for Hillary Clinton and that GOP nominee Donald Trump should step down as his party’s nominee. ‘I’m not going to endorse anybody,’ Giménez told Jim DeFede on WFOR CBS4 during a mayoral debate with challenger Raquel Regalado, a Republican who said she is remaining neutral in the presidential race but won’t vote for Trump. ‘But between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, I’m not voting for Donald Trump. Obviously, I must be voting for Hillary Clinton.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/16]

Giménez: “He Wasn’t Happy I Didn’t Endorse Him. I Know That”

Giménez: “He Wasn’t Happy I Didn’t Endorse Him. I Know That.” “Asked if Trump was angry at him or ribbing him, Giménez said the conversation a few weeks after Election Day reflected Trump’s disapproval but was still fairly lighthearted. ‘He wasn’t happy I didn’t endorse him. I know that,’ Giménez said. ‘It was a friendly conversation. It was kind of joking.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/1/17]
Issues
## Budget Issues

### Significant Findings

- **Giménez voted in favor of the FY 2010-11 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget.**
- **Giménez voted against the FY 2010-11 General Fund Budget.**
  - **Giménez was in favor of the county budget plan including layoffs.**
- **Giménez voted in favor of the FY 2009-10 General Fund Budget.**
  - **The budget proposed mass layoffs and eliminated funds for Community Based Organizations.**
- **Giménez voted in favor of the FY 2009-10 unincorporated municipal service area fund budget.**
  - **The budget included a tax increase for homeowners in unincorporated Dade.**
- **Giménez voted against the FY 2008-09 General Fund Budget.**
- **Giménez voted in favor of the FY 2007-08 General Fund Budget.**
  - **The budget included cash toll increases for the Rickenbacker and Venetian causeways.**
- **Giménez voted in favor of the FY 2006-07 General Fund Budget.**

### Funding And Budgets

#### Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2010-11 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2010-11 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget.** In April 2011, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING FY 2010-11 MID-YEAR SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 11-02 RELATING TO AMENDMENT TO FY 2010-11 COUNTY BUDGET; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; APPROPRIATING GRANT, DONATION AND CONTRIBUTION FUNDS; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 5I].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 11-34, Vote 110686, 4/4/11; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

#### Giménez Voted Against The FY 2010-11 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Fund Budget

**Giménez Voted Against The FY 2010-11 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Fund Budget.** In September 2010, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA FUND BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2010-11 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN
THE TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; SUPERSEEDING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL VERSION UNDER LEGISTAR NO. 102198).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-62, Vote 121508, 9/23/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

**Giménez Voted Against The FY 2010-11 General Fund Budget That Included Layoffs**

**Giménez Voted Against The FY 2010-11 General Fund Budget.** In September 2010, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND RATIFYING PROPRIETARY BUDGETS, SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT RATES AND BUDGETS, AND OTHER BUDGETS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE FY 2010-11 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; APPROVING REVISED FEES, CHARGES, AND IMPLEMENTING ORDERS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES; APPROVING THE FY 2010-11 PAY PLAN; AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE AND INTEREST EARNINGS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO PROVIDE BOND ISSUE RESERVES; ESTABLISHING SUCH FUNDS AS MAY BE APPROVED DURING THE YEAR AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR EXPENDITURE; AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF LOCAL BUSINESS TAX SURCHARGE TO BEACON COUNCIL; APPROPRIATING GRANT, DONATION, AND CONTRIBUTION FUNDS; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; CONTINUING THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES TRUST FUND; AMENDING CHAPTER 8 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO REFLECT THE MERGER OF THE BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT INTO THE BUILDING AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT; SUPERSEEDING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER LEGISTAR NO. 102200).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-64, Vote 121511, 9/23/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of That The County Budget Plan Included Layoffs**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of A County Budget Plan That Included The Removal Of 1,200 County Administrative Positions.** “Commissioner Carlos Giménez said that to tread water, budget wise, county planners do include a millage/tax rate hike of 14 percent. Giménez said, ‘When you look at the bottom line and your taxes are going up 14 percent, that is not something I am willing to do.’ The mayor’s budget blue-print includes a $4.7 billion operating budget. But in order to close a $440 million dollar budget gap, the result of falling property tax values, it would be necessary to axe 1,200 county administrative positions. That number would include 900 layoffs of people currently on the payroll.” [Miami Times, 7/14/10]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Budget Plan Includes Layoffs.” [Miami Times, 7/14/10]
Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2009-10 General Fund Budget That Included Layoffs

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2009-10 General Fund Budget.** In September 2009, Giménez voted In favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE COUNTYWIDE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2009 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2009-10 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN THE TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; WAIVING SECTION 2-1799(A)2 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA RELATING TO EXPENDITURES OF EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUNDS; AMENDING SECTION 2-1503 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONSORTIUM MEMBERSHIP; AMENDING THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO CHANGE THE NAMES OF ‘OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE’ AND THE ‘BUILDING DEPARTMENT’ TO ‘BUILDING AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT’; REPEALING RESOLUTION NOS. R-829-06 AND R-1225-86; SUPERSEDING CONFLICTING PROVISIONS OF PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL VERSION UNDER LEGISTAR).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amendment. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-83, Vote 121496, 9/17/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The Budget Proposed Mass Layoffs And Eliminated Funds For Community Based Organizations. “The economic downturn has had a tremendous effect in Miami-Dade County. One result has been a Proposed 2009/2010 Budget for the County that would implement mass layoffs and eliminate funds for Community Based Organizations (CBOs).” [Miami Times, 7/22/09]

**Giménez Voted In Favor The FY 2009-10 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Fund Budget**

**Giménez Voted In Favor The FY 2009-10 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Fund Budget.** In September 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA FUND BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2009, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2009-10 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN THE TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; WAIVING SECTION 2-1799(A)2 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RELATING TO EXPENDITURES OF EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUNDS; AMENDING CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO CHANGE THE NAMES OF ‘OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE’ AND THE ‘BUILDING DEPARTMENT’ TO ‘BUILDING AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT’; AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NOS. R-829-06 AND R-1225-86; SUPERSEDING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION
IN CODE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL VERSION UNDER LEGISTAR NO. 092542).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-85, Vote 121499, 9/17/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-85, Vote 121499, 9/17/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-12, Vote 093252, 2/2/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

The Budget Included A Tax Increase For Homeowners In Unincorporated Dade. “Miami-Dade faces a $427 million budget crisis. “The Proposed Budget will cut estimated 3000 jobs countywide. All county employees, even the mayor, would receive a five percent pay cut. ‘These are people lives being affected,” said County Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle. ‘It is going to be bad.’ Two hundred positions will be slashed in the Park and Recreation Department. Custodial staff will be reduced. Afterschool, sports development and summer camp will be available only if the funds are available. Cuts will result in a tax increase for homeowners in unincorporated Dade.” [Miami Times, 7/22/09]

Giménez Voted Against The FY 2008-09 General Fund Budget

Giménez Voted Against The FY 2008-09 General Fund Budget. In September 2008, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND RATIFYING THE COUNTYWIDE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2008, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009: PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2008-09 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN THE TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING ARTICLE LXXIA OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE DEPARTMENT NAME FROM ‘TEAM METRO’ TO THE ‘OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE’; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 082646].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-10, Vote 082982, 9/18/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2008-09 End Of Year Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2008-09 End Of Year Supplemental Budget. In February 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING END OF YEAR SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR FY 2008-09 FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 8L1B).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-12, Vote 093252, 2/2/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted Against The FY 2008-09 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Budget

APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND RATINGY AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING ARTICLE LXXIA OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE DEPARTMENT NAME FROM ‘TEAM METRO’ TO THE ‘OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLIANCE’; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 082434].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-107, Vote 082985, 9/18/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2007-08 General Fund Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2007-08 General Fund Budget As Amended. On September 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND RATIFYING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2007, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2008; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2007-08 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND RATINGY AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL VERSION UNDER LEGISTAR NO. 072603).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amendment. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 07-127, Vote 121495, 9/20/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The Budget Included Cash Toll Increases For The Rickenbacker And Venetian Causeways. “Cash tolls are set to increase on the Rickenbacker and Venetian causeways starting Oct. 15. A two-axle vehicle that currently pays $1.25 to use the Rickenbacker will be facing an increase to $1.50. A three-axle vehicle, such as a car or truck pulling a boat trailer over to Virginia Key or Key Biscayne, is facing an increase from $7.50 to $9. Four- and five-axle vehicles will pay $11.25 and $13.50, respectively, under the new Rickenbacker rates county commissioners ratified with the 2007-08 budget they approved last month. On the Venetian, the cash toll will rise from $1 to $1.50 for two-axle vehicles and from $1.50 to $2.25 for three-axle vehicles. Four- and five-axle vehicles will pay $3 and $3.75, respectively, under the new Venetian rates.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/07]

Giménez Voted Against The FY 2007-08 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Budget

APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 072603, 9/6/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 General Fund Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 General Fund Budget. In September 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND RATIFYING THE COUNTYWIDE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2006, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2007; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2006-07 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN THE TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED TO THE GENERAL FUND; RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION WHICH SET CHARGES, AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 062371].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, 06-130; Vote 121494, 9/20/06; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 9/20/06]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 End-Year Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 End-Year Supplemental Budget. In December 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 8L1C, 12B6].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 073636, 12/20/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2006-07 Unincorporated Municipal Service Area Budget. In September 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND RATIFYING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA BUDGET FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2006, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2007; PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; INCORPORATING THE 2006-07 PROPOSED BUDGET AS AMENDED; APPROPRIATING ALL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES; AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS IN TIME WARRANTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS CASH ADVANCES PENDING RECEIPT OF TAXES; AUTHORIZING DEPOSIT OF INTEREST EARNED
TO THE GENERAL FUND RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR AMENDMENT; RECOGNIZING AND CONTINUING THE UNINCORPORATED MUNICIPAL SERVICE AREA; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CERTAIN FUNDING AGREEMENTS; AMENDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 062373].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 06-132, Vote 121504, 9/20/06; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2005-06 Year-End Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2005-06 Year-End Supplemental Budget. In December 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 3I & 7C].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 063476, 12/5/06; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2005-06 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2005-06 Mid-Year Supplemental Budget. In June 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 6/6/06, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2004-05 Year-End Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The FY 2004-05 Year-End Supplemental Budget. In January 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 8L1A AND 12B4].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 1/24/06, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Voted In Favor The FY 2003-04 Year-End Supplemental Budget

Giménez Voted In Favor The FY 2003-04 Year-End Supplemental Budget. In February 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS; RATIFYING AND APPROVING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND OTHER BOARD ACTIONS WHICH SET CHARGES; AUTHORIZING FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS; APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 7L1A]” The ordinance was
adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 2/3/05, accessed 1/31/20]
Crime & Public Safety Issues

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez frequently threatened police officers with layoffs and demotions if they didn’t agree to pay cuts.

✓ 2014: Giménez threatened to lay off 400 police workers if unions didn’t agree to pay concessions; the plan gutted the county’s narcotics unit and dismissed robbery investigators.

✓ 2011: Giménez urged police unions to give up raises, benefits hikes, and bonuses as part of a new union contract; the unions agreed to the pay cuts to avoid layoffs because they were already short on personnel.

✓ Giménez was opposed to the firing of a police chief who was accused of clearing dozens of police shootings and oversaw officers who planted guns at crime scenes.

✓ Giménez said that the police chief had done “a good job” and had his “full support.”

✓ Giménez was opposed to the creation of a county oversight police review board.

✓ Giménez recommended a failed 15% fire fee increase, which also eliminated 32 law enforcement and firefighter jobs.

✓ Giménez voted in favor of increasing surcharges for traffic infractions.

✓ Giménez voted in favor of classifying structures identified as being used for the production of illegal narcotics as an unsafe structure.

✓ Giménez was in favor of closing the county’s boot camp program for young offenders to balance the budget.

**Law Enforcement**

2014: Giménez Threatened To Lay Off 400 Police Workers If Unions Didn’t Agree To Pay Concessions; The Plan Gutted The County’s Narcotics Unit And Dismissed Robbery Investigators

2014: Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Eliminated 400 Police Jobs If Unions Did Not Agree To Pay Concessions

2014: Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Eliminated 400 Police Jobs If Unions Did Not Agree To Pay Concessions. “Miami-Dade County has put about 400 police staffers on notice that they could be losing their jobs in the fall. Police brass on Monday afternoon ordered hundreds of officers, sergeants, lieutenants and civilian workers to a mandatory meeting next week at the Florida International University football stadium to discuss staffing cuts mandated in Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposed budget.” [Miami-Herald, 8/12/14; Miami-Herald, 8/19/14]

**Giménez Dropped His Demands For Pay Concessions.** “With Miami-Dade County’s budget clock ticking, Mayor Carlos Giménez’s administration has dropped a key demand it was making of labor unions, in a bid to unstick contract negotiations. Giménez’s decision to stop trying to block $40 million in pay perks from
'snapping back’ to workers on Oct. 1, as scheduled, means the county is likely to see at least some service reductions and employee layoffs in the coming budget year. The mayor had said his ‘best-case scenario’ budget would continue the pay concessions, which unions agreed to three years ago, until 2017.” [Miami-Herald, 8/19/14]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Drops Demand To Extend Worker Pay Concessions.” [Miami-Herald, 8/19/14]

### Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Gutted The County’s Narcotics Unit And Dismissed Robbery Investigators

Giménez Proposed A Budget Plan That Gutted The County’s Narcotics Unit And Dismissed Robbery Investigators. “Facing a budget squeeze, Miami-Dade County would pare down its narcotics unit, dismiss investigators working robbery cases and close a boot camp for young convicts, according to draft planning documents released this week. The papers outline about $65 million in spending reductions to two of the county’s largest departments, police and corrections, as Mayor Carlos Giménez warns of significant cuts next year without concessions from county employee labor unions.” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/14]

**Police Benevolent Association:** “Every One Of These Criminals Should Be Sending A Little Gift Card To Carlos Giménez Saying: ‘Thank You.’” “‘Every one of these criminals should be sending a little gift card to Carlos Giménez saying: ‘Thank you, because I’m going to make a lot of money robbing people, and stealing from people, and having my way with victims,’ “ said John Rivera, head of the Police Benevolent Association, which represents police and corrections employees. ‘We’re going to tell people to buy bars for your windows and doors, buy attack dogs, buy firearms.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/14]

### Headlines

**HEADLINE:** “Giménez And Police Union Set For Talks After Stand-Off.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/14]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Warns Hundreds Of Police Officers To Get Ready For Layoffs.” [Miami-Herald, 8/12/14]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Budget Cuts Could Eliminate 450 Police Jobs.” [Miami-Herald, 6/16/14]

**HEADLINE:** “Giménez’s Budget Could Lead To Police Officer Layoffs.” [Miami-Herald, 8/12/14]

**HEADLINE:** “Giménez Urged Police Unions To Give Up Pay Raises, Benefits Hikes, And Bonuses As Part Of A New Union Contract.” [Tampa Bay Times, 7/11/14]

2011: Giménez Urged Police Unions To Give Up Pay Raises, Benefits Hikes, And Bonuses As Part Of A New Union Contract. “Just hours after officially taking office as Miami-Dade County’s new mayor Friday, Carlos Giménez sent eight key county unions a letter making a bold request: Give up pay raises, benefits hikes and bonuses to help cover a swelling $400 million budget gap. […] The details: Giménez is asking the unions to give up the 3 percent raises, bonuses and merit increases that went into effect Friday. The request for cuts to the police went deeper: In addition to giving up raises and bonuses, Giménez asked union leadership to forego step increases that would reduce salaries by more than 8 percent.” [Miami-Herald, 7/1/11]

**Giménez:** “I Have Always Been Honest And Straightforward In My Belief That The Upcoming Budget Must Include Salary Adjustments.” “I am committed to presenting a balanced budget that reduces costs through consolidation, eliminating redundancy, and reducing the bureaucracy,” Giménez wrote the unions. ‘However, this will not close the almost $400 million budget gap. I have always been honest and
straightforward in my belief that the upcoming budget must include salary adjustments.”” [Miami-Herald, 7/1/11]

Giménez Threatened Police Officer With Layoffs If They Didn’t Agree To The New Union Contracts

Giménez Threatened Police Officer With Layoffs If They Didn’t Agree To The New Union Contracts. “For weeks, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez has been threatening to lay off county employees if the unions don’t make $239 million in concessions necessary for balancing the budget. On Wednesday, the mayor said he’s ready to name names. In an unprecedented move that shows he’s playing hardball, Giménez said he is preparing to send pink slips out to 90 Miami-Dade police officers telling them they’ll be laid off if no agreement is reached with the Police Benevolent Association by Nov. 1.” [Miami-Herald, 10/5/11]

Giménez: “We’ll Do Layoffs Up To The Level We Can Do Them Without Affecting Public Safety.” “On the street level, those services are not going to be affected,” Giménez told The Miami-Herald. ‘We’ll do layoffs up to the level we can do them without affecting public safety.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/5/11]

Giménez Said That In Addition To The Layoffs, Dozens Of Officers Would Be Demoted To A Lower Rank

Giménez Said That In Addition To The Layoffs, Dozens Of Officers Would Be Demoted To A Lower Rank. “In addition to the layoffs, Giménez said dozens of officers would be demoted to a lower rank as part of the county’s cost saving plan. Police Maj. Nancy Perez, a spokeswoman, said these would be the first layoffs in the department’s 177-year history. It was not known which units would be affected or who would face demotion. ‘This is extremely hard for the department,’ she said. ‘We were already short personnel on the streets to begin with.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/5/11]

Law Enforcement Agreed To The Pay Cuts To Avoid Layoffs

Police Maj. Perez: “This Is Extremely Hard For The Department […] We Were Already Short On Personnel On The Streets To Begin With.” “In addition to the layoffs, Giménez said dozens of officers would be demoted to a lower rank as part of the county’s cost saving plan. Police Maj. Nancy Perez, a spokeswoman, said these would be the first layoffs in the department’s 177-year history. It was not known which units would be affected or who would face demotion. ‘This is extremely hard for the department,’ she said. ‘We were already short personnel on the streets to begin with.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/5/11]

Police Benevolent Association Chief: “This Is An Insult Beyond Explanation.” “This is an insult beyond explanation,’ said John Rivera, the feisty chief of the Police Benevolent Association, which is being asked to take deeper cuts than other unions. ‘I’ll agree to that the day he agrees to combat pay for our men and women. Carlos Giménez knows what it’s like to ride on the back of a shiny red truck, but he has no idea what it’s like to ride a green-and-white.”” [Miami-Herald, 7/1/11]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Police Union Agrees To Pay Cuts To Avoid Layoffs.” [Miami herald, 12/5/11]

Giménez Was Opposed To The Firing Of A Police Chief Who Was Accused Of Clearing Dozens Of Police Shootings And Oversaw Officers Who Planted Guns At Crime Scenes

Giménez Was Opposed To The Firing Of A Police Chief Who Was Accused Of Clearing Dozens Of Police Shootings, And Who Oversaw Officers Who Planted Guns At Crime Scenes. “Miami’s embattled Police Chief Raul Martinez announced his resignation Friday, saying he will step down as head of the department on Jan. 1. His resignation announcement comes two days after a Miami-Herald series uncovered dozens of questionable shootings involving Miami police officers over the last decade. Martinez was chairman of the Firearms Review Board that cleared at least 18 of those questionable shootings -- despite evidence that there were problems with the shootings or they might not have happened as officers claimed. Martinez, who has served as chief for two and half years, has faced a
series of scandals during his tenure, including the indictment of 13 officers last year on charges of concocting evidence and planting guns at the scenes of shootings. […] Martinez’ main ally has been City Manager Carlos Giménez, who had vowed not to fire the chief. But politicians, including Miami Mayor Manny Diaz had expressed dissatisfaction with the Martinez.” [Miami-Herald, 11/15/02]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami Police Chief To Resign Jan. 1; Brutality Charges May Be Factor, Critics Speculate.” [Sun Sentinel, 11/16/02]

**Giménez Said That The Police Chief “Did A Good Job” And Had His “Full Support”**

**Giménez: “Raul Did A Good Job As Police Chief Under Extremely Difficult Circumstances And He Has My Full Support.”** “Martinez’s main ally has been City Manager Carlos Giménez -- the only person in the city with the authority to hire or fire a police chief. Giménez had vowed not to fire the chief. ‘I did not ask him to resign,’ Giménez said Friday. ‘I’m truly sorry to see him go. Raul did a good job as police chief under extremely difficult circumstances and he has my full support.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/16/02]

**Giménez Opposed The Creation Of A County Oversight Police Review Board**

**Giménez Opposed The Creation Of A County Oversight Police Review Board.** “Saying Miami-Dade’s police officers already receive enough scrutiny and oversight, Mayor Carlos Giménez on Friday issued a rare veto and blocked reviving the county’s dormant review board for probing misconduct. ‘The County already has numerous internal mechanisms and external entities that oversee and investigate complaints against any County employee or agency,’ Giménez wrote in his veto message, citing a range of government options from the FBI to the county’s office of Fair Employment Practices.” [Miami-Herald, 2/18/18]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Commission Wanted A Police Review Board, But The Mayor Said No.” [Miami-Herald, 2/18/18]

**2014: Giménez Vowed To Make Body Cameras Mandatory For All County Police Officers**

**2014: Giménez Vowed To Make Body Cameras Mandatory For All County Police Officers.** “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez has vowed to make ‘body cameras’ mandatory for all county police officers as protests continue nationwide over the shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. The announcement was made last Thursday at a budget town hall meeting in Little Haiti, where residents gave their opinion about the mayor’s proposed $6 billion spending budget that includes cuts in services and programs. Giménez told about 50 people that he wanted a camera on every police officer as civil rights leaders debate the role of surveillance video on police misconduct.” [Miami Times, 8/27/14]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Requiring Law Enforcement Officers To Provide Traffic Services In Construction Sites Of Public Works**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Requiring Law Enforcement Officers To Provide Traffic Services In Construction Sites Of Public Works.** In March 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE REQUIRING CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC SERVICES IN CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC WORKS; PROVIDING FOR PERMITTING, INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR WAIVERS BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM CRITERIA TO BE SET FORTH IN AN IMPLEMENTING ORDER; AMENDING SECTION 2-103.1; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 2P WHICH CONTAINS REQUIRED FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT].” The ordinance was deferred by the Health and Public Safety Committee. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 080123, 3/13/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Closing Down The County’s Boot Camp Program For Young Offenders In An Attempt To Balance The Budget

Giménez Was In Favor Of Closing Down The County’s Boot Camp Program For Young Offenders In An Attempt To Balance The Budget. “The attempted purchase of four new rescue helicopters was once a matter of fiscal urgency for Miami-Dade, back in the budget crisis of 2014. At the time, Giménez had proposed closing the county’s boot camp program for young offenders to balance the budget. He then announced a string of measures to avoid closing boot camp and proposed other cuts, including $14 million from selling the existing Bell helicopters and then spending the windfall by leasing new helicopters instead of buying them.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/19]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Surcharges For Traffic Infractions

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Surcharges For Traffic Infractions. On September 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATED TO THE COURTS; AMENDING SECTIONS 11-12, 11-13 AND 11-14 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; INCREASING THE SURCHARGE ON CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS AND VIOLATIONS TO FUND COURT FACILITIES AND DEBT SERVICE THEREON; PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION FOR INDIGENTS RELATED TO THE COLLECTION OF COURT SURCHARGES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-72, Vote 091564, 9/1/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Fire Fighters

Giménez Recommended A Failed 15% Fire Fee Increase, Which Also Eliminated 32 Law Enforcement And Firefighter Jobs

Giménez Recommended A Failed 15% Fire Fee Increase, Which Also Eliminated 32 Law Enforcement And Firefighter Jobs. “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez on Thursday recommended a 15 percent increase in the city’s fire fee and a 3 percent cut in city expenses to make up for revenue that would have been generated by the parking surcharge overturned by an appeals court last week. The plan would raise the fee from $61 to $70 per household, and eliminate as many as 24 police and eight firefighter jobs - all positions that are now unfilled. It would leave the city’s property tax rate where it is now, at just under $9 per $1,000 of taxable property. But commissioners, leery of raising a fee during an election year, sent Giménez back to the drawing board, telling him to provide a new plan next week, with even more cuts. ‘We might have to bleed a little again, but we’re not passing the burden on to the citizens of Miami,’ said Miami Commissioner Joe Sanchez.” [Miami-Herald, 7/20/01]

Giménez Was In Favor Firing Two Miami Firefighters Who Where Charged With Smuggling Cocaine To Miami
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 225

Giménez Was In Favor Firing Two Miami Firefighters Who Where Charged With Smuggling Cocaine To Miami. “Two Miami firefighters, one of them a lieutenant, were arrested Thursday morning and charged with smuggling cocaine by train from Miami to Baltimore, federal drug agents announced. [...] Dennis, of 2925 NW 103rd St., and Deleveaux, of 875 NE 80th St., were relieved of duty without pay and will be fired, said Capt. Carlos Giménez, executive assistant to Miami Fire Chief C.H. Duke. Their dismissals will take effect in about a week. ’I think this was pretty much of a shock all around,’ Giménez said. ‘There’s nothing out of the ordinary on their records. They weren’t employees you’d characterize as problem employees. Just average. Dennis was in charge of a pumper unit and Deleveaux was a line firefighter.’ Payne, the fireman arrested in April, was suspended at first but then fired. Giménez said he, Deleveaux and Dennis will be able to appeal to the Civil Service Board after the cases are resolved.” [Miami-Herald, 8/21/87]

Drugs

Giménez Supported A Non-Criminal Option For Possession Of Marijuana Which Involved A Fine For Possession

Giménez Supported A Non-Criminal Option For Possession Of Marijuana Which Involved A Fine For Possession. “The ordinance gives police throughout Miami-Dade the non-criminal option for possession, which would bring the offender a civil citation and the required fine. The ordinance takes effect in 10 days, and applies to all Miami-Dade cities as well. Mayor Carlos Giménez endorsed the legislation Tuesday, calling it ‘good, common sense.’ The police department that answers to Giménez helped draft Heyman’s proposed ordinance.”” [Miami-Herald, 6/30/15]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Classifying Structures Identified As Being Used For The Production Of Illegal Narcotics As An Unsafe Structure

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Classifying Structures Identified As Being Used For The Production Of Illegal Narcotics As An Unsafe Structure. In June 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE BUILDING CODE AND UNSAFE STRUCTURES; CREATING A SECTION OF THE CODE OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA THAT ESTABLISHES GUIDELINES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF STRUCTURES IDENTIFIED AS BEING USED FOR THE PRODUCTION OR MANUFACTURING OF ILLEGAL NARCOTICS OR DRUGS AS AN UNSAFE STRUCTURE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 091861, 091075].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-57, Vote 091075, 4/21/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Mass Shootings

Giménez Supported The Creation Of Police Reaction Team Dedicated Only To Responding To Mass Shootings

Giménez Supported The Creation Of Police Reaction Teams Dedicated Only To Responding To Mass Shootings. “Mayor Carlos Giménez’s proposed 2019 budget went further on the security front, creating a new set of roving police squads aimed at responding quickly to mass shootings. Budgeted at about $15 million, the ‘priority response’ teams would not respond to regular police calls but instead would patrol the county waiting to rush to a shooting emergency. With 81 officer positions, the squads would work out of all the county stations outside of city limits (in the unincorporated area of Miami-Dade). The expense represents about 2 percent of the police department’s $700 million budget.” [Miami-Herald, 9/5/18]
**Significant Findings**

- **Hurricane Dorian**
  - Giménez used a conversation with the President during Hurricane Dorian to speak about the possibilities of hosting the G-7 Summit at Trump’s Doral resort.

- **Hurricane Irma**
  - Giménez was criticized for failing to order food, water, and ice deliveries for residents affected by Hurricane Irma.
  - During Hurricane Irma, many Miami-Dade shelters either failed to open or had long lines; Giménez was responsible for opening shelters.
  - Giménez said that bottled water wasn’t necessarily required to get through a storm, and praised the county’s water system.

- **Hurricane Wilma**
  - Giménez told county residents standing in line for water in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma to “go home” and drink tap water.

- **Hurricane Andrew**
  - Giménez was Miami’s Emergency Manager during Hurricane Andrew.

**Hurricane Disaster Response**

**Hurricane Dorian**

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Giménez Used A Conversation With The President During Hurricane Dorian To Speak About The Possibilities Of Hosting The G-7 Summit At Trump’s Doral Resort

Aug. 30, 2019: Giménez Said That He Spoke With Trump About Hosting The G-7 Summit At Trump’s Doral Resort. “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. [...] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Said He Spoke To Trump Himself During A Call The President Made To The Mayor When Hurricane Dorian Threatened Miami.” “Business hasn’t been stellar at the Trump Doral since its
mogul owner entered politics, so Thursday’s announcement that President Donald Trump was staging a global economic summit at his suburban resort means a historic moment for Miami and a surge of off-season business for the lagging property. […] A Giménez spokeswoman said the White House contacted the county mayor about 45 minutes before the announcement. Thursday night, Giménez said he spoke to Trump himself during a call the president made to the mayor when Hurricane Dorian threatened Miami on Aug. 30. ‘He said he was thinking about holding it in Miami-Dade, and I said we would be honored and that we would assist in any way possible,’ said Giménez, who is considering a run for Congress as a Republican. ‘I also told him we had experience with hosting large events’” [Miami-Herald, 10/17/19]

### Hurricane Irma

**Giménez Was Criticized For Failing To Order Food, Water, And Ice Deliveries For Residents Affected By Hurricane Irma.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez ordered the county go to Level 1 status - the highest level - to prepare for Category 5 Hurricane Irma. But one county official said resources that should have been staged with that declaration were never ordered, which caused the delay in getting food and ice into hot and steamy neighborhoods. Audrey Edmonson, vice-chairwoman of the Miami-Dade County Commission, said the county did not have on hand ice, water and food to assist families after Irma. Giménez did not request an order and was not ready, she said. ‘I’m not going to take up for anyone. He did not order anything, which I thought was unacceptable,’ Edmonson said. ‘The mayor said he has a plan and he’s acting by his plan. I’m very upset about this.’ Edmonson said other commissioners were also unhappy about Giménez’s decisions. She said they urged him to get ready for debris pickup and to get resources into neighborhoods as soon as possible.” [Miami Times, 9/20/17]

HEADLINE: “Giménez Behind Delay For Food And Water.” [Miami Times, 9/20/17]

### During Hurricane Irma, Many Miami-Dade Shelters Either Failed To Open Or Had Long Lines; Giménez Was Responsible For Opening Shelters

**2017: Giménez Ordered Residents To Flee To Hurricane Shelters That Weren’t Operational During Hurricane Irma.** “Miami-Dade County launched the largest evacuation in its history this week, and quickly ran into logistical problems as a flood of evacuees from Hurricane Irma rapidly filled shelters on Friday -- leaving many people standing outside unopened buildings and others told to go elsewhere. Mayor Carlos Giménez, who began evacuation orders on Thursday, acknowledged some glitches in the process of opening safe spaces for a mass exodus from the coast. ‘Opening a shelter is not as easy as people think,’ Giménez said during a noon Friday conference at the county’s Emergency Operations Center in Doral. At some locations, no one from the county government or the Red Cross was on site to register evacuees at the declared opening time, said Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho. Instead, school principals and other schools personnel, who arrived at 8 a.m. Friday, have had to contend with long lines of evacuees, Carvalho said.” [Miami-Herald, 9/8/17]

**Giménez Was Responsible For Opening Hurricane Shelters As Mayor.** “Giménez said the Red Cross had run out of volunteers and that the National Guard was arriving in Miami too late to staff the facilities. He sent county police to staff them instead. As mayor, Giménez is responsible for opening shelters, and most of them are located in schools.” [Miami-Herald, 9/11/17]

Giménez: “Opening A Shelter Is Not As Easy As People Think.” “Mayor Carlos Giménez, who began evacuation orders on Thursday, acknowledged some glitches in the process of opening safe spaces for a mass exodus from the coast. ‘Opening a shelter is not as easy as people think,’ Giménez said during a noon Friday conference at the county’s Emergency Operations Center in Doral.” [Miami-Herald, 9/8/17]

Giménez Said That Bottled Water Wasn’t Necessarily Required To Get Through A Storm, And Praised The County’s Water System

Giménez Said That Bottled Water Wasn’t Necessarily Required To Get Through A Storm, And Praised The County’s Water System. “The sight of empty grocery-store shelves where water bottles used to be shouldn’t worry residents stocking up for Hurricane Irma, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said Wednesday. The reason: Water running from the tap is just as good to fill jugs at home. ‘There is nothing wrong with Miami-Dade County water,’ Giménez said. Miami-Dade has long been proud of its tap water, putting out press releases on its quality. Giménez used a Wednesday briefing at the county’s emergency operations center in Doral to remind people that bottled water isn’t necessarily required to get through a storm. One gallon of water per person for three days works even if the water is collected ahead of the hurricane from the tap. ‘Miami-Dade County water is safe to drink,’ he said. ‘Open the tap. Use containers in your home to store tap water.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/6/17]

Giménez: “Miami-Dade Water Is Safe To Drink […] Open The Tap.” “The sight of empty grocery-store shelves where water bottles used to be shouldn’t worry residents stocking up for Hurricane Irma, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said Wednesday. The reason: Water running from the tap is just as good to fill jugs at home. ‘There is nothing wrong with Miami-Dade County water,’ Giménez said. Miami-Dade has long been proud of its tap water, putting out press releases on its quality. Giménez used a Wednesday briefing at the county’s emergency operations center in Doral to remind people that bottled water isn’t necessarily required to get through a storm. One gallon of water per person for three days works even if the water is collected ahead of the hurricane from the tap. ‘Miami-Dade County water is safe to drink,’ he said. ‘Open the tap. Use containers in your home to store tap water.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/6/17]


Hurricane Wilma

Giménez Told County Residents Standing In Line For Water In The Aftermath Of Hurricane Wilma To “Go Home” And Drink The Tap Water

2005: Giménez Told County Residents Standing In Line For Water After Hurricane Wilma To “Go Home” And Drink The Tap Water. “In some places, the cool silence left behind Hurricane Wilma has filled with anxiety and rumor. While thousands stood in lines around the region seeking gasoline, water and ice -- with frustrations spilling over into the occasional scuffle and shout -- Miami-Dade officials tried to tamp down rumors that the county was hoarding supplies and that Miami-Dade’s drinking water was contaminated. The county’s only boil-water notice, in Miami Beach, was lifted Wednesday. ‘If you live in Dade County and you’re standing in line for water, go home,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez. ‘Open up the tap and drink all you want.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/27/05]

Giménez: “If You Live In Dade County And You’re Standing In Line For Water, Go Home […] Open Up The Tap And Drink All You Want.” “In some places, the cool silence left behind Hurricane Wilma has filled with anxiety and rumor. While thousands stood in lines around the region seeking gasoline, water and ice -- with frustrations spilling over into the occasional scuffle and shout -- Miami-Dade officials tried to tamp down rumors that the county was hoarding supplies and that Miami-Dade’s drinking water was contaminated. The county’s only boil-water notice, in Miami Beach, was lifted Wednesday. ‘If you live in Dade County and you’re standing in line for water, go home,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez. ‘Open up the tap and drink all you want.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/27/05]
Hurricane Andrew

Giménez Was Miami’s Emergency Manager During Hurricane Andrew. “Giménez was Miami’s emergency manager when Andrew hit. He recalled a helicopter ride in the days after that storm, too, where he saw the same kind of total destruction in suburban neighborhoods as he witnessed from the chopper over Great Abaco. ’In Andrew, you saw a lot of the same damage,’ he said. ‘But it was a much denser population.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/7/19]
Disaster Relief Issues – COVID-19

NOTE: Miami-Dade County’s response to COVID-19 was ongoing as of the writing of this book. Please reach out to the DCCC Research department for an up-to-date analysis of Giménez and Miami-Dade’s response to the crisis.

**Significant Findings**

✓ As of April 2020, Miami-Dade was the hardest hit county in Florida, and experts predicted it could become a coronavirus hotspot.

✓ Giménez dangerously downplayed the danger of COVID-19, and praised the leadership of President Trump and Governor DeSantis.

✓ Giménez warned against overreacting to the coronavirus and “unnecessary panic.” Giménez repeatedly insisted that “we should live our lives normally” and that “the risk is low.”

✓ Each of Giménez’s actions to address the coronavirus crisis came after other jurisdictions had already taken the same action.

✓ Giménez dragged his feet on implementing one in Miami-Dade, arguing it would be “confusing” and “panic-inducing,” and repeatedly defended Florida’s dangerous lack of a statewide stay-at-home order.

✓ Giménez called together stakeholders to develop a comprehensive coronavirus plan a month after New York and other major cities had done the same and issued a stay-at-home order a week after many states had done so.

✓ While other cities closed down restaurants and bars, Giménez simply ordered them to close by 11 PM and operate below full capacity, before closing them entirely two days later.

✓ Local Republican leaders criticized Giménez’s lack of leadership on coronavirus and “contradictory, know-it-all decrees that keep changing by the day.”

✓ A Kinsa health study found that coronavirus cases were increasing faster in Miami-Dade than in counties that had implemented social distancing measures sooner.

✓ Giménez failed to take crucial actions to enforce social distancing and stem the deadly spread of the coronavirus.

✓ Giménez said that curtailing public events was not necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus, even saying that it was not necessary to cancel the Ultra Music Festival because mostly young people attended.

✓ The day after Giménez’s announced he would not cancel “major events,” Miami Beach’s six-day winter party kicked off – and two attendees died from COVID-19.

✓ Giménez supported allowing cruises to dock in Miami; thousands of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship in Miami without medical screening.

✓ Giménez declined to cancel indoor theater events, including a showing of Hamilton where an attendee later tested positive for COVID-19.
As throngs of spring breakers descended on Florida, Giménez kept Miami-Dade’s beaches open and defended Florida’s decision to keep beaches open statewide.

Giménez allowed construction sites to continue work despite warnings that many construction workers had fallen ill – and has taken hundreds of thousands from construction interests.

When Miami’s Republican mayor asked Trump to stop flights to Miami from international and domestic COVID hotspots, Giménez told Trump to disregard the plea.

Giménez did not support paid sick leave for essential employees who were at risk for the virus.

Miami-Dade County did not require its contractors, including at MIA and the Metrorail, to give employees paid sick leave – meaning sick workers might come to work and spread the virus.

Before the pandemic, Giménez’s administration argued requiring contractors give paid sick leave would be expensive and would scare off potential bidders.

Giménez suggested Miami’s public hospital system could treat the uninsured, but patients faced thousands of dollars in bills for COVID testing. The hospital system claimed it was only prepared to handle the virus because of a 2013 funding referendum Giménez had refused to endorse.

Miami-Dade County Had A Uniquely Bad Coronavirus Epidemic And In April 2020, Experts Warned It Could Be The Next Coronavirus Hot Spot

Miami-Dade Was The “Hardest-Hit” County In Florida, Comprising 36% Of Florida’s Cases Even Though It Had Just 13% Of Florida’s Population

Miami-Dade Was Florida’s “Hardest-Hit” County In The Coronavirus Crisis. “Miami-Dade continued to be Florida's hardest-hit county, with 5,461 cases, about 36 percent of the state’s total. Broward County was next with 2,365, followed by Palm Beach with 1,224. Monroe County had 52 cases.” [NBC Miami, 4/8/20]

Miami-Dade County Had 36% Of Florida’s Total Coronavirus Cases With 5,461 Cases. “Miami-Dade continued to be Florida’s hardest-hit county, with 5,461 cases, about 36 percent of the state's total. Broward County was next with 2,365, followed by Palm Beach with 1,224. Monroe County had 52 cases.” [NBC Miami, 4/8/20]

Miami-Dade County Had 13% Of Florida’s Total Population. According to Census Bureau data, Miami-Dade County had 2,716,940 residents – 13.01% of Florida’s 20,884,768 residents. [United States Census Bureau, 7/1/19]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Coronavirus Numbers Now Surpass Broward As Cases Hit Triple Digits” [Miami Herald, 3/19/20]

Among The Ten Most Populous Counties In The Country, Excluding New York’s Boroughs, Miami-Dade Had The Second-Highest Rate Of Coronavirus Infections

| Confirmed Coronavirus Cases Per 1,000 Residents, 10 Most Populous Counties |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|------------------|
| County                      | Population | Cases   | Cases per 1,000 Residents |
| Cook County, Illinois       | 5,150,233  | 10,520  | 2.04             |
| Miami-Dade County, Florida  | 2,716,940  | 5,460   | 2.01             |
Experts Predicted That Southeast Florida Could Become A Coronavirus Hotspot

Former Food And Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb Predicted That Florida Could Become A Coronavirus Hotspot. “Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis in particular has received criticism for his sluggish promotion of social distancing, such as not closing down beaches despite crowds gathering, delays in closing down businesses and resisting issuing stay-at-home order. He ultimately reversed his position on April 1, issuing a stay-at-home order after discussion with the president. Now, experts are saying that these scattered state-by-state policies may result in new coronavirus hot spots, warning the uptick in infections may soon overrun local health care systems. […] Dr. Scott Gottlieb, former commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, predicts that Florida is also at risk, tweeting, ‘Florida continues to show an acceleration in new #COVID19 cases, with Miami as one of a number of epicenters of spread.’” [ABCNews.com, 4/2/20]


Temple University Epidemiologist Krys Johnson Predicted Miami’s Coronavirus Outbreak Could Become Similar To New York’s, Noting Miami Drew International Visitors And Florida Had Not Implemented Social Distancing Measures. “As the number of coronavirus cases in New York City continues to skyrocket, the city's health care system is overwhelmed and seems on the verge of collapse. Other U.S. cities may soon follow, especially if residents don't stay committed to firm mitigation measures. […] ‘Other metropolitan areas in the U.S. could also experience similar, overwhelming demands on their health care systems, said Krys Johnson, an epidemiologist at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Cities like New Orleans, Miami and Los Angeles are popular vacation and event destinations, and as such, experience large numbers of visitors from around the world, she said. ‘All areas with this type of [global] appeal have likely had coronavirus cases for longer than we have been aware and have more cases than we know,’ Johnson told Live Science in an email. Areas that were slow to issue stay-at-home orders or to disperse personal protective equipment and health care resources, may end up suffering the worst. ‘I think states like Florida, Georgia and Mississippi, unfortunately are very likely to have high cases and death rates per capita,’ Johnson said. The high state-wide numbers are driven by the major cities in the state, where the majority of the population lives.” [LiveScience, 4/4/20]

Georgetown University Professor Lawrence Gostin Warned That Hialeah Could Have A Significant Outbreak: “This City Is A Very High Risk Area.” “Lawrence Gostin, a Georgetown University public health law professor who has worked with the CDC and other federal agencies, said Hialeah already appeared to be experiencing the beginnings of a significant outbreak. ‘Self-evidently, this city is a very high risk area because this large segment of the population is in congregated settings that have high rates of transmission,’ Gostin told The Daily Beast. ‘What is worse is that you have a poor elderly community with a lot of preexisting conditions. So when they become infected, they will more than likely require hospitalization and intensive care.’” [Daily Beast, 4/8/20]
Giménez Dangerously Downplayed The Danger Of COVID-19, And Praised The Leadership Of President Trump And Governor DeSantis

In Late February, Giménez Cautioned Against Over Reaction To Coronavirus, And Said That It Was Not An Actual Threat To Miami-Dade

Feb 27, 2020: Giménez Cautioned Against Over Reaction To Coronavirus Because It Was Not An Actual Threat To Miami-Dade. “I liken this to a hurricane threat,” he said at a press conference outside his 29th Floor offices in County Hall. The remarks followed the mayor’s first meeting on coronavirus with a string of county agencies and other government entities, including the school system, PortMiami and Miami International Airport. Giménez said he met last week with state health officials on the virus. Giménez cautioned against overreaction to a virus that remains a potential threat to Miami-Dade, rather than an actual one. He urged residents to follow basic flu-season protocols, including frequent hand washing, the use of hand sanitizers and not reporting to work when ill.” [Miami-Herald, 2/27/20]

Giménez: “I Liken This To A Hurricane Threat.” “I liken this to a hurricane threat,” he said at a press conference outside his 29th Floor offices in County Hall. The remarks followed the mayor’s first meeting on coronavirus with a string of county agencies and other government entities, including the school system, PortMiami and Miami International Airport. Giménez said he met last week with state health officials on the virus. [Miami-Herald, 2/27/20]

March 12, 2020: Giménez Warned Against “Overreact[ing]” To The Coronavirus, Noting That There Was Only One Case In Miami-Dade County And That Most Cases Were Mild. “We also want our decisions to be guided by science and not to overreact. As you know, the Florida Department of Health has reported one positive case in a 56-year-old man in Miami-Dade and a Miami-Dade resident. That is a travel-related case, and the gentleman is in self-isolation at home. Now, as difficult as things may seem, I want to remind everyone that 80% of those who test positive to the virus have mild cases and may not even know they’ve had the virus. Another 15% are in serious condition, and about 3% become critical. Our collective focus at the local, state, and national level has been protecting the most vulnerable to serious illness from COVID-19. The CDC and the World Health Organization have found that people 60 years and older and seniors with serious medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer are most at risk. Those with compromised immune systems are also at risk.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez Warned About “Unnecessary Panic” Over Coronavirus. “Avoid misconceptions and prevent unnecessary panic in your community. The risk of getting #COVID19 in the U.S. is still currently low; keep these factors in mind when protecting yourself and others.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/6/20]
In Early March, Giménez Spent Days Insisting That “We Should Live Our Lives Normally” And That “The Risk Is Low”

Giménez On Coronavirus: “The Risk Is Low”

Giménez On Coronavirus On March 6, 2020: “The Risk Is Low.” “Now he’s trying to minimize his losses after the three-day electronic dance music festival was canceled when city officials grew concerned over the potential spread of the novel coronavirus that causes the disease known as COVID-19. [...] After a meeting with other municipal leaders Thursday, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez cited state guidance in repeating his position that the county saw no need to cancel major events. That includes the yearly festival on the county's fairgrounds in Kendall, the Youth Fair, which starts March 12. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low,’ Giménez said after the County Hall meeting with mayors and city managers across Miami-Dade, where Noriega represented Miami.” [Miami Herald, 3/6/20]

Giménez: “The Threat Of The Coronavirus Is Still Low.” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally. Okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the State of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregates? No. We’re not doing that.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez Claimed He Did Not Want To Cancel Ultra, Because The Coronavirus “Risk Is Low.” The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks quote-tweeted his earlier tweet that Giménez argued events like Ultra were safe from coronavirus because they mostly attracted young people and tweeted, “Spoke to @MayorGiménez on this: Don’t think he would say it that way again. Said at state meeting yesterday, he asked Fl surgeon general about Miami
Open tennis, Ultra, spring break. Advice was don’t cancel. *Not* because of age of participants but be overall ‘risk is low’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

Giménez: “The Risk Of Getting #COVID19 In The U.S. Is Still Currently Low.” “Avoid misconceptions and prevent unnecessary panic in your community. The risk of getting #COVID19 in the U.S. is still currently low; keep these factors in mind when protecting yourself and others.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/6/20]

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Just Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally”

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally.” Giménez said, “I asked the Attorney General and the Governor if there was any need to cancel any of the events that are coming up in Miami and Miami-Dade County – Ultra, the tennis tournament, the Youth Fair. And their advice was to just go ahead and live your life normally, and so not to cancel these events.” [CBS Miami, CBS 4 News at 5 PM, 3/3/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez On Coronavirus: “Well, Listen, We Just Need To Live Our Lives Normally, Okay?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally, okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the State of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregates? No. We’re not doing that.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez On Coronavirus On March 6, 2020: “We Should Live Our Lives Normally.” “Now he’s trying to minimize his losses after the three-day electronic dance music festival was canceled when city officials grew concerned over the potential spread of the novel coronavirus that causes the disease known as COVID-19. […] After a meeting with other municipal leaders Thursday, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez cited state guidance in repeating his position that the county saw no need to cancel major events. That includes the yearly
festival on the county's fairgrounds in Kendall, the Youth Fair, which starts March 12. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low,’ Giménez said after the County Hall meeting with mayors and city managers across Miami-Dade, where Noriega represented Miami.” [Miami Herald, 3/6/20]

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Giménez On Coronavirus: “I Want To Remind Everyone That 80% Of Those Who Test Positive To The Virus Have Mild Cases And May Not Even Know They’ve Had The Virus.” “We also want our decisions to be guided by science and not to overreact. As you know, the Florida Department of Health has reported one positive case in a 56-year-old man in Miami-Dade and a Miami-Dade resident. That is a travel-related case, and the gentleman is in self-isolation at home. Now, as difficult as things may seem, I want to remind everyone that 80% of those who test positive to the virus have mild cases and may not even know they’ve had the virus. Another 15% are in serious condition, and about 3% become critical. Our collective focus at the local, state, and national level has been protecting the most vulnerable to serious illness from COVID-19. The CDC and the World Health Organization have found that people 60 years and older and seniors with serious medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer are most at risk. Those with compromised immune systems are also at risk.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

| Giménez Praised Trump For His “Strong Leadership During The COVID-19 Pandemic” Even Though Trump Repeatedly Downplayed The Risk Of The Crisis |
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Giménez To Trump: “Thank You For Your Strong Leadership During The COVID-19 Pandemic.” “Thank you for your strong leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic that is affecting our nation.” [Mayor Carlos Giménez Letter to President Donald Trump, 3/20/20]


| Giménez Repeatedly Praised DeSantis’s Handling Of The Coronavirus Crisis |
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In A Press Conference, Giménez Repeatedly Thanked Governor Ron DeSantis For His “Leadership” On Coronavirus. Giménez said, “I have to say that, Governor, thank you for your leadership on this very important issue. I’m really appreciative of everything you’ve done for the people of the State of Florida and also for us here in Miami-Dade County. These are difficult times, and I can’t say enough about the Governor’s leadership and his administration’s close collaboration with Miami-Dade County to protect our [inaudible] from COVID-19. Thank you again, Governor DeSantis. […] Again, I can’t say enough about the leadership of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez On Coronavirus: “I Can’t Say Enough About The Governor’s Leadership.” Giménez said, “I have to say that, Governor, thank you for your leadership on this very important issue. I’m really appreciative of everything you’ve done for the people of the State of Florida and also for us here in Miami-Dade County. These are difficult times, and I can’t say enough about the Governor’s leadership and his administration’s close collaboration with Miami-Dade County to protect our [inaudible] from COVID-19. Thank you again, Governor DeSantis. […] Again, I can’t say enough about the leadership of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 3/12/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez: “Thank You @GovRonDeSantis For Keeping The Public Informed On Efforts To Prevent The Spread Of #Coronavirus.” Giménez tweeted, “Thank you @GovRonDeSantis for keeping the public informed on efforts to prevent the spread of #Coronavirus. Although Florida has no confirmed cases, #transparency on testing and monitoring is key to keeping the public safe.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 2/28/20]
Carlos Giménez Only Addressed Coronavirus Long After Other Mayors Had Already Taken Action – Likely Worsening The Spread

Giménez Dragged His Feet On Implementing One In Miami-Dade And Repeatedly Defended Florida’s Dangerous Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order

Giménez Resisted Implementing A County-Wide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing It Would Be “Confusing” And “Panic-Inducing” …

March 23, 2020: Giménez Issued A Memo Rejecting A County-Wide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing It Would Be “Confusing” And “Panic-Inducing.” “Absent guidance from Gov. Ron DeSantis, multiple local governments in Miami-Dade on Monday ordered their residents to stay home as much as possible, allowing them only to leave their houses to exercise, get food and medicine, go to work if they have essential jobs and do other activities deemed necessary. […] The joint effort on the municipal level will increase pressure on Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez to take similar action countywide. He released a memo Monday throwing cold water on that idea, and arguing that the city decrees mostly repackage closure orders he’s already issued for parks, entertainment options and non-essential businesses. ‘While ‘shelter in place’ is the buzz phrase of the day, telling residents to actually do so could be confusing, especially for our seniors,’ Giménez wrote in a response to County Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, who also wants a countywide order to remain at home. ‘My messaging is much clearer and less panic-inducing.’” [Miami Herald, 3/23/20]

…Before Reversing Three Days Later

March 26, 2020: Giménez Issued A Stay-At-Home Order. “Broward County issued an emergency shelter-in-place order on Thursday in the face of pressure from city officials, urging all residents countywide to stay indoors except to conduct ‘essential’ business. Hours later, Miami-Dade County followed suit with an order with similar language and the same effect: urging people to remain at home as much as possible without new rules governing when they could go outside.” [Miami Herald, 3/26/20]

…A Week After Other States Had Already Done So

March 20, 2020: Illinois Governor JB Pritzker Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “Following the advice of leading public health experts around the globe, Governor JB Pritzker announced today has signed a statewide stay at home order, aiming to keep new cases of COVID-19 from rapidly increasing and ensure the state's health care system remains fully operational to treat patients in need of urgent care. The order takes effect 5 p.m. Saturday, March 21, 2020. In addition to the stay at home provisions, it also orders all local government units across the state to halt all evictions and bans gatherings of more than 10 people.” [Office of Governor JB Pritzker, Press Release, 3/20/20]

March 22, 2020: Ohio Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “The streets of Ohio’s cities and towns will be much quieter Tuesday morning if the state’s businesses and residents abide by new orders issued Sunday by Gov. Mike DeWine in an effort to slow the rush of new coronavirus cases across the state. The governor and Ohio Director of Health Dr. Amy Acton issued a ‘stay-at-home’ health order that will go into effect at 11:59 p.m. Monday. The order will stay in place until at least April 6 and will be reassessed at that time and as needed.” [Columbus Dispatch, 3/22/20]

Giménez Repeatedly Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order Down To The Day Gov. DeSantis Finally Announced His Order

March 27, 2020: Giménez Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing That Cases Were Concentrated In Miami-Dade County. CNN’S JIM SCIUTTO: “First question, Miami-Dade has issued these restrictions, stay-at-home order, et cetera. The state has not. Governor DeSantis has not gone there. Do local stay-at-home orders work or do you need broader state wide restrictions?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, there are differences throughout the state. I mean, we are the hotspot down here in southeast Florida. It's us, Broward and Palm Beach that have, you know, the bulk of the cases. And so there are some counties that don't have any cases in Florida. And so the governor is very supportive of the measures that we're taking down here. We actually call measure safer at home. We allow our folks to do the things, the necessities that they need to do. And then we urge them to stay at home if they're not. The city of Miami has imposed a curfew on the city. The city is about 34 square miles of 2,000 square mile area, which is Miami-Dade County. And -- but overall Miami-Dade has not put a curfew because our police chief said that it's not necessary, the streets are quiet. There's really no place to go because we shut down all nonessential businesses. There is no gathering places that people can go to. And then we've also put laws that said no more than 10 people can gather in any one place and also you have to remain at least six feet apart. And we're enforcing those laws. We're going into --” SCIUTTO: “OK.” GIMÉNEZ: “-- different stores et cetera, and saying, hey, you got to keep part, if not, we're going to shut you down. And so what's going on down then.” [CNN, CNN Newsroom, 3/27/20] (VIDEO)

April 1, 2020: Giménez Defended Florida’s Lack Of A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order, Arguing That Some Florida Counties Were Unaffected By Coronavirus. CNN’S JIM SCIUTTO: “Joining us now is Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. This is an area that's quickly become an epicenter of the pandemic in the State of Florida. Just a short time ago, the Surgeon General of the United States, he cited the positive effect of states that have issued broad stay-at-home orders. He mentioned Washington State. He mentioned California. He also talked about Italy, a country that has done this, having success flattening the curve. ‘Aggressive mitigation,’ he called it. Why doesn't the State of Florida have a statewide measure like this, recommendation like this?” GIMÉNEZ: “The State of Florida is a pretty big state, and there are a lot of counties that don't have any COVID-19 cases.” […] SCIUTTO: “There are, of course, no walls between the counties of Florida. Aren’t you concerned that if you don’t have statewide guidance, then you can’t truly control it for the residents of your – of your county there? I wonder what your conversations are like with the Governor?” GIMÉNEZ: “My conversations with the Governor are very good. I mean, I understand that the State of Florida is very diverse, and it’s very different, and then there are some counties that are wide open, where they have no cases whatsoever and so measures there may not be the
same measures that we take down here in South Florida. I support his measures that folks coming from, say New York, need to self-quarantine or self-isolate when they come down to Florida, because I know that’s an area which is a really hot spot. So, the Governor and I speak everyday, and he supports the things that we’re doing here. He knows that the things that we’re doing here are important. We closed our beaches, we closed our parks. We closed all non-essential businesses. And we did that some time ago. But again, this is a place in Florida, which really has the larger number of cases. All of Southeast Florida is really where the bulk of the problem is.” [CNN, CNN Newsroom, 4/1/20] (VIDEO)

April 1, 2020: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis Issued A Statewide Stay-At-Home Order. “Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Wednesday issued a statewide state-at-home order amid growing national scrutiny of his handling of the coronavirus pandemic.” [Politico, 4/1/20]

HEADLINE: “DeSantis Issues Statewide Order To Stay At Home” [Politico, 4/1/20]

Asking How To Stop The Spread Of Coronavirus With Only Piecemeal Stay-At-Home Orders In Parts Of Florida, Giménez Replied That The Cities Of Miami And Miami Beach Had Curfews

Asking How To Stop The Spread Of Coronavirus With Only Stay-At-Home Orders In Parts Of Florida, Giménez Responded That The Cities Of Miami And Miami Beach Had Curfews. CNN’S JIM SCIUTTO: OK. I'm just curious how that distinction plays out in reality. Of course there is no wall around Miami-Dade County or the city of Miami. How do you keep people from moving outside of the city to other areas of the country that haven't been impacted because one thing that this virus has proven all over the world is that it does not know borders, whether they're borders of countries, towns, cities, states.” GIMÉNEZ: “You're talking about coming from the city of Miami, Miami-Dade County and Dade County into the city of Miami, after 10:00, there's a curfew in the city of Miami at 10:00. Miami Beach has a curfew, too. And a couple of other cities --”SCIUTTO: “But during the day. People are driving back and forth I assume during the day. They're going back and forth. They're visiting people, visiting family. I mean, I'm just curious how you control the spread if folks are moving around.” GIMÉNEZ: “The folks -- every city, they're pretty uniform here. There is no lockdown here. There is no city that says stay at home. They may call it an order, but it's not. It really says it's an urging because people have to do the things they have to do. They have to get their groceries, they have to go get pharmacy. They got to go to a doctor, et cetera. So those essential services are open and people are free to go and partake of those essential services. I mean, government can't feed everybody here, so they have to -- people have to take care of themselves. When they do go out, everybody has to stay six feet apart and then there are measures that we've taken to make sure that those things are happening. And then at night, certain cities have curfews. But in reality, it's only interconnected. It's going to be very difficult for one city to really enforce a curfew when in fact, you know, all the cities here is interconnected. And people really don't know what the boundaries are here. And so it's all one big community and, you know, greater Miami, which is about, again, 2,000 square miles, 200 of which happen to be inhabited and the city is about 34 square miles of that.” [CNN, CNN Newsroom, 3/27/20] (VIDEO)

Giminez’s Primary Opponent Called On DeSantis To Shut Down Non-Essential Business Statewide

Giménez’s Primary Opponent Irina Vilarino Called On Governor Ron DeSantis To Shut Down Non-Essential Business Statewide Amid Coronavirus Concerns. “@GovRonDeSantis Please shut down all non essential businesses. Everything. We can recover our economy; we can’t recover those we lose. #COVID19” [Twitter, @irinavilarino, 4/1/20]

Giménez Convened Community Agencies To Prepare A Contingency Plan For A Coronavirus Outbreak A Month After Cities Like New York, Boston, And San Francisco Did The Same

February 27, 2020: Giménez Called A Meeting Of Community Agencies To Prepare A Contingency Plan For A Coronavirus Outbreak …
February 27, 2020: Giménez Called A Meeting With Community Agencies To Prepare A Contingency Plan For A Coronavirus Outbreak. “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez has called a meeting with key community agencies to prepare a contingency plan for the potential spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Among the stakeholders that have been invited to participate in the meeting on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2020, are representatives of the Florida Department of Health, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Jackson Health System, the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, the Miami-Dade Aviation Department and PortMiami.” [Miami-Dade County, Press Release via US Fed News, 2/25/20]

... More Than A Month After New York City Released Its Coronavirus Preparedness Plan ...

January 24, 2020: New York City Laid Out Its Coronavirus Preparedness Plan. “The City today laid out its preparedness plans for the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak. The virus, initially identified in China, has now spread to 16 countries with 25 deaths, all in China. There are now two confirmed cases in the United States. […] All City hospitals and health providers are now trained to identify symptoms and evaluate patients who may present symptoms for 2019-nCoV, which include cough, shortness of breath, and fever. Additionally, the City has established transport protocols for individuals who may present symptoms of 2019-nCoV and in need of a medical evaluation; infection prevention and control measures at all New York City hospitals; instructions on specimen collection and other preparations.” [New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Press Release via States News Service, 1/24/20]

... And Roughly A Month After Other Major Cities Had Done The Same

January 27, 2020: Boston Mayor Marty Walsh Laid Out Boston’s Coronavirus Preparedness Plan. “With health officials on high alert for a new virus that’s killed dozens of people in China and has begun appearing in the United States, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh and other officials held a news conference to discuss the city's preparedness. Walsh noted that no cases of the new coronavirus have been confirmed in Boston, but said the city is taking all available precautions to address it in case it arrives — five cases have been confirmed in the United States so far. […] He said that the Boston Public Health Commission set up an internal incident command system to quickly address any possible cases that arise and to advise local health care groups ahead of time on the best ways to prepare.” [NECN.com, 1/27/20]

January 27, 2020: San Francisco Activated An Emergency Operations Center To Create A Centralized Response To The Coronavirus. “San Francisco Mayor London Breed said Monday that the city is activating its emergency operations center to centralize a response to any local cases of the deadly outbreak of coronavirus. […] The mayor and city health officials reiterated there have been no confirmed cases in San Francisco, but Dr. Tomás Aragón of the public health department said that the city is ‘actively preparing for confirmed cases.’ In general, that entails keeping in close contact with nearby hospitals and health providers to ensure medical facilities are at the ready to properly quarantine and care for an infected person.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 1/27/20]

January 27, 2020: Pittsburgh Began Preparing Contingency Plans To Respond To Coronavirus. “Pittsburgh's sister city relationship with the Chinese city of Wuhan spans nearly four decades and six mayors. Now Mayor Bill Peduto is asking local health systems to help Pittsburgh's sister city deal with the impact of the coronavirus. […] The mayor indicated Pittsburgh is also looking at its own contingency plans and readiness for dealing with the impact of the coronavirus. ‘Two issues are, number one, what are we doing in case of an outbreak and what preparations are we making with our hospitals in the city. And second, what are we doing if there may not be an outbreak, but a scare where people that are just feeling the symptoms of a cold would start coming into the city and to the hospitals. How are we preparing for either of those scenarios?’ Peduto said.” [WTAE.com, 1/27/20]

After Convening Agencies To Create A Response Plan, Giménez Still Had No Plan For Coronavirus Data Reporting
February 27, 2020: At A Press Conference, Giménez Claimed That He Had Not Discussed The Process Of Reporting Coronavirus Cases At His Preparedness Meeting With Local Agencies. REPORTER: “The World Health Organization this morning, I watched their entire news conference. And the a critical piece of advice for communities just like ours that don’t have any cases yet, these are best practices from what they’ve learned from communities that have, and their number one piece of advice was the reporting process. What is going to be the reporting process from the second you get a confirmed case to get to folks like us to get out to the community? Because they found that swiftness between the case and knowledge helps everyone in the community prevent the case from being a cluster from being an outbreak. So what’s the reporting process for this that you’ve determined? And that kind of speaks—” GIMÉNEZ: “Frankly, we didn’t talk about the reporting process. We actually talked about how we’re going to respond to it, alright? And, again, I feel that the more information that gets to the public the better, the true information that gets to the public the better. Because then we don’t have rumors. And rumors are a lot worse than any truth could be. Whoever, if somebody is infected here, the people – we will know who’s infected. And then we’ll talk to the Department of Health about their reporting procedures. I have certainly no problem in reporting what happened to and in what area it happened and the things that we’re taking to safeguard the folks that may be around that area.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 2/27/20]

Giménez Declared A State Of Emergency Over The Coronavirus – Weeks After Other Cities Had Made Similar Declarations

March 11, 2020: Giménez Declared A State Of Emergency Over The Coronavirus …

March 11, 2020: Giménez Declared A State Of Emergency Over The Coronavirus. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said Wednesday he is declaring a state of emergency over the novel coronavirus, days after a similar statewide edict from Gov. Ron DeSantis. The World Health Organization said Wednesday that it was officially declaring the novel coronavirus outbreak a pandemic. Giménez made the announcement while in Washington, D.C., on a visit to the White House with cruise executives to meet with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin on the industry's response to the coronavirus.” [Miami Herald, 3/11/20]

… Weeks Behind Other Cities And Counties

February 25, 2020: San Francisco Mayor London Breed Made An Emergency Declaration To Respond To The Coronavirus Even Though San Francisco Had No Confirmed Cases. “Mayor London N. Breed today made an emergency declaration to strengthen the City’s preparedness to respond to COVID-19 (novel coronavirus). She was joined by Health Director Dr. Grant Colfax and Executive Director of the Department of Emergency Management Mary Ellen Carroll in this action to surge resources and capabilities, and ensure San Francisco is as ready as possible in the event that the new virus comes to our community. ‘Although there are still zero confirmed cases in San Francisco residents, the global picture is changing rapidly, and we need to step-up preparedness,’ said Mayor Breed. ‘We see the virus spreading in new parts of the world every day, and we are taking the necessary steps to protect San Franciscans from harm.’” [Mayor London N. Breed, Press Release, 2/25/20]

February 26, 2020: Orange County, California Declared A Local Health Emergency In Response To The Coronavirus Despite Only Having Had One Case. “Following in the footsteps of San Diego County and the city
of San Francisco, Orange County officials today declared a local health emergency in response to the coronavirus. ‘We will do whatever we can to keep the county coronavirus free,’ Board of Supervisors Chair Michelle Steel said. There has only been one confirmed case of the virus in Orange County. Dr. Nichole Quick, the county's health officer, said that person has fully recovered.” [City News Service, 2/26/20]

March 2, 2020: The City Of San Antonio Declared A Local State Of Disaster And Public Health Emergency In Response To The Coronavirus. “The city of San Antonio declared a local state of disaster and public health emergency after an evacuee from China who tested ‘weakly positive’ for the coronavirus following her release from quarantine visited the North Star Mall before returning to isolation. The emergency proclamation, signed by Mayor Ron Nirenberg on Monday, prevents quarantined evacuees at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland from entering the city until further notice.” [San Antonio Express-News, 3/2/20]

While Other Cities And States Were Closing Bars And Restaurants Completely, Giménez Just Ordered That They Close At 11 PM, Before Closing Them Entirely Two Days Later

March 15, 2020: Giménez Ordered Bars, Restaurants, And Night Clubs To Close By 11 PM And Operate At 50% Capacity …

March 15, 2020: In Response To Coronavirus, Giménez Issued An Order That Would Require Restaurants, Bars, And Nightclubs To Close By 11 PM And Operate At 50% Capacity. “In a balancing act meant to both stifle the spread of the new coronavirus while not letting the global pandemic completely capsize their tourism-based economies, the cities of Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale announced sweeping measures on Sunday that will see stretches of their most popular public beaches shut down indefinitely and ‘non-essential’ businesses shuttered by 10 p.m. Hours after the Beach and Fort Lauderdale announced the changes, Miami-Dade announced a countywide rule that will force bars, restaurants and nightclubs to close at 11 p.m. starting Monday and halve capacity at those businesses and at theaters. Even with a 50 percent reduction, Mayor Carlos Giménez imposed a cap of 250 patrons at any time.” [Miami Herald, 3/15/20]

… At The Same Time Other Major Cities And States Were Closing Them Completely

March 15, 2020: California, Ohio, Illinois, Massachusetts, And Washington Ordered Bars And Restaurants To Close. “The governors in five states — California, Ohio, Illinois, Massachusetts and Washington — closed bars, restaurants and wineries in an effort to slow the spread of coronavirus. In other parts of the country, mayors of major cities ordered similar restrictions. In Ohio, Gov. Mike DeWine said bars and restaurants can stay open for carry-out and delivery but ‘what we can't have is people congregating and seated.’ […] Illinois also shut down bars and restaurants to dine-in customers through March 30, a day after thousands gathered in downtown Chicago to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. […] In Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker ordered all bars and restaurants close starting Tuesday, March 17, and remain closed for a month.” [USA Today, 3/15/20]

March 15, 2020: New York City Closed Bars And Restaurant Dining Rooms, Limiting Them To Takeout Service. “New York City took similar action late Sunday, ordering all nightclubs, theaters and concert venues to close by Tuesday morning, a dramatic step in the nation's most populous city. Restaurants and bars in the city will also be limited to serving only takeout and delivery customers, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced.” [USA Today, 3/15/20]

March 15, 2020: Pennsylvania Ordered Restaurants And Bars To Close In Five Counties. “Also Sunday, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf ordered all restaurants and bars across five counties (Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery) to close dine-in facilities to help control the spread of the virus, beginning Monday.” [USA Today, 3/15/20]

March 17, 2020: Giménez Closed All Restaurants And Bars Except For Carry-Out
March 17, 2020: Giménez Closed All Restaurants And Bars Except For Carry-Out. “Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez signed an executive order on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, to close all on-site services at restaurants, bars, gyms and entertainment venues throughout the County in an effort to curb the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), effective at 11 p.m. This emergency order applies to all restaurants, bars, taverns, pubs, lounges, night clubs, banquet halls, cocktail lounges, cabarets, breweries, cafeterias, and alcohol and food service businesses with seating for more than eight people, as defined by County code. Kitchens will remain open for pick-up and delivery services.” [Miami-Dade County, Press Release via US Fed News, 3/17/20]

Giménez Ordered Non-Essential Businesses To Close Days After Other Cities And States Had Done The Same

March 19, 2020: Giménez Ordered Non-Essential Businesses In Miami-Dade To Close …

March 19, 2020: Giménez Ordered Non-Essential Businesses In Miami Dade To Close. “Nail salons, golf courses, offices, trampoline parks, casinos and social clubs were among the countless gathering spots ordered to close by 9 p.m. Thursday by Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez in a mass shutdown except for ‘essential’ services during the coronavirus crisis. The order signed at 8:30 a.m. Thursday and released later in the morning with a video address contains a string of business categories allowed to remain open. They include construction sites, engineering firms, pet-supply stores, pool and landscaping services, and childcare if administered to groups of 10 or fewer.” [Miami Herald, 3/19/20]

… Days After Cities And States Had Done The Same


March 17, 2020: Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak Ordered All Non-Essential Business To Close. “All of the slot machines in Nevada were ordered by the state to be turned off at midnight Tuesday. Twelve hours later, at noon Wednesday, the state's casinos will also temporarily be shuttered. In an unprecedented act Tuesday evening, Gov. Steve Sisolak ordered casinos and all other nonessential businesses in Nevada to close for 30 days to help slow the spread of the coronavirus, which has infected 55 people statewide, including one person who died in Clark County. The global crisis has claimed the lives of almost 8,000 people with nearly 200,000 infections.” [Las Vegas Sun, 3/17/20]

Local Republicans Criticized Giménez’s Weak And Inconsistent Of Leadership On Coronavirus

Republican Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez: “We Have Led And The County Has Followed On Just About Everything”

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez: “We Have Led And The County Has Followed On Just About Everything.” MIAMI HERALD’S DOUG HANKS: “Right now, you’re the biggest city in Miami-Dade County. What are you asking for from the county in terms of resources, messaging, help or anything that’s unique from Miami-Dade.” MIAMI MAYOR FRANCIS SUAREZ: “The biggest thing that I think we need is consistency of message and consistency of rules. Obviously, I know it’s impossible to be completely coherent at all times. But we have led and the county has followed on just about everything. You know, we were the first ones to cancel large events. The county followed. We’re the first ones to put stay-at-home orders in place. They just finally put a stay-at-home order. And we all have implemented a curfew and they have not done that. I think it would be helpful if they did, because it creates confusion. We have Hialeah, like I said, that has a curfew. Coral Gables has a curfew. Miami Beach, I believe has a curfew. At least they’ve asked us for a curfew, because they wanted to implement a curfew. So it would be easier if it were implemented all around rather than a week from now it being implemented.
I think the fast that we implement it, the better that it is for our residents, and the less confusing it is for our residents.” [Mayor Francis Suarez, Press Conference, 3/31/20] (VIDEO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Noted That The City Of Miami Led With Cancelling Large Events And Issuing A Stay-At-Home Order While Miami-Dade’s Similar Orders Came After. MIAMI HERALD’S DOUG HANKS: “Right now, you’re the biggest city in Miami-Dade County. What are you asking for from the county in terms of resources, messaging, help or anything that’s unique from Miami-Dade.” MIAMI MAYOR FRANCIS SUAREZ: “The biggest thing that I think we need is consistency of message and consistency of rules. Obviously, I know it’s impossible to be completely coherent at all times. But we have led and the county has followed on just about everything. You know, we were the first ones to cancel large events. The county followed. We’re the first ones to put stay-at-home orders in place. They just finally put a stay-at-home order. And we all have implemented a curfew and they have not done that. I think it would be helpful if they did, because it creates confusion. We have Hialeah, like I said, that has a curfew. Coral Gables has a curfew. Miami Beach, I believe has a curfew. At least they’ve asked us for a curfew, because they wanted to implement a curfew. So it would be easier if it were implemented all around rather than a week from now it being implemented. I think the fast that we implement it, the better that it is for our residents, and the less confusing it is for our residents.” [Mayor Francis Suarez, Press Conference, 3/31/20] (VIDEO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “Everyone That Has Criticized Me Has Later Had To Follow Me.” MIAMI MAYOR FRANCIS SUAREZ said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Republican Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo Criticized Giménez’s “Contradictory, Know-It-All Decrees That Keep Changing By The Day”

Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo On Giménez’s Coronavirus Response: “The Only Thing ‘Panic Inducing’ And ‘Confusing’ Are His Contradictory, Know-It-All Decrees That Keep Changing By The Day.” “Alex Diaz de la Portilla, a Miami commissioner backing a shelter-in-place order there, chastised Giménez for criticizing stronger language from cities after a string of emergency orders with changing rules and escalating restrictions. ‘The only thing panic inducing and confusing are his contradictory, know-it-all decrees that keep changing by the day,’ Diaz de la Portilla said.” [Miami Herald, 3/23/20]

Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo On Giménez: “He Should Be Listening To Healthcare Professionals.” Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks tweeted, “Miami Commish @AlexDiazdelaP01 on @MayorGimenez rejecting ‘shelter-in-place’ orders in Miami-Dade: ‘The only thing ‘panic inducing’ and ‘confusing’ are his contradictory, know-it-all decrees that keep changing by the day. He should be listening to healthcare professionals’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/31/20]
Miami City Commissioner Alex Diaz De La Portillo Was A Republican. “Former state senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla will make a third run at returning to public office. […] A state representative in the 1990s and state senator during the 2000s, Diaz de la Portilla has worked as political consultant in recent years and has unsuccessfully run for office twice since 2017. That year he lost a bid to return to the state Senate, where he once served among the senior leadership of the Republican majority.” [Miami Herald, 1/14/19]

A Kinsa Health Analysis Found That COVID Spread Faster In Miami-Dade County Than In Places That Had Implemented Social Distancing Measures Earlier

A Kinsa Health Study Found That Coronavirus Spread Faster In Miami-Dade County Than In Santa Clara County, Which Had Implemented Social Distancing Measures Earlier. “Social distancing is working, but timing and discipline are everything. Those are the takeaways of new research emerging into the effectiveness of mitigation measures aimed at the spreading novel coronavirus that demonstrates communities that acted more quickly and aggressively had better results than those that implemented partial, or gradual measures. […] Data from smart thermometer company Kinsa Health found that as social-distancing measures are enacted across the country, there has been ‘a significant drop in illness levels’ as measured by the company’s internet-connected thermometers. The number of people who got sick in a community depended on how early mitigation efforts were implemented. Santa Clara County, for example, imposed social-distancing restrictions starting on Feb. 10. A shelter-in-place order was implemented on March 17. By contrast, Miami-Dade County waited until March 12 before it issued a state of emergency — 32 days after Santa Clara announced its. The result was that while both communities saw cases drop, Miami-Dade had more people get sick.” [Miami Herald, 4/1/20]


Giménez Failed To Take Crucial Actions To Enforce Social Distancing And Stem The Deadly Spread Of The Coronavirus

Giménez Said That Curtailing Public Events Was Not Necessary To Prevent The Spread Of Coronavirus, Even Saying That It Was Not Necessary To Cancel The Ultra Music Festival Because Mostly Young People Attended

Giménez Said That Curtailing Public Gatherings Was Not Needed To Prevent Coronavirus Spread

March 5, 2020: Giménez Said That Curtailing Public Gatherings Was Not Needed To Prevent Coronavirus Spread. “County Mayor Carlos Giménez said local governments should be focusing on vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, stepped-up sanitization, and encouraging all residents to be methodical in hand washing and sensitive to symptoms they might be sick. But he said the more drastic steps of curtailing public gatherings isn’t needed, based on advice from the administration of Gov. Ron DeSantis’ and guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on coronavirus risk.” [Miami-Herald, 3/5/20]

Giménez: “The County Has No Plans To Cancel Its Events, Because We Are Following The Advice Of The CDC.” “The county’s position is cities have the right to cancel events that they’re sponsoring or are happening on their properties. The county has no plans to cancel its events, because we are following the advice of the CDC and the state surgeon general,’ Giménez said. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low. That could change tomorrow.’” [Miami-Herald, 3/5/20]

Miami’s Late-March Ultra Music Festival Posed A Unique Coronavirus Risk – It Drew 55,000 Attendees A Day From More Than 100 Countries
Miami’s Ultra Music Festival Posed A Coronavirus Risk, Because It Drew 55,000 Attendees A Day – Including Visitors From More Than 100 Countries. “On the same day federal health officials confirmed that two Florida residents had tested positive for coronavirus, questions arose about a major international event scheduled to open in Miami in fewer than three weeks: Ultra Music Festival. […] Public health and government officials might have to consider whether downtown Miami should host a festival with a capacity of 55,000 people per day, with a significant portion of the crowd made up of visitors from more than 100 countries.” [Miami Herald, 3/2/20]

Ultra Was Scheduled To Open On March 20, 2020 And To Run For Three Days. “In a Monday press conference where Miami Mayor Francis Suarez spoke about the city’s preparations for coronavirus, the mayor said city administrators have asked organizers of the three-day electronic dance music festival to update the event’s safety and security plan to consider the possibility of COVID-19, the disease caused by novel coronavirus, spreading in South Florida. […] Ultra is scheduled to open March 20 at Bayfront Park, the public space on Miami’s downtown waterfront.” [Miami Herald, 3/2/20]

February 27, 2020: Asked If He Would Cancel Large Events Like Ultra, He Replied, “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet”

February 27, 2020: Asked About Cancelling Spring Break And Ultra Due To Coronavirus Concerns, Giménez Claimed “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet.” “Giménez said Thursday's closed-door meeting before the press briefing included discussion about how coronavirus, which has been gaining attention as a threat to world health since January, might affect large events on the Miami area's March calendar. Those include downtown Miami's Ultra, which begins March 20, and the county Youth Fair in the Kendall area, which begins March 12. But the county hasn't decided what to do regarding those events, Giménez said. Does Miami-Dade need a coronavirus plan for spring break and Ultra music fest? 'We haven't come up with any specific recommendations yet,’ he said. ‘Those are things we’re going to be discussing in the next week. Are there any precautions, is there anything different, we’re going to do with spring break or with Ultra?’” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

March 3, 2020: Giménez Announced On Twitter That He Would Not Cancel “Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County, Such As Ultra” …

Giménez Tweeted, “We’re Not Canceling Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County, Such As Ultra” Due To Coronavirus. Giménez tweeted, “We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra, following guidance from Florida’s Surgeon General on #Coronavirus.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/3/20]
weeks can breathe a sigh of relief for now at least, with the mayor of Miami-Dade County saying that the show will go on. ‘We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra,’ Mayor Carlos A. Giménez tweeted on Tuesday, referencing the three-day electronic music festival that brought almost 170,000 attendees from 105 countries to Miami last year.” [Bloomberg, 3/3/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami’s Spring Break Is Set To Proceed Despite Virus Concerns” [Bloomberg, 3/3/20]


Giménez: “The County Has No Plans To Cancel Its Events … We Should Live Our Lives Normally. The Risk Is Low.” “County Mayor Carlos Giménez said local governments should be focusing on vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, stepped-up sanitization, and encouraging all residents to be methodical in hand washing and sensitive to symptoms they might be sick. But he said the more drastic steps of curtailing public gatherings isn’t needed, based on advice from the administration of Gov. Ron DeSantis and guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on coronavirus risk. ‘The county's position is cities have the right to cancel events that they're sponsoring or are happening on their properties. The county has no plans to cancel its events, because we are following the advice of the CDC and the state surgeon general,’ Giménez said. ‘We should live our lives normally. The risk is low. That could change tomorrow.’” [Miami Herald, 3/5/20]

Giménez Argued He Would Not Cancel Major Events, Because “These Events, Like Ultra, Mostly Attract Young People” And Mainly Older People Were At Risk From Coronavirus …

Giménez Argued He Would Not Cancel Major Events, Because “These Events, Like Ultra, Mostly Attract Young People” And Mainly Older People Were At Risk From Coronavirus. The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks tweeted, “News on Ultra and coronavirus: Miami-Dade @MayorGiménez just now: ‘We're not cancelling any major events. These events, like Ultra, mostly attract young people...’ while coronavirus is most dangerous for older residents. Giménez had raised concerns about Ultra last week…” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

The Miami Herald Doug Hanks Noted That Giménez Would Not Say Ultra Was Safe Because It Mostly Attracted Young People Again, But That Giménez Felt Overall The “Risk Is Low.” The Miami Herald’s Doug Hanks quote-tweeted his earlier tweet that Giménez argued events like Ultra were safe from coronavirus because they mostly attracted young people and tweeted, “Spoke to @MayorGiménez on this: Don’t think he would say it that way again. Said at state meeting yesterday, he asked Fl surgeon general about Miami Open tennis, Ultra, spring break. Advice was don’t cancel. *Not* because of age of participants but bc overall ‘risk is low’” [Twitter, @doug_hanks, 3/3/20]

… And Cited The Advice He Got From Governor Ron DeSantis To “Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally”

Giménez Claimed That He Asked Governor Ron DeSantis Whether He Should Cancel Ultra, The Miami Open, And The Youth Fair, “And Their Advice Was Just To Go Ahead And Live Your Life Normally.” Giménez said, “I asked the Attorney General and the Governor if there was any need to cancel any of the events that are coming up in Miami and Miami-Dade County – Ultra, the tennis tournament, the Youth Fair. And their advice was to just go ahead and live your life normally, and so not to cancel these events.” [CBS Miami, CBS 4 News at 5 PM, 3/3/20] (VIDEO)

Local Leaders, Including Republicans, Broke With Giménez And Called To Cancel Ultra

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Claimed That He “Received Countless Emails And Messages Of All Kinds” From Concerned Miamians Calling For Him To Cancel Ultra. “Wednesday morning, Carollo and Suarez — who have had heated political feuds in the past — stood side-by-side to announce that they wanted to see Ultra
postponed. [...] Suarez said that Ultra presents a unique challenge in that people come from abroad to attend the festival, which has a capacity of 55,000 per day. The mayor said residents have asked the city to consider postponing or canceling Ultra. ‘I can tell you that just in the last 24 hours, I have received countless emails and messages of all kinds urging the city to act,’ Suarez said. ‘That is another major motivator to have this conversation before it gets too late.’” [Miami Herald, 3/4/20]

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Miami City Commissioner Joe Carollo Called For Ultra To Be Suspended, Noting That It “Brings In People From 100 Different Countries” Who “Gather In A Very Congested Area, Where There Is Very Limited Movement.” “Citing public safety concerns, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and City Commissioner Joe Carollo say they are in conversations with Ultra Music Festival organizers. They are discussing postponing the annual concert festival that attracts visitors from across the globe. This comes as concern continues to grow over the rising number of coronavirus cases globally, domestically and locally, in South Florida. ‘(Ultra) brings in people from 100 different countries,’ said Carollo. ‘They gather in a very congested area, where there is very limited movement.’ [...] ‘We are not saying canceling, we are saying suspending to a later date when we have a better idea of where we are heading with the Coronavirus,’ Carollo said.” [WPLG, 3/4/20]

Joe Carollo Was The Former Mayor Of Miami And A Republican. “Joe Carollo's colorful and controversial time as mayor of Miami ended tonight as voters passed him over for two candidates who will now compete in a runoff election to replace him. Even in a political climate that would seem to favor incumbents, Mr. Carollo, a Republican, failed to win a shot at a runoff, as voters chose two challengers who have been on Mr. Carollo's political heels for months.” [New York Times, 11/7/01]

Democratic State Representative Michael Grieco Criticized Giménez’s Decision Not To Cancel Ultra: “Putting Tens Of Thousands Of People Sweating All Over Each Other, Cough And Sneezing All Over Each Other For Two Or Three Days Is Probably Not The Smartest Idea.” “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said in a tweet Tuesday that Ultra was still on, two days after state officials announced two confirmed cases of the virus. ‘We're not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra, following the guidance from Florida’s Surgeon General on #Coronavirus,’ wrote Giménez, a Republican who is running for Congress. That decision was blasted by state Rep. Michael Grieco, a Democrat who represents a district that includes Miami Beach and a part of downtown Miami that hosts the festival. He said that while ‘nobody wants to cancel Ultra,’ the health of the community should be the priority. ‘Despite the backlash, I probably would be inclined to heavily, heavily consider canceling the event or pushing the organizers to come up with some alternative dates, something along those lines,’ he told The Washington Post. ‘Putting tens of thousands of people sweating all over each other, coughing and sneezing all over each other for two or three days is probably not the smartest idea.’” [Washington Post, 3/4/20]

HEADLINE: “Miami Elected Officials Want To Postpone Ultra Music Festival Due To Coronavirus Fear” [Miami Herald, 3/4/20]

After The City Of Miami’s Republican Mayor Cancelled Ultra, Giménez Criticized His Decision

HEADLINE: “Controversy In Miami: Although The County Didn't Want To, The City Postponed The Ultra Music Festival For The Coronavirus” [Noticias Financieras, 3/5/20]

Giménez Criticized The City Of Miami’s Decision To Close Public Events Like Ultra And Calle Ocho: “We’re Not Postponing Any Of The Large Events In Miami-Dade County.” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, the City of Miami came up with its own decision. Here in Miami-Dade County, we’re not postponing any of the large events that we have in Miami-Dade County. That was up to that municipality, and they came up to their own conclusion. We follow the guidance of the state and also the CDC, and at this point, they’re not recommending that we cancel large events. Matter of fact, even on the CDC it tells you if you are having these large events are the things that you
have to do to make sure that they’re done safely.” WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “So, to take you at what you’re saying here, it would seem as though, if it were just up to you, maybe there would have been a different decision made with these events?” GIMÉNEZ: “At this point, yeah, because their guidance that we get from the state Surgeon General and the CDC is that we should live our lives as normally as possible, but taking commonsense precautions. You know, washing your hands, making sure you cover your mouth when you’re sneezing or coughing. You know, do not, you know, cough into your. Do frequent handwashing. Make sure you do it for, you know, about 20 seconds at least. And then just take proper precautions. And that’s how we should be living our lives right now. Obviously, I’m concerned about our elderly population. I’m concerned about everybody. But really this coronavirus, this COVID-19 appears to hit the elderly a lot worse than, you know, the rest of the population. […] And so, no, if I had been, that wasn’t our event. That was a City of Miami event. And once they canceled Ultra, they had to cancel Calle Ocho, because there was no… you couldn’t cancel one without the other. And so, again, they came to a different conclusion than the conclusion we’re coming to in Miami-Dade.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

**Giménez Argued That Miami’s Decision To Cancel The Ultra Music Festival Hurt The Local Economy.**

GIMÉNEZ: “Well, listen, we just need to live our lives normally. Okay? That’s what we need to do as a community until conditions warrant that we take other measures. That has been my message. That’s the message coming from the State of Florida. That’s the message coming from the CDC. The threat of the coronavirus is still low. That doesn’t mean that it can’t change tomorrow or the day after. But right now, the threat is still low. Take commonsense precautions and live your life normally. You know, you can take this to an extreme. Are we going to close all places where people, more than two people congregate or maybe more than one person congregate? No. We’re not doing that. Yes, there was a pretty big economic hit when they canceled Ultra, because we did have a lot of people coming from out of town. I’m sure a lot of our hotel rooms were booked. Still, I guess they still may be booked. A lot of these people that were coming to Ultra are still going to come here, because they probably booked their flights a long time ago. But, you know, the hit to the local economy is going to be, it’s going to be, you know, a big hit to the local economy. And so that concerns me. But you know, public health is always number one. And so, like I said, at this time, we would not have canceled it, because that’s not the guidance that we’re getting from our experts. I’m not the expert on this. The experts are Surgeon General of Florida, the Health Department of the State of Florida, and CDC. And our experts are saying you can have these large public events. These are things you have to do to safeguard them, safeguard the residents when they are at large public events. We are taking those steps necessary to make sure we comply with that. And then we should live our lives normally but, again, take commonsense precaution.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

**Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Argued Giménez Was Wrong To Criticize Him For Cancelling Ultra**

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)
The Day After Giménez’s Announced He Would Not Cancel “Major Events,” Miami Beach’s Six-Day Winter Party Kicked Off – And Two Attendees Died From COVID-19

March 3, 2020: Giménez Announced On Twitter That He Would Not Cancel “Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County”

Giménez Tweeted, “We’re Not Canceling Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County, Such As Ultra” Due To Coronavirus. Giménez tweeted, “We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra, following guidance from Florida’s Surgeon General on #Coronavirus.” [Twitter, @MayorGiménez, 3/3/20]

March 3, 2020: Giménez Announced On Twitter That He Would Not Cancel “Any Major Events In Miami-Dade County” Amid Coronavirus Concerns. “Spring breakers with plans in South Florida over the coming weeks can breathe a sigh of relief for now at least, with the mayor of Miami-Dade County saying that the show will go on. ‘We’re not canceling any major events in Miami-Dade County, such as Ultra,’ Mayor Carlos A. Giménez tweeted on Tuesday, referencing the three-day electronic music festival that brought almost 170,000 attendees from 105 countries to Miami last year.” [Bloomberg, 3/3/20]

The Next Day, Miami Beach’s Six-Day “Winter Party” Event Kicked Off And Drew Thousands Of Attendees

The Winter Party Held In Miami Beach From March 4 To March 10, 2020 Drew Thousands Of Attendees. “A second man who attended the recent Winter Party Festival in Miami Beach, an annual fundraising event for the LGBTQ community, has died of COVID-19, according to festival organizers. [...] The Winter Party Festival, held March 4-10, drew thousands of gay men to Miami Beach. The festival is a fundraiser for the task force. At least nine people who attended the festival have tested positive for COVID-19. Israel Carrera, a 40-year-old who lived in North Miami and attended the festival, contracted the virus and died from it on Thursday. He was Miami-Dade’s first reported COVID-19 death.” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]

Nine Winter Party Attendees Tested Positive For Coronavirus And Two Died – Including A 40-Year-Old Man

Nine Miami Beach Winter Party Attendees Tested Positive For Coronavirus And Two Died, Including 40-Year-Old Israel Carrera. “A second man who attended the recent Winter Party Festival in Miami Beach, an annual fundraising event for the LGBTQ community, has died of COVID-19, according to festival organizers. [...] The Winter Party Festival, held March 4-10, drew thousands of gay men to Miami Beach. The festival is a fundraiser for the task force. At least nine people who attended the festival have tested positive for COVID-19. Israel Carrera, a 40-year-old who lived in North Miami and attended the festival, contracted the virus and died from it on Thursday. He was Miami-Dade’s first reported COVID-19 death.” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 251

Giménez Supported Allowing Cruises To Dock In Miami; Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening

On March 10, 2020, Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Allowing People In Cruise Ships Off The Ship At Port Miami. “Mayor Carlos Giménez also addressed the need for a plan if a cruise ship with coronavirus patients are not permitted into Port Miami. ‘Most of the ships that sail out of here, they are mostly Americans, so the best thing to do is get them off the ship as quickly as possible,’ Giménez said. ‘And so we’ve told the cruise lines, our partners that any ship that is berthed in Miami if they have to come back we will take them, but we are going to develop a plan for that.’ Meanwhile, Broward County declared a state of emergency after a fourth case of coronavirus was confirmed in the area.” [NBC, 3/10/20]

Days Later, Despite A Positive COVID-19 Test, Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening

March 15, 2020: Tampa By Times: Despite A Positive COVID-19 Test, Thousands Of People Were Allowed To Leave A Cruise Ship In Miami Without Medical Screening. “Despite a positive COVID-19 test from a passenger who had disembarked days earlier, thousands of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship in Miami Sunday without undergoing medical screening. The former passenger got off the MSC Meraviglia in Miami on March 8 after an eight-day Caribbean cruise, leaving 103 passengers and the ship’s crew aboard for the next voyage. Four days later, after the ship had sailed with thousands of additional new passengers aboard, the Public Health Agency of Canada informed Broward-based MSC Cruises that the former passenger had tested positive. […] But a spokesperson for PortMiami, Andria Muniz-Amador, said the Port Director Juan Kuryla and Mayor Carlos Giménez’s office “are not aware of any cruise passenger testing positive of COVID-19,” and referred questions to the Florida Health Department.” [Tampa Bay Times, 3/15/20]


The MSC Meraviglia Docked In Miami-Dade County, Where 3,877 Passengers Disembarked With No Medical Screening. “Three days after thousands of passengers walked off the MSC Meraviglia ship in Miami without medical screenings despite a positive COVID-19 test from a previous cruiser, the agencies involved are still pointing fingers. A review of the incident indicates that gaps in the patchwork of authority overseeing Florida’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic may be to blame. Involved were federal and state health agencies, the cruise line and Miami-Dade County. The decision to allow 3,877 possibly exposed passengers to disperse across the country without even a temperature check was the responsibility of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Miami-Dade County seaport spokesperson Andria Muniz-Amador. When the ship approached PortMiami early Sunday morning with clearance from the CDC, Port Director Juan Kuryla and Mayor Carlos Giménez had no idea a passenger who got off the ship a week earlier had tested positive, Muniz-Amador said. […] PortMiami and the Florida Department of Health say they were never notified.” [Miami Herald, 3/18/20]

An MSC Meraviglia Passenger Who Had Tested Positive For Coronavirus Had Disembarked On March 8, 2020. “Meraviglia’s status came into question after a Canadian passenger who disembarked from an eight-day Caribbean cruise in Miami on March 8 later tested positive for COVID-19. A spokesperson for MSC Cruises said he did not report any symptoms to the medical staff on board the ship during the cruise. That day, 103 passengers from that cruise remained on board along with the crew, and thousands of new passengers joined for another eight-day cruise. A spokesperson for MSC Cruises did not confirm how many crew members are on board; the ship can hold more than 1,500 crew. The company took the temperatures of passengers and crew each day during the cruise, the spokesperson said.” [Miami Herald, 3/18/20]
March 10, 2020: Giménez Defended Going On A Cruise Ship Despite State Department Warnings, “I Would Probably Get On A Cruise Ship … A Lot Of Cruise Ships Are Still Going Out, They’re Still Going Out With A Lot Of People.” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “Would you get on a plane or go a cruise ship today?” GIMÉNEZ: "I would get on a plane, and I would probably get on a cruise ship." CASTRONOVO: "Even though the State Department said be careful?" GIMÉNEZ: "Yeah. Look, a lot of cruise ships are still going out, they're still going out with a lot of people." CASTRONOVO: "I know, I know. I wouldn't want to kill any businesses, but we need some answers. You're a leader." GIMÉNEZ: "The answer is, well, I -- that's a personal decision. If I were older and if I had some underlying physical, medical condition. I would not get on a cruise ship. Because the odds that I get it, then the odds are, even though still in my favor, are not quite as in my favor as if I were younger.” [BIG 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/10/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez On March 10, 2020: “Talking To Cruise Executives, The People That Already Bought Their Tickets, They Don’t Have Many Cancellations. The Cruise Ships Are Going Out, And They’re Going Out Pretty Full Still.” Giménez said, “I think it’s inevitable that we’re going to see a drop in economic activity. You know, the cancellation of a couple of events here. I’m sure we had a lot of people coming in to Ultra, was one of them. And so, you know, you’re going to see that drop. You’re going to see that drop in the situation with the cruise ships. We expected close to 7 million people this year. We’re not going to get anywhere close. Although, talking to cruise executives, the people that already bought their tickets, they don’t have that many cancellations. The cruise ships are going out, and they’re going out pretty full still. So, but inevitably you’re going to see a slowdown.” [WIOD, South Florida’s First News with Jimmy Cefalo, 3/10/20] (AUDIO)

March 8, 2020: The State Department Advised “U.S. Citizens, Particularly Travelers With Underlying Health Conditions, Should Not Travel By Cruise Ship.” “U.S. citizens, particularly travelers with underlying health conditions, should not travel by cruise ship. CDC notes increased risk of infection of COVID-19 in a cruise ship environment. In order to curb the spread of COVID-19, many countries have implemented strict screening procedures that have denied port entry rights to ships and prevented passengers from disembarking. In some cases, local authorities have permitted disembarkation but subjected passengers to local quarantine procedures. While the U.S. government has evacuated some cruise ship passengers in recent weeks, repatriation flights should not be relied upon as an option for U.S. citizens under the potential risk of quarantine by local authorities. This is a fluid situation. CDC notes that older adults and travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places, avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips, and especially avoiding embarking on cruise ships.” [Department of State, Travel Advisory, 3/8/20]

March 5, 2020: The Coral Princess Cruise Ship Set Sail And Then Was Stuck At Sea For More Than A Month With A Coronavirus Outbreak Onboard Before It Was Allowed To Dock In Miami. “After nearly a month at sea and two days in port, Americans onboard the Coral Princess cruise ship are still trying to get home in the wake of the global coronavirus pandemic. The ship docked at PortMiami late Saturday night with 1,898 people -- 1,020 passengers and 878 crew members-- and began disembarking the most critically ill patients for medical treatment. Two passengers died while the ship was at sea and a third died after being transported by a private ambulance to a hospital in Hialeah, Florida, late Saturday night, according to Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez. […] The ship left from Santiago, Chile, on March 5 for a South American cruise and spent nearly a month at sea
before being given permission to dock at PortMiami on Saturday. The cruise was scheduled to end in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 19 but was left without port after the global pandemic led to ports shutting down and cruise lines suspending operations.” [CNN.com, 4/7/20]

**Three Coral Princess Cruise Passengers Died From Coronavirus.** “Hundreds of healthy cruise ship passengers began to disembark from the Coral Princess Sunday at PortMiami for their journey home. Two people on the ship died of the coronavirus and a 71-year-old man, Wilson Maa, died late Saturday night after arriving at the Port. The ship had been denied docking by 3 countries after it was announced that 12 people onboard had COVID-19.” [CBS Miami, 4/5/20]

March 7, 2020: The Zaandam Cruise Ship Set Sail And Then Was Stuck At Sea For Nearly A Month With A Coronavirus Onboard Before It Was Allowed To Dock In Fort Lauderdale, “After being turned away from ports in South America, Holland America’s Zaandam cruise ship was allowed to dock at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Thursday afternoon. Nine people on board the ship have tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. Holland America's owner, Carnival Corp., said there are 45 passengers who are mildly sick, and they will stay on the ship to recover. The company reported that 10 people on board are in need of urgent medical attention, and four elderly passengers have died, with at least two due to COVID-19. The Zaandam set sail from Buenos Aires on March 7, and was supposed to have stops in Chile and other South American ports before heading to Fort Lauderdale.” [The Week, 4/2/20]

**Four Zaandam Passengers Died From The Coronavirus.** “After being turned away from ports in South America, Holland America's Zaandam cruise ship was allowed to dock at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Thursday afternoon. Nine people on board the ship have tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. Holland America's owner, Carnival Corp., said there are 45 passengers who are mildly sick, and they will stay on the ship to recover. The company reported that 10 people on board are in need of urgent medical attention, and four elderly passengers have died, with at least two due to COVID-19. The Zaandam set sail from Buenos Aires on March 7, and was supposed to have stops in Chile and other South American ports before heading to Fort Lauderdale.” [The Week, 4/2/20]

**Giménez Has Taken Thousands From Cruise Lines And Cruise Industry Executives**

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Frank Del Rio was President and CEO of Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings, the parent company of Norwegian Cruise Line. “Frank J. Del Rio is the president and chief executive officer of S&P 500 company Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd. (NYSE: NCLH), which operates Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises...
Paul Parker was Chief Human Resources Officer at Royal Caribbean Cruises. “Managing this at cruise line Royal Caribbean is a big job. The company has more than 74,000 employees around the world. About 6,500 of them are in South Florida, making it one of the biggest employers here. Paul Parker is the chief human resources officer at Royal Caribbean Cruises.” [Miami Herald, 5/1/16]

Bill Baumgartner was Senior Vice President of Marine Operations at Royal Caribbean Cruises. “Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. consolidated its marine departments into a single organization, Global Marine Operations, with the goal of improving safety, reliability and compliance, all in a more efficient way. The new structure also aims to respect the cultures of the company’s individual brands. SVP Bill Baumgartner leads this new, unified group and oversees two new centers of the company that will implement best practices across the fleet. The fleet optimization center encompasses asset, program and energy management functions. The fleet technical operations center includes global marine technical services, as well as the traditional fleet director and ship management functions. Baumgartner joined Royal Caribbean International in 2013 as SVP marine operations after 33 years with the US Coast Guard where he retired as a rear admiral.” [Seatrade Cruise News, 7/10/15]

Former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine was a cruise marketing executive with a net worth of $133 million. “Philip Levine has told the story so many times that it sounds like a fable. With $500 in the bank, a young man opened a small office on South Beach, launched a cruise-line media company and created a tourism marketing empire that sold a decade later for a small fortune. […] But how Levine made the money that’s opened doors to City Hall, Air Force One and perhaps the governor’s mansion is far more complex. So too are the details behind his $133 million net worth. […] Through it all, the Democrat and former Miami Beach mayor accumulated admirers, political allies and enough wealth to become his own top campaign donor in his run for governor — a key advantage that could help him win the Democratic nomination next month as he competes with Jeff Greene, Andrew Gillum, Gwen Graham and Chris King. […] By the time Robins and his two sons invested, Levine was president of three cruise line marketing and retail companies, managing relationships, seeking out deals and negotiating contracts while longtime business partner and former jeweler Jerry Chafetz oversaw operations. They’d invested at a boom time for cruising, with annual passengers jumping from 1.4 million in 1980 to 5.4 million in 1998, and expanded their business into cruise lecturing, in-cabin programming, magazines, books and art auctions.” [Miami Herald, 7/16/18]

Olga Piqueras was Managing Director of Intercruises. “Olga Piqueras Managing Director Olga is responsible for managing Intercruises’ overall strategy, and leads the business and growth worldwide. She has over 25 years of experience in aviation and port operations, including a thirteen-year tenure at British Airways. She joined Intercruises in 2003 as Operations Director, later assuming the role of Managing Director in 2016.” [Intercruises, accessed 4/9/20]

Intercruises offered shore excursion and port operation to the cruise industry. “Intercruises is an experienced global business offering turnaround, shore excursion, port operation and hotel-program services to the ocean and river cruise industry” [Intercruises, accessed 4/9/20]

Cathy Coloca was Director of Agency Sales at Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings. According to her LinkedIn, Cathy Coloca was “Director, Agency Sales” at Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings. [Cathy Coloca, LinkedIn, accessed 4/9/20]

Giménez declined to cancel indoor theater events, including a showing of Hamilton where an attendee later tested positive for COVID-19.
March 12, 2020: Giménez Declined To Close Down Shows Put On By Miami-Dade County, A Performance Of “Hamilton” At The County-Funded Arsht Center, And Other Smaller Indoor Events. “Miami-Dade's Arsht Center is telling ticket holders to this weekend's 'Hamilton' shows that no refunds will be issued during a coronavirus emergency declared Thursday morning by Mayor Carlos Giménez that has so far included the emptying of arenas, stadiums and fairgrounds. ‘At this time, most performances are continuing as scheduled and refunds are not being offered,’ Arsht Center president Johann Zietsman said in an email sent to patrons of the theater Thursday evening. ‘We will continue to follow guidance from local government health officials, and will implement any new directives from those officials swiftly.’ […] The county-funded performance hall is run by a nonprofit, and the continuing with performances tracks with the county's own cultural arm, which hasn't scrapped shows. […] The county-funded performance hall is run by a nonprofit, and the continuing with performances tracks with the county's own cultural arm, which hasn't scrapped shows. ‘We're not there yet,’ said Michael Spring, the Giménez deputy who oversees theaters and cultural programs. ‘But we might get there.’ […] Giménez has the authority to close the Arsht Center and other indoor events, but chose not to on Thursday. His statement announcing the cancellation of the Youth Fair, arena concerts and spectator attendance at the Homestead speedway included a passage saying indoor events with much smaller attendance could be subject to a future crackdown. So the Arsht shows could still be canceled, but the show went on for Thursday night's ‘Hamilton’ performance.” [Miami Herald, 3/12/20]

Giménez Deputy Michael Spring On Cancelling A Performance Of Hamilton At The County-Funded Arsht Center: “We’re Not There Yet.” “Miami-Dade's Arsht Center is telling ticket holders to this weekend's ‘Hamilton’ shows that no refunds will be issued during a coronavirus emergency declared Thursday morning by Mayor Carlos Giménez that has so far included the emptying of arenas, stadiums and fairgrounds. ‘At this time, most performances are continuing as scheduled and refunds are not being offered,’ Arsht Center president Johann Zietsman said in an email sent to patrons of the theater Thursday evening. ‘We will continue to follow guidance from local government health officials, and will implement any new directives from those officials swiftly.’ […] The county-funded performance hall is run by a nonprofit, and the continuing with performances tracks with the county's own cultural arm, which hasn't scrapped shows. ‘We're not there yet,’ said Michael Spring, the Giménez deputy who oversees theaters and cultural programs. ‘But we might get there.’ […] Giménez has the authority to close the Arsht Center and other indoor events, but chose not to on Thursday. His statement announcing the cancellation of the Youth Fair, arena concerts and spectator attendance at the Homestead speedway included a passage saying indoor events with much smaller attendance could be subject to a future crackdown. So the Arsht shows could still be canceled, but the show went on for Thursday night's ‘Hamilton’ performance.” [Miami Herald, 3/12/20]


An Attendee Of The Hamilton Show Giménez Refused To Cancel Later Tested Positive For Coronavirus

An Attendee At The March 12, 2020 Arsht Center Hamilton Show Later Tested Positive For Coronavirus. “One person who attended the March 12 evening performance of 'Hamilton’ at the county-owned theater Arsht Center in Miami, the last performance of the show before it was canceled due to the spreading coronavirus, has tested positive for COVID-19. In an email sent to ticket holders from that night, the arts center's president and CEO, Johann Zietsman, said the Arsht Center was informed earlier Thursday that the guest did not show any symptoms the night of the musical's performance. But two days later, the person developed symptoms associated with the novel coronavirus. The patron sought medical care and tested positive for COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, Zietsman said.” [Miami Herald, 3/19/20]
As Throngs Of Springbreakers Descended On Florida, Giménez Kept Miami-Dade’s Beaches Open And Defended Florida’s Decision To Keep Beaches Open Statewide

In Mid-March 2020, Florida’s Beaches Were Filled With Throngs Of Springbreakers Amid An Escalating Coronavirus Pandemic

March 2020: Tens Of Thousands Of Students Traveled To Florida’s Beaches For Spring Break Amid An Escalating Coronavirus Pandemic. “Dryden Quigley, a junior at Duke University, and three friends began making plans to spend spring break in Miami Beach about six weeks ago when the coronavirus still felt relatively distant. It does not feel distant now. In the week Ms. Quigley, 21, vacationed on Miami Beach: the state’s coronavirus cases more than tripled, her university halted classes on campus and the mayor of Miami Beach declared spring break was over. […] With tens of thousands of students flocking to beaches in South Florida and possibly as many still planning to come, the collateral damage from the coronavirus has been coming into clear relief almost hourly, whether it was the shutdown of March Madness or well-known figures like Tom Hanks coming down with the virus. For the first time, a case was linked on Wednesday to a spring break event in Florida, a state that now counts 42 cases, according to the health department.” [New York Times, 3/13/20]


February 27, 2020: Giménez Had Not Come Up With A Plan To Deal With Spring Break Amid Coronavirus Concerns

February 27, 2020: Asked If He Had Plans For Spring Break In Response To Coronavirus Concerns, Giménez Claimed “We Haven’t Come Up With Any Specific Recommendations Yet.” “Giménez said Thursday's closed-door meeting before the press briefing included discussion about how coronavirus, which has been gaining attention as a threat to world health since January, might affect large events on the Miami area's March calendar. Those include downtown Miami's Ultra, which begins March 20, and the county Youth Fair in the Kendall area, which begins March 12. But the county hasn't decided what to do regarding those events, Giménez said. Does Miami-Dade need a coronavirus plan for spring break and Ultra music fest? ‘We haven't come up with any specific recommendations yet,’ he said. ‘Those are things we're going to be discussing in the next week. Are there any precautions, is there anything different, we're going to do with spring break or with Ultra?’” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

March 6, 2020: Giménez Argued That Spring Break Should Go Forward In Miami, Because It Was Important To The Local Economy

March 6, 2020: Giménez Argued That Spring Break Should Go Forward In Miami Since It Was Important To The Local Economy. WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “And obviously, it’s going to have an economic impact all throughout the county and all throughout South Florida, for that matter. How concerned are you, at this point, about our local economy?” GIMÉNEZ: “Well, I am in the sense that this is one of our busiest months for these kind of events. You know, at the end of the month we have the Miami Open. You know, we’re expecting 30,000 people there every day for at least 300,000 people will be visiting that venue. We have, again, no plans right now to cancel that event. And so, you know, we have to move forward with that event. And so, spring break is coming. Miami Beach is moving forward with spring break. And again, we are putting more hand sanitizers, we are putting out more information. And that’s what we have to do as a community. Live your life normally but take commonsense precautions. You know, that is the message that we are giving to the people of Miami.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez: “Spring Break Is Coming … Live Your Life Normally, But Take Commonsense Precautions.” WIOD’S BRIAN MUDD: “And obviously, it’s going to have an economic impact all throughout the county and all throughout South Florida, for that matter. How concerned are you, at this point, about our local economy?”
GIMÉNEZ: “Well, I am in the sense that this is one of our busiest months for these kind of events. You know, at the end of the month we have the Miami Open. You know, we’re expecting 30,000 people there every day for at least 300,000 people will be visiting that venue. We have, again, no plans right now to cancel that event. And so, you know, we have to move forward with that event. And so, spring break is coming. Miami Beach is moving forward with spring break. And again, we are putting more hand sanitizers, we are putting out more information. And that’s what we have to do as a community. Live your life normally but take commonsense precautions. You know, that is the message that we are giving to the people of Miami.” [WIOD, Brian Mudd, 3/6/20] (AUDIO)

March 18, 2020: Giménez Bragged About His Decision To Keep Miami-Dade Beaches Open, Arguing They Were Safe Because They Were Outside …

Giménez On March 18, 2020: “We Haven’t Shut Down The Beaches Here.” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here.” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

… And Defended Beaches Staying Open Statewide: “The Governor Really Doesn’t Want To Say, ‘Hey, We’re Going To Shut Down All The Beaches And Basically Ruin Everybody’s Way To Get To The Beach”

Giménez: “The Governor Doesn’t Really Want To Say, ‘Hey, We’re Going To Shut Down All The Beaches In The State Of Florida And Basically Ruin Everybody’s Way To Get To The Beach.’” HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?” GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here. But I did give an order yesterday that allows the park managers if it turns out that, you know, we get a bunch of people trying to get to Crandon Park or something, we’ll shut it down and say, ‘Hey, no. We can only have so many people and you have to maintain your social distancing. And if you don’t you’re going to be basically thrown out.’” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

Giménez Defended DeSantis’s Decision Not To Close Florida’s Beaches, Arguing Some Parts Of The State Did Not Have Coronavirus Cases. HOST PAUL CASTRONOVO: “But as far as the rest of the state goes, I know it’s not your jurisdiction or anything, but we’re seeing all these videos from Clearwater. And it looks like spring
break is in full force. The bars are all open, and people are on the beach drinking, partying. And they’re all like ‘yeah whatever.’ Is that something, the Governor can’t shut that down?’ GIMÉNEZ: “Yeah, he can. But you know, he wants to have measured responses. You can’t use the same measures, let’s say in the middle of the state, rural counties, they don’t have any cases whatsoever. You know, he – it’s a balancing act. And so, at Clearwater, maybe the local people should do something, and the Governor doesn’t really want to say, ‘Hey, we’re going to shut down all the beaches in the State of Florida and basically ruin everybody’s way to get to the beach.’ We haven’t shut down the beaches here. But I did give an order yesterday that allows the park managers if it turns out that, you know, we get a bunch of people trying to get to Crandon Park or something, we’ll shut it down and say, ‘Hey, no. We can only have so many people and you have to maintain your social distancing. And if you don’t you’re going to be basically thrown out.’” [Big 105.9, Paul Castronovo Show, 3/18/20] (AUDIO)

Republican Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Didn’t Close The Beaches, And They Flocked To Our Beaches, Which Made Us A National Embarrassment”

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Didn’t Close The Beaches, And They Flocked To Our Beaches, Which Made Us A National Embarrassment” Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said, “We had two major events, Calle Ocho, which was 250,000 people and Ultra, which would have been 150,000 people from 105 different countries. And we felt that the responsible and right thing to do was to cancel it. As you said, other elected officials have criticized us. The County Mayor said that we acted prematurely, and we’re sending the wrong message that we should be open for business. And unfortunately, spring breakers heard him. He didn’t close the beaches, and they flocked to our beaches, which made us a national embarrassment. So it was very unfortunate. And then he later had to close the Miami Open. He later had to cancel the Youth Fair. So what I’ve learned in this process is that there is no proactive step that I’ve taken that I’ve regretted. And everyone that has criticized me has later had to follow me. And, like you said, recently, you know, like you said, we enacted a stay-at-home order. We enacted a curfew. We were the first city to enact the curfew, I think the second city in Dade County to have a stay-at-home order. The county had to follow us on the stay-at-home order. The Governor followed us on stay-at-home order. Then on the curfew, the county has yet to follow us. And I just recently wrote a letter to the President asking the President to discontinue flights from COVID hotspots internationally and domestically to the City of Miami.” [Slate, The Gist, 4/3/20] (AUDIO)

Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez: “He Refused To Close The Beaches During Spring Break … That Made Us A National Embarrassment.” Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s very unfortunate that he’s taken a position of asking the White House to disregard my letter. […] He refused to close the beaches during spring break, which unfortunately, showed images of our country in a fashion that made us a national embarrassment.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican. “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Giménez Kept Miami-Dade’s Beaches Open Until March 19, 2020 …

March 19, 2020: Giménez Closed Miami-Dade’s Beaches To The Public After Initially Restricting Beach Gatherings To No More Than 10 People One Day Earlier. “All beaches in Miami-Dade must close under a sweeping county order that covers most recreational areas, restricting people to walks on the street but not public gathering spots. The latest order by Mayor Carlos Giménez, described Thursday morning by a top deputy, reverses the mayor’s policy issued just a day before, which capped gatherings in parks to fewer than 10 people. By Wednesday night, the decision was made to scrap the more permissive directive for an outright ban on using parkland or beaches, said Michael Spring, Giménez’s deputy who oversees parks. […] There’s been widespread frustration at vacationers and locals ignoring directives from Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and Miami Beach to limit gatherings on the beaches and beyond as the coronavirus shutdown collided with South Florida’s spring break season. In issuing his directive Wednesday capping gatherings in county parks, Giménez said: ‘You can’t have a party in a park,’ he said.” [Miami Herald, 3/19/20]
March 18, 2020: Giménez Signed An Executive Order Limiting Gatherings At Miami-Dade Parks And Beaches To No More Than 10 People.

“In adherence to the emergency order (https://www.miamidade.gov/information/library/coronavirus-emergency-order-04-20-parks.pdf) signed by Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez on March 18, 2020, all gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 people at all Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (Miami-Dade County Parks). This order includes, but is not limited to, beaches, the Deering Estate, Fruit & Spice Park, Larry and Penny Thompson Park and Campground, Trail Glades Range, Zoo Miami, golf courses and marinas. [...] Those visiting County parks and beaches are required to practice social distancing of at least six feet between individuals. All mass gatherings are prohibited. With the assistance of Miami-Dade County Police, park rangers will monitor the parks to ensure public safety and enforce these rules.” [Mayor Carlos Giménez, Press Release via US Fed News, 3/18/20]

Giménez Allowed Construction Sites To Continue Work Despite Warnings That Many Construction Workers Had Fallen Ill – And Has Taken Hundreds Of Thousands Of Construction Interests

Giménez Allowed Construction Sites To Remain Open, Arguing They Were “Essential” Because They Created Jobs …

Giménez Argued That Construction Sites Should Remain Open: “It’s Essential For The Jobs It’s Creating.”

“Construction sites have been spared by Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who has declared much of the county’s economy non-essential in issuing emergency orders closing offices, restaurants, entertainment venues, salons, marinas and any business that doesn’t fall into what his decrees declare essential. During a video press conference Tuesday, Giménez was asked why the construction industry was deemed essential during the pandemic emergency. ‘It’s essential for the jobs it’s creating,’ he said. ‘Once we recover from this, we need to have construction continue.’” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]

… Even As A Top Miami Construction Exec Warned Giménez: “A Lot Of People Are Turning Positive To The Virus In Our Industry”

Century Homebuilders Head Sergio Pino Called For Giménez To Shut Down Construction Sites Amid The Coronavirus Pandemic: “A Lot Of People Are Turning Positive To The Virus In Our Industry.”

“A builder is urging Miami-Dade County to stop all non-essential construction projects to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Sergio Pino, the head of Century Homebuilders, is voluntarily closing multiple job site in the county by next week after two of his workers tested positive for COVID-19. ‘A lot of people are turning positive to the virus in our industry,’ Pino said. Pino wrote a letter to Miami Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez warning him of the spread of the virus across the community through construction sites. ‘There are rules in our industry and I know most people try to enforce those rules in our industry, but it's very difficult,’ Pino said. ‘Instead of putting a bandaid on this issue. We are better off in my opinion to close down 10 working days and reopen with a fresh start in two weeks, three weeks, whatever it takes.’” [NBC Miami, 4/9/20]
March 31, 2020: Top Miami-Dade Developer Sergio Pino Called For Construction Sites To Close Amid Coronavirus Concerns. “One of Miami-Dade’s leading builders, Sergio Pino, issued a public plea Tuesday for the construction industry to shut down construction sites and prevent an outbreak of coronavirus among their workers. ‘The only way to stop the spread of this virus is by cutting its roots,’ Pino, president of Century Homebuilders, said in an email. Construction workers, he said, ‘continue to be exposed and have already been infected. This will result in a chain reaction across the board in all jobsites as long as they remain open.’ He called on fellow builders to ‘close simultaneously’ and halt the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by coronavirus. He said Century was considering shutting down its sites for 10 work days, but that the lack of an industry-wide closure ‘will defeat the purpose and this virus will continue to multiply from jobsite to jobsite and into our homes.’” [Miami Herald, 3/31/20]

Giménez Suspended County Inspections Of Construction Sites, Because Most Permitting Staff Was In Self-Isolation

With Most Miami-Dade Permitting Staff In Self-Isolation, Giménez Suspended County Inspections Of Construction Sites. “After most of its permitting staff went into self-isolation because of multiple coronavirus cases within their ranks, Miami-Dade is suspending construction inspections and telling builders to hire their own engineers to review work for safety and code compliance. The measure, outlined in an emergency order from Mayor Carlos Giménez, means the idling of the county arm responsible for inspecting construction sites outside of city limits and areas in municipalities governed by Miami-Dade inspections, such as for county buildings and land. The order does not apply to city inspection units. The order dated March 28 includes new forms and instructions requiring builders to hire independent architects or engineers to inspect their work. The rules specify the engineer may not have a ‘financial stake’ in the project. Using emergency powers, Giménez has spared construction sites from orders that required businesses not deemed ‘essential,’ such as restaurants and bars, to close. Despite warnings of workers not following rules to keep six feet apart, Miami-Dade has allowed construction work to go on throughout the coronavirus crisis.” [Miami Herald, 3/30/20]

As Mayor, Giménez Has Taken $369,260 From Construction Interests

Over His Mayoral Career, Giménez Has Taken $369,260 From Construction And Development Interests. An internal analysis of data from Giménez’s three mayoral campaigns found Giménez had taken $369,260. Raw data available upon request. [Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2016; Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2012; Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections, Carlos Giménez, 2011]

When Miami’s Republican Mayor Asked Trump To Stop Flights To Miami From International And Domestic COVID Hotspots, Giménez Told Trump To Disregard The Plea

After Miami City Mayor Francis Suarez Called On President Donald Trump To Halt Flights To The Miami Area From Coronavirus “Hot Spots,” Giménez Called On Trump To Disregard Suarez’s Plea. “After Miami Mayor Francis Suarez called on President Donald Trump to halt flights into the Miami area from coronavirus ‘hot spots,’ the county mayor with authority over local airports said he told the White House to ‘disregard’ the Suarez letter. ‘It’s not his purview,’ said Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who has authority over Miami International Airport, a county agency. Giménez noted passenger flights are also important parts of the supply chain, hauling cargo in and out of Miami, which is a global hub for pharmaceutical shipments. ‘I’ve already spoken to the White House about it and said disregard the letter,’ Giménez said during an online press conference Friday. ‘It’s Miami-Dade County that controls MIA.’ On Thursday night, Suarez sent a letter to Trump urging him to immediately halt flights into Miami from “COVID-19 hotspots” in the United States and around the world. After Giménez’s rebuke at a Friday press conference, Suarez said the county mayor should be calling for aggressive action at MIA. ‘It’s
unfortunate that at a time when unity is needed, Mayor Giménez has refused to join me in asking the President to suspend flights from COVID hotspots,’ Suarez said in a statement.” [Miami Herald, 4/3/20]

**Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Was A Republican.** “When Miami Mayor Francis Suarez—a Republican who voted for neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton in 2016—considers helping deliver the key state of Florida to his party’s nominee again in 2020, he sighs.” [Politico, 7/17/18]

Suarez Responded That Giménez “Has Chosen To Take An Action That Is Going To Endanger The Lives Of Our Residents”

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez On Giménez’s Opposition To Halting Flights To Miami From Coronavirus Hotspots: “He Has Chosen To Take An Action That Is Going To Endanger The Lives Of Our Residents.” Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s really unfortunate that he has taken a position, asking the White House to disregard my letter [asking the White House to halt flights to Miami from coronavirus hotspots]. I really hope that he would join my letter and join my lead today. And instead he has chosen to take an action that unfortunately is going to endanger the lives of our residents. […] And so, I really hope he joins me in this, because this is something that is going to neutralize what could be the biggest threat to our city and prevent us from becoming a hotspot.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez Argued Halting Flights To Miami From Coronavirus Hotspots Could “Prevent Us From Becoming A Hotspot.” Suarez said, “As for Mayor Giménez, it’s really unfortunate that he has taken a position, asking the White House to disregard my letter [asking the White House to halt flights to Miami from coronavirus hotspots]. I really hope that he would join my letter and join my lead today. And instead he has chosen to take an action that unfortunately is going to endanger the lives of our residents. […] And so, I really hope he joins me in this, because this is something that is going to neutralize what could be the biggest threat to our city and prevent us from becoming a hotspot.” [CBS Miami, 4/3/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez Failed To Have Policies In Place That Would Have Protected Miami-Dade’s Uninsured And Essential Workers

Amid Concerns That County Contractors -- Including At MIA And The Metrorail -- Did Not Give Workers Paid Sick Leave, Giménez Remarked The Issue Was “Really Actually Not On My Radar”

Miami-Dade Did Not Require Its Contractors To Give Employees Paid Sick Leave, Meaning Workers – Including Airport Employees -- Could Lose Pay Or Even Their Jobs If They Stayed Home Sick

Miami-Dade Did Not Require Government Contractors To Give Employees Paid Sick Leave, Meaning Workers Could Lose Pay And Risk Losing Their Jobs If They Stayed Home Sick. “Miami-Dade's paramedics, hospital system and emergency workers also would be called upon to manage a public-health emergency brought on by coronavirus. That could include enforcing quarantine rules and distributing supplies, Giménez said. Finally, Miami-Dade's 28,000-position payroll represents the second largest workforce in the county, behind the school system. That leaves the county more vulnerable than most employers to facing a coronavirus case within its ranks of employees. The coronavirus scare overlaps with scrutiny of how county contractors manage sick employees. Security guards working for a private contractor hired by Miami International Airport recently told county commissioners they must forgo pay if they want to stay home sick, and risk losing their positions with Allied Universal. Union representatives said that since Miami-Dade does not require sick leave for contractors like Allied Universal and its competitors, most outsourced workers assigned to the county don't get paid sick days.” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]

Allied Universal, The Security Contractor At Miami International Airport, Did Not Give Its Employees Paid Sick Leave. “Miami-Dade's paramedics, hospital system and emergency workers also would be called upon to manage a public-health emergency brought on by coronavirus. That could include enforcing quarantine rules and
distributing supplies, Giménez said. Finally, Miami-Dade's 28,000-position payroll represents the second largest workforce in the county, behind the school system. That leaves the county more vulnerable than most employers to facing a coronavirus case within its ranks of employees. The coronavirus scare overlaps with scrutiny of how county contractors manage sick employees. Security guards working for a private contractor hired by Miami International Airport recently told county commissioners they must forgo pay if they want to stay home sick, and risk losing their positions with Allied Universal. Union representatives said that since Miami-Dade does not require sick leave for contractors like Allied Universal and its competitors, most outsourced workers assigned to the county don't get paid sick days.” [Miami Herald, 2/27/20]


February 27, 2020: Asked About Paid Sick Leave For Metrorail And Miami Airport Contractors At A Press Conference On Coronavirus, Giménez Replied “That’s Really Actually Not On My Radar Screen Right Now.” REPORTER: “One of your advice was if you’re sick, stay home. There’s been a controversy recently regarding contract guards at the airport and Metrorail that don’t have paid sick days. Is that a concern? Has that come up? Is there anything on your radar screen?” GIMÉNEZ: “That’s really actually not on my radar screen right now. If you’re sick, stay home. Okay? And we can deal with that issue at another time. But that’s actually not on my radar right now.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 2/27/20] (VIDEO)

Mid-February 2020: Giménez’s Administration Had Raised Concerns About The Cost Of Paying County Contractors

Giménez’s Administration Warned That Requiring County Contractors To Give Paid Sick Leave Would Increase Costs On The County And Make Fewer Companies Bid For County Contracts. “Miami-Dade commissioners on Thursday stalled a proposal to force county contractors to give workers paid sick days and parental leave as the lawmakers questioned whether companies and the government could afford the benefits' costs. […] The administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez told commissioners the proposal would make contracts more expensive for Miami-Dade and shared a survey from county vendors warning the new burdens would cause some of them to stop bidding for more work. ‘All of this is very difficult to quantify,’ said Jennifer Moon, a deputy mayor. ‘It will increase the cost of the county's services that we pay for.’” [Miami Herald, 2/14/20]

Miami-Dade Had One Of Florida’s Highest Uninsured Rates And Giménez Had No Plan For Uninsured People Who Got COVID

Miami-Dade County Had 399,882 Uninsured Residents, One Of The Highest Uninsured Rates In Florida, And An Uninsured Rate Much Higher Than State And National Averages

Miami-Dade County Had 399,882 Uninsured Residents And 24% Of Residents Were Uninsured. According to data from the University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute, Miami-Dade County had 399,882 uninsured residents and an uninsured rate of 24%. [University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings, 2019]

With An Uninsured Rate Of 24%, Miami-Dade Had The Eighth-Highest Uninsured Rate Of Florida’s 67 Counties. According to data from the University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute, Miami-Dade County’s uninsured rate of 24% was the eighth-highest uninsured rate of Florida's 67 counties. [University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings, 2019]

Statewide, 18% Of Florida Residents Were Uninsured. According to data from the University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute, 18% of Florida residents were uninsured. [University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings, 2019]
Nationally, 8.5% Of People Were Uninsured. “In 2018, 8.5 percent of people, or 27.5 million, did not have health insurance at any point during the year. The uninsured rate and number of uninsured increased from 2017 (7.9 percent or 25.6 million).” [United States Census Bureau, 11/8/19]

Giménez’s Advice To The Uninsured Amid Coronavirus Concerns: “Go To Any Hospital If You Really Feel Sick And You’ll Be Taken Care Of”

Asked What He Would Say To Uninsured People Who Were Afraid To Seek Treatment During The Coronavirus Crisis, Giménez Replied “Go To Any Hospital If You Really Feel Sick And You’ll Be Taken Care Of.” REPORTER: “The greater Miami area has one of the biggest populations in the country of uninsured and underinsured people. Do you have any message for the people that fall into that category that might be hesitant to go get checked out or go see someone in fear of getting a bill they can’t afford?” GIMÉNEZ: “We have a great public hospital system, it’s called the Jackson Memorial system. Your ability to pay doesn’t affect the quality of care that you get there. So go to our public hospitals. Or go to any hospital if you really feel sick and you’ll be taken care of.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 2/27/20] (VIDEO)

Giménez Suggested That Uninsured People Go To Miami’s Public Hospital System, Jackson Memorial …

Giménez Suggested Uninsured Coronavirus Patients Could Go To Miami’s Public Hospital System Jackson Memorial: “Your Ability To Pay Doesn’t Affect The Quality Of Care That You Get There.” REPORTER: “The greater Miami area has one of the biggest populations in the country of uninsured and underinsured people. Do you have any message for the people that fall into that category that might be hesitant to go get checked out or go see someone in fear of getting a bill they can’t afford?” GIMÉNEZ: “We have a great public hospital system, it’s called the Jackson Memorial system. Your ability to pay doesn’t affect the quality of care that you get there. So go to our public hospitals. Or go to any hospital if you really feel sick and you’ll be taken care of.” [Carlos Giménez, Press Conference, 2/27/20] (VIDEO)

… Days After A Patient Was Billed Thousands For A Coronavirus Test

Jackson Memorial Hospital Billed Miami Resident Osmel Martinez Azcue $3,270 For A Coronavirus Test. “After returning to Miami last month from a work trip in China, Osmel Martinez Azcue found himself in a frightening position: he was developing flu-like symptoms, just as coronavirus was ravaging the country he had visited. Under normal circumstances, Azcue said he would have gone to CVS for over-the-counter medicine and fought the flu on his own, but this time was different. As health officials stressed preparedness and vigilance for the respiratory illness, Azcue felt it was his responsibility to his family and his community to get tested for novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19. He went to Jackson Memorial Hospital, where he said he was placed in a closed-off room. […] But two weeks later, Azcue got unwelcome news in the form of a notice from his insurance company about a claim for $3,270. In 2018, President Donald Trump’s administration rolled back Affordable Care Act regulations and allowed so-called ‘junk plans’ in the market. Consumers mistakenly assume that the plans with lower monthly costs will be better than no insurance at all in case of a medical catastrophe, but often the plans aren’t very different from going without insurance altogether. […] Jackson Health officials say that there are more bills for Azcue on the way, but it’s unclear what those will total, as they are going to be issued by the University of Miami Health System, or UHealth, for treatment provided by their staff physicians who work at Jackson.” [Miami Herald, 2/24/20]

Giménez Did Not Endorse An $830 Million Voter-Approved Bond For Jackson Memorial Hospital System; In 2020, The Hospital Credited The Bond For Its Ability To Treat Coronavirus Patients

2013: Giménez Did Not Endorse A Referendum To Raise Property Taxes To Fund $830 Million For Upgrades And New Equipment And Facilities At Jackson Memorial. “Four months of campaign messages about the long-deferred needs of Jackson Health System and the urgency for the aging public hospital system to more effectively compete against South Florida’s private and not-for-profit hospitals paid off Tuesday. Miami-
Dade voters approved a referendum to raise their property taxes and fund $830 million in upgrades and new equipment and facilities for Jackson. […] However, several high-profile elected officials, including Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, never fully endorsed the campaign — even if they publicly voiced support for using public funds to fill Jackson’s capital and long-term needs. Giménez said Tuesday that he voted yes on the bond referendum, but he expressed reservations in a written statement this week explaining why he has not publicly endorsed the campaign. ‘While I am personally in favor of funding the modernization and improvements of facilities to the Jackson Health System, I still have questions on the long-term use of those funds in light of the Affordable Care Act,’ Giménez said in the statement. ‘That said, if the voters approve the funding, I will ensure that we exercise the necessary due diligence so that the people’s money is well spent.’” [Miami Herald, 11/5/13]

**July 2013: Asked If He Would Vote For A Property Tax Increase To Fund $830 Million Upgrades At Jackson Memorial, Giménez Replied, “I Don’t Know Yet.”** “Don’t count on Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez to help the public Jackson Health System make its pitch to voters for $830 million in taxpayer-funded upgrades. Giménez told The Miami Herald last week that he has not decided if he will vote for the property-tax rate hike on the Nov. 5 ballot. ‘I don’t know yet,’ he said.” [Miami Herald, 7/14/13]

**Miami’s Jackson Health System Credited An $830 Million Bond Approved By Voters In 2013 For Its Ability To Adequately Treat Coronavirus Patients.** “In the worst-case scenario of a massive surge of patients infected by the novel coronavirus, Miami’s public hospital says it’s much better prepared than it would have been if county voters had not approved an $830 million ‘miracle’ bond issue in 2013. Aside from shortages of personal protective gear like N95 respirator masks, public health experts and healthcare professionals across the country have sounded alarms about hospital bed space and intensive care unit capacity for facilities likely to see a wave of patients suffering from COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, in the coming weeks. At Jackson Health System, Miami-Dade’s safety-net hospital, more than five years of supercharged capital spending has left the healthcare network more flexible in its capacity, which could be crucial as it prepares to deal with a potential surge, hospital leaders said this week.” [Miami Herald, 3/20/20]

*NOTE: Jackson Memorial Hospital billed a Miami resident over $3,000 for a coronavirus test. [Miami Herald, 2/24/20]*
**Significant Findings**

- **Giménez was in favor of removing Head Start from the county’s supervision and handing it over to the school systems.**
  - **Giménez said that “educating young people” was “not the core mission of Miami-Dade County.”**
- **Giménez repeatedly favored county budgets that included the closure of public libraries.**
  - **2013:** Giménez supported a budget which slated to close 22 public libraries; a deal was reached to instead fire more than 1/3rd of library employees.
  - **2011:** Giménez was in favor of a proposed budget which closed 13 public libraries.
  - **The county’s libraries served as many residents’ only resource to borrow books, participate in literacy programs, and provide internet services.**
- **Giménez was opposed to increasing the number of art murals allowed in Miami-Dade County.**
  - **Giménez said that Miami’s murals were “out of control.”**
- **Giménez voted in favor of abolishing the Performing Arts Center of Greater Miami trust.**

**Head Start**

**Giménez Supported Removing Head Start From The County’s Supervision, And Handing It Over To The School System**

Giménez Supported Removing The Head Start Program From The County’s Supervision, And Handing It Over To The School System. “[Carlos A. Giménez] was criticized for removing Head Start from under the county’s supervision. ‘We thought that program belongs with the school system,’ Giménez said. ‘Educating young people is not the core mission of Miami-Dade County. I feel the school system will do a better job. They will do it cheaper and add more kids.’ [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]

The Head Start Program Offered Early Childhood Education In Low-Income Communities. “‘We did a lot of things we had to do the first year,’ Giménez said. ‘To be financially and structurally sound, we had to make the changes.’ One of the more contentiously debated programs affected was Head Start which offers early childhood education in low-income communities.” [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]

Giménez: “Educating Young People Is Not The Core Mission Of Miami-Dade County”

Giménez: “Educating Young People Is Not The Core Mission Of Miami-Dade County. I Feel The School System Will Do A Better Job.” “[Carlos A. Giménez] was criticized for removing Head Start from under the county’s supervision. ‘We thought that program belongs with the school system,’ Giménez said. ‘Educating young people is not the core mission of Miami-Dade County. I feel the school system will do a better job. They will do it cheaper and add more kids.’ [South Florida Times, 3/14/13]
Public Libraries

Giménez Repeatedly Favored County Budgets That Included The Closure Of Public Libraries

2013: Giménez Supported A Budget Which Slated To Close 22 Public Libraries; A Deal Was Reached To Instead Fire More Than 1/3rd Of Library Employees, And Shorten Operation Hours

2013: Giménez Supported A Budget Which Slated 22 Public Libraries To Close. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who last month warned that 22 of the county’s 49 public libraries could be shut down this fall due to deep budget cuts, announced Thursday that his administration now expects to shutter only four. The dramatic reduction, while welcome news to library supporters who have campaigned to keep the facilities open, still comes with plenty of pain. Libraries across the board will likely shorten their hours and be staffed by fewer librarians.” [Miami-Herald, 8/15/13]

A Deal Was Reached To Instead Fire More Than 1/3rd Of Library Employees, And Shorten Operation Hours. “Nearly six weeks after cautioning it could shutter 22 public libraries, Miami-Dade County has found a way to keep all 49 facilities open at least some of the time, offering stripped-down services. In all, 169 library workers — more than a third of the department’s 461 employees — would lose their jobs by Oct. 1, and libraries would begin to operate about three-quarters of the hours they do now, Mayor Carlos Giménez informed county commissioners late Friday.” [Miami-Herald, 8/24/13]

2011: Giménez Was In Favor Of A Proposed Budget Which Would Close 13 Public Libraries; He Backtracked On The Plan After Drawing Criticism

Giménez Was In Favor Of A Proposed Budget Which Would Close 13 Public Libraries. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez made history on Thursday, hosting the county’s first virtual town hall meeting to answer questions about his proposed budget, which would cut 1,300 county jobs, close 13 libraries and make county workers pay more for their medical insurance.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]

Giménez: “We Had To Asses Our Priorities And Make Tough Choices.” “In crafting this budget, we had to assess our priorities and make tough choices, including some service cuts,’ said Giménez. ‘Unfortunately, our County Library System will be affected.’ But he said an effort is already afoot to raise private funds to support some lost libraries’ operations. To many residents, the facilities serve not only as a resource to borrow books and participate in literacy programs, but provide much-needed Internet service.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]


Giménez Backtracked On His Proposal To Shutter Libraries After Drawing Criticism. “Two years ago, Giménez’s proposal to shutter libraries drew so much criticism that the administration ultimately backtracked on its plan. On Tuesday, Commissioner Barbara Jordan said she feared the latest round of cuts would disproportionately affect poor communities.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/13]

The County’s Libraries Served As Many Residents’ Only Resource To Bower Books, Participate In Literacy Programs, And Provide Internet Services

The County’s Libraries Served As Many Residents’ Only Resource To Bower Books, Participate In Literacy Programs, And Provide Internet Services. “In crafting this budget, we had to assess our priorities and make tough choices, including some service cuts,’ said Giménez. ‘Unfortunately, our County Library System will be affected.’ But he said an effort is already afoot to raise private funds to support some lost libraries’ operations. To
many residents, the facilities serve not only as a resource to borrow books and participate in literacy programs, but provide much-needed Internet service.” [Miami-Herald, 7/14/11]


Arts

Giménez Was Against Increasing The Number Of Art Murals Allowed In Miami-Dade County

Giménez Voted Against Increasing The Number Of Art Murals Allowed In Miami-Dade County. In June 2007, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO ZONING REGULATION OF SIGNS; AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 07-61 OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; MODIFYING AREA WHERE MURAL SIGNS MAY BE PERMITTED; INCREASING NUMBER OF MURALS ALLOWED; MODIFYING MURAL SPACING REQUIREMENTS; PERMITTING MURAL SIGNS TO COVER WINDOWS UNDER SPECIFIED CIRCUMSTANCES; AMENDING SECTION 33-107 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA (CODE), TO MODIFY SIGN MAINTENANCE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING PENALTIES; AMENDING CHAPTER 8CC OF THE CODE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 071350, 6/12/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]


Giménez Said That Miami’s Murals Were “Out Of Control”

Giménez Said That Miami’s Murals Were “Out Of Control.” “A long-sought and controversial law that would limit the number of murals in Miami’s downtown business district won passage from Miami-Dade County commissioners Thursday, after heated discussion and calls for stricter fines. […] The issues commissioners wrestled with Thursday were whether to increase the fines, and the 100-foot setback from residential properties. Commissioner Carlos Giménez wanted the fine increased to $2,500, but a county attorney said the state sets the limit. ”If we don’t up the fines, we’re going to have 100 murals,” said Giménez. ‘Right now this thing is out of control.'” [Miami-Herald, 4/27/07]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Abolishing The Performing Arts Center Of Greater Miami Trust

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Abolishing The Performing Arts Center Of Greater Miami Trust. In October 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE ABOLISHING THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER OF GREATER MIAMI TRUST: DELETING ARTICLE XXXIIIC OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA IN ITS ENTIRETY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-119, Vote 081917, 10/7/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

Museums

Giménez Supported The Creation Of The Miami-Dade Cuban Exile Museum And A Black History Museum

Giménez Supported The Creation Of The Miami-Dade Cuban Exile Museum. Museum organizers say they plan to highlight the success stories of Cuban exiles, the umbrella term for immigrants who left Cuba after Fidel
Castro seized power in 1959. […] The museum also plans to study the impact of Cuban exiles in the United States, including a exhibit that Muir credits to Giménez and describes as comparing Miami’s prosperity with Havana’s decay. […] An April 16 memo from Giménez to commissioners said county planning staff concluded Parcel B could accommodate the museum’s footprint. While the memo described the Heat Group as expressing “overall support” for the exile museum, it also laid out a series of “concerns” from the team. The Heat, according to the memo, said the option of temporarily renting Parcel. [Miami-Herald, 4/23/14]

**Giménez Supported The Creation Of A Black History Museum.** “Miami-Dade commissioners approved pursuing a new black history museum on Tuesday, but not before floating the idea of combining it with a proposed Cuban exile museum. The idea was backed by the two most powerful people on the dais: Rebeca Sosa, the Cuban-born chairwoman of the commission, and Carlos Giménez, the Cuban-born mayor of the county. It drew opposition from backers of each museum and wasn’t officially endorsed, but it added another wrinkle to a debate that continues to touch on the dicey topic of ethnic heritage in Miami-Dade County.” [Miami-Herald, 10/7/14]

### Teach For America

**Giménez Was A Supporter Of Teach For America Programs In Miami**

“‘This program gives people like myself perspective as to what it takes to be a teacher and show the importance of teaching for our community,’ said Giménez, who said he signed up for the program immediately after he was told about it. The program is part of the Teach for America initiative that started in 1990 to offer recent college graduates a chance to teach so they can learn about the responsibilities that go with the job. It launched Teach For America Week in 1997.” [Miami-Herald, 4/24/08]

**2008: Giménez Said That He Had Signed Up For A Teach For America Program**

“‘This program gives people like myself perspective as to what it takes to be a teacher and show the importance of teaching for our community,’ said Giménez, who said he signed up for the program immediately after he was told about it. The program is part of the Teach for America initiative that started in 1990 to offer recent college graduates a chance to teach so they can learn about the responsibilities that go with the job. It launched Teach For America Week in 1997.” [Miami-Herald, 4/24/08]

### Homestead Educational Facilities Benefit District

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Creating The Homestead Educational Facilities Benefit District**

In January 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE HOMESTEAD EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BENEFIT DISTRICT (‘EFBD’ OR “HOMESTEAD EFBD”), UPON APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF HOMESTEAD; PROVIDING FOR HOMESTEAD EFBD NAME, DESCRIPTION, BOUNDARIES, POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR EXERCISE OF CERTAIN EFBD POWERS, INCLUDING FINANCING AND NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT POWERS, UPON EXECUTION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BY EFBD; PROVIDING DESCRIPTION AND BOUNDARIES; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; PROVIDING INITIAL MEMBERS OF FOR EFBD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; PROVIDING QUALIFICATIONS, TERMS OF OFFICE, QUORUM AND ELECTIONS FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; PROVIDING FOR FINANCING AND NON AD-VALOREM ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL AUDIT AND MONTHLY ACCOUNTING BY EFBD; PROVIDING FOR PROPER DISCLOSURE ON PROVIDING
FOR DISCLOSURE NOTICE OF EFBD IN REAL ESTATE SALES CONTRACTS:
PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE
ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 042644 AND 043141].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County
Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 1/20/05, accessed 1/31/20]
Election Law & Campaign Finance Issues

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez refused requests to open early voting sites at every college campus even after a district judge ruled that the refusal showed a “stark pattern of discrimination.”

✓ Giménez allowed only FIU and Miami-Dade College to have early voting on campus after criticisms of his refusal.

✓ Giménez was against extending early-voting hours, despite voter complaints of long lines.

✓ Giménez later apologized, and vowed to fix the problem.

✓ Giménez voted in favor of granting voting rights to convicted felons.

✓ Giménez was opposed to the purchase of more secure voting machines with paper records.

✓ Giménez voted to prohibit campaign ethics complaints from being filed within five days of an election.

✓ Giménez voted repeatedly against making it a crime to make false statements concerning the contents of initiatives, referendums, or recall petitions.

✓ Giménez said that he was in favor of a proposal to implement term limits for county officials, but also voted against it.

Voting Rights

Giménez Refused Requests To Open Early Voting Sites At Every College Campus Even After A District Judge Ruled That The Refusal Showed A “Stark Pattern Of Discrimination”

Giménez Refused Requests To Open Early Voting Sites At College Campuses. “Ever so ready to give his party and his friends a helping hand, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez -- a Republican in a supposedly non-partisan role -- has so far refused requests to open early voting sites at MDC, FIU and UM. This despite a court order by a federal judge on July 24 declaring unconstitutional a four-year state policy banning voting on campus. The ban was engendered by state Republicans and Scott with the sole purpose of making it difficult for college-age students, supposedly more liberal than conservative, to vote against their agenda and their candidates.” [Miami-Herald, 9/13/18]

A U.S. District Judge Said That The Refusal Showed A “Stark Pattern Of Discrimination” By The State Of Florida.” “Giménez isn’t swayed by the words of U.S. District Judge Mark Walker, who said that the refusal to allow college students the opportunity to vote on campus showed a ‘stark pattern of discrimination’ by the state of Florida. The court ruling, unfortunately, doesn’t force elections officials to open the early-voting sites, which is the only way to get them to do the right thing these days.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 9/13/18]

Giménez Allowed Only FIU And Miami-Dade College To Have Early Voting On Campus After Criticisms Of His Refusal

Giménez Allowed FIU To Have Early Voting On Campus. “Florida International University’s main campus in western Miami-Dade will have early voting next month but Miami-Dade College will not under a county plan announced Wednesday after sustained criticism by groups wanting it to be easier for students to vote ahead of Election Day. ‘I am firmly committed to making voting accessible to all,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Republican in a non-partisan post, said in a statement released Wednesday afternoon. ‘Miami-Dade County has historically provided the maximum allowable early voting locations and hours. We will continue to provide that opportunity to all of our voters in a professional and non-partisan manner.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/19/18]

Giménez Allowed MDC To Have Early Campus Voting After The County Commission Pushed For Its Implementation. “The Democratic majority on the nonpartisan County Commission pushed for MDC to get the same kind of early-voting site that Mayor Carlos Giménez awarded Florida International University the day before. Giménez and fellow Republicans on the 13-member board resisted giving MDC an early-voting site, arguing it wasn’t needed for the commuter school.” [Miami-Herald, 9/21/18]

HEADLINE: “Under Pressure, Miami-Dade Mayor Approves Early Voting For One Large College Campus.” [Miami-Herald, 9/19/18]

HEADLINE: Santiago Column: “Miami-Dade’s College Campuses Should Have Early Voting Sites Like The Rest Of Florida.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 9/13/18]

2012: Giménez Was Against Extending Early-Voting Hours, Despite Voter Complaints Of Long Lines At Voting Locations

Giménez Was Against Extending Early-Voting Hours, Despite Voter Complaints Of Long Lines At Voting Locations. “Despite lines up to seven hours long at times during eight days of early voting, Giménez had decided late last week not to ask Gov. Scott to extend early-voting hours in Miami-Dade. The last early-voting polls officially closed at 7 p.m. Saturday, but they remained open until the last voter in line checked in with a poll worker — about 1 a.m. Sunday. Giménez defended his decision Sunday to refrain from asking the governor for more early-voting hours.” [Miami-Herald, 11/4/12]

Giménez Realized That Was A Mistake, Apologized, And Said That He Would Extend The Hours “Next Election”

Giménez Realized That Was A Mistake, And Apologized. “The worst waits, up to six hours, were in Miami-Dade County, where Mayor Carlos Giménez showed up at a Brickell Avenue polling place to personally apologize to hundreds still waiting to cast ballots as polls closed at 7 p.m. ‘I’m sorry and embarrassed,’ Giménez said. ‘That should not have happened. That’s something that we have to look at for the next election.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/7/12]

Giménez: “I’m Sorry And Embarrassed […] That’s Something That We Should Have To Look At For The Next Election.” “The worst waits, up to six hours, were in Miami-Dade County, where Mayor Carlos Giménez showed up at a Brickell Avenue polling place to personally apologize to hundreds still waiting to cast ballots as polls closed at 7 p.m. ‘I’m sorry and embarrassed,’ Giménez said. ‘That should not have happened. That’s something that we have to look at for the next election.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/7/12]

2015: President Obama Highlighted Giménez’s Efforts To Fix The 2012 Mishap In A Press Call On The Anniversary Of The Voting Rights Act
2015: President Obama Highlighted Giménez’s Efforts To Fix The 2012 Mishap In A Press Call On The Anniversary Of The Voting Rights Act. “When the White House held a press call Thursday touting the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, it put three people on the phone: Attorney General Loretta Lynch, presidential adviser Valerie Jarrett and ... Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez. Miami-Dade’s senior Republican was tapped to highlight the county’s efforts to fix the debacle of Election Day in 2012, when thousands of voters waited hours in lines at overwhelmed precincts. ‘It is a county that had challenges in the past, and they worked really hard to overcome those challenges,’ Jarrett said. ‘We wanted to put the spotlight on a model that shows you can improve.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/15]

Giménez: “We Are Committed To Making Sure The Troubles We Had In 2012 Never Happen Again.” “With the potential for a hometown Republican on the presidential ballot in a county known for massive Democratic turn-out, 2016 could be the biggest test yet for Miami-Dade’s precincts. Recently, the state elections division with concerns about the pending retirement of the county’s elections supervisor a few months before the August primary. Giménez said he plans to a successor this fall. Giménez told reporters on the call that he’s confident that past problems have been fixed.” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/15]

HEADLINE “On White House Call, Giménez Highlights Fixes To Voting Woes.” [Miami-Herald, 8/6/15]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Granting Voting Rights To Convicted Felons


The Ordinance Only Allowed Ex-Felons To Vote For Candidates For County Commission. The County Commission is expected to consider a local ordinance that would allow ex-felons to vote, but only in Miami-Dade County and only for candidates for county commissioner. The state of Florida already has announced its intent to challenge the ordinance’s passage. County Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan says that if that happens, she will re-introduce the measure at a May 11 meeting of the commission’s committee on community outreach, safety and healthcare administration. Although far from the ultimate goal of restoring Florida ex-felons their full voting rights for federal, state and municipal offices as well as on ballot propositions, the local ordinance would be considered a step forward. Florida is one of only five states that does not restore full citizenship, including the right to vote, to felons who have served their sentences. [Miami Times, 5/4/05]

HEADLINE: “Proposal Skirts Ban On Ex-Felons’ Votes.” [Sun Sentinel, 4/14/05]

Nov. 2005: The U.S. Supreme Court Decided In Favor Of A Law That Barred Felons From Voting In Florida. “The U.S. Supreme Court let stand Monday a Civil War-era law that bars felons from voting in Florida, ending a five-year legal battle waged on behalf of 600,000 ex-felons by civil-rights groups who argued the lifetime ban is biased against blacks. The court’s refusal to hear the case leaves Florida as one of three states in the country that automatically prohibit felons from voting even after they’ve served their time.” [Miami-Herald, 1/15/05]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Making County Commissioner Elections County-Wide

Giménez Was In Favor Of Making County Commissioner Elections County-Wide. “Giménez on Monday said he wants voters to also weigh in on charter amendments when they go to the polls for the recall election. Among
the charter amendments he discussed: instituting term limits, having some commissioners elected county-wide and making it easier to recall elected officials. A previous attempt by Giménez to put term limits on the ballot failed when no other commissioners supported his motion.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

### Election Security

#### 2007: Giménez Was Opposed To The Purchase Of More Secure Voting Machines With Paper Records

2007: Giménez Was Opposed To The Purchase Of More Secure Voting Machines With Paper Records. “Miami-Dade County commissioners Wednesday stopped a plan by elections chief Lester Sola to award a $10 million no-bid contract for new voting machines. Instead, commissioners gave Sola a tongue-lashing -- and directions to gather competitive bids from Florida’s three viable voting machine operators and have an ‘optical scan’ system in place by August 2008. To meet state mandates for voting machines that create paper records, Sola’s office had asked for $14.1 million for new voting machines, booths, printers and optical scanners -- including a $10 million no-bid award to the county’s current vendor, Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software, for its optical scanners. Miami-Dade commissioners were skeptical of Sola’s attempt to rush the contract. 'You've created a false sense of urgency,' Commissioner Carlos Giménez said. 'This commission is being led somewhere it shouldn’t be led,' he said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/12/07]

### Campaign Law

#### Giménez Voted In Favor Of Prohibiting Campaign Ethics Complaints From Being Filed Within Five Days Of An Election

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Prohibiting Campaign Ethics Complaints From Being Filed Within Five Days Of An Election. In October 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-11.1.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO ETHICAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ORDINANCE; PROVIDING THAT NO COMPLAINT MAY BE FILED WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR EXPEDITED ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 061801].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 10/24/06, accessed 1/31/20]

A Similar Statue Existed With The Florida Ethics Commission Against Filling Ethics Complaints Within Five Days Of An Election. The statute prohibits the disclosure of any complaint to the state Ethics Commission, which investigates alleged ethical violations by public officials. Under the law, the matter must remain confidential until the commission rules against an official. […] Here is what the Florida statute says on the confidentiality of complaints to the state Ethics Commission: ‘All proceedings, the complaint and other records relating to the preliminary investigation … including a dismissal of the complaint, shall be confidential either until the alleged violator requests in writing that such investigation and records be made public records or the preliminary investigation is completed … In no event shall a complaint … against a candidate in any election … be filed or any intention of filing such a complaint be disclosed’ during the last five days of the campaign. The statute makes a breach of confidentiality a first-degree misdemeanor punishable by a $1,000 fine and up to a year in prison.” [Miami-Herald, 12/6/83]

#### Giménez Voted In Favor Of Requiring Restitution When An Elected Official Violates Conflict Of Interest Or Ethical Campaign Practices

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Requiring Restitution When A Person Violates Conflict Of Interest Or Ethical Campaign Practices. In December 2004, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 2-
11.1, 2-11.1.1 AND 12-22 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO EMPOWER ETHICS
COMMISSION TO REQUIRE RESTITUTION WHEN A PERSON VIOLATES CONFLICT OF INTEREST
AND CODE OF ETHICS ORDINANCE, ETHICAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ORDINANCE OR ELECTION
CAMPAIGN FINANCING TRUST FUND ORDINANCE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE
CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO.11A3].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-
Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 12/2/04, accessed 1/31/20]

**Misinformation Campaigns**

**Giménez Voted Against Prohibiting Any Person From Intentionally Making False Statements Concerning The Contents Of Initiatives, Referendums, Or Recall Petitions**

**Giménez Voted Against Prohibiting Any Person From Intentionally Making False Statements Concerning The Contents Of Initiatives, Referendums, Or Recall Petitions.** In November 2006, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ANY PERSON OR ENTITY FROM INTENTIONALLY MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE CONTENTS OR EFFECT OF ANY PETITION FOR INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, OR RECALL TO ANY PERSON WHO IS REQUESTED TO SIGN ANY SUCH PETITION OR WHO MAKES AN INQUIRY REGARDING ANY SUCH PETITION; AMENDING SECTION 12-23 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, PENALTY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 063407].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Ordinance 06-167, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 5/23/06, accessed 1/31/20]

**Giménez Voted Against Making It A Crime To Make False Statements While Gathering Petitions**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Eliminating The Prohibition Of Intentional False Statements On Petitions For Referendums.** In April 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12-23 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY REGARDING PETITIONS FOR INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, OR RECALL; ELIMINATING PROHIBITION ON INTENTIONAL FALSE STATEMENTS; ELIMINATING PROCEDURES FOR WITHDRAWAL OF SIGNATURE; ELIMINATING REQUIREMENT THAT THERE BE NO MORE THAN ONE SIGNATURE PER PAGE; CONFORMING CODE TO CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING CLERK CERTIFICATION OF FORM; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 100723, 4/6/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

**Giménez Voted Against Making It A Crime To Make False Statements While Gathering Petitions.**

“Citizen petitioners beware: You could face fines and jail time for making ‘intentionally false statements’ while gathering signatures to change county law or recall officeholders under a proposed law before the Miami-Dade County Commission. The measure, sponsored by Commissioner Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, would make it a misdemeanor for people circulating petitions to lie about who they represent or what their petition seeks to achieve. […] Commissioners Katy Sorenson and Carlos Giménez voted against the proposal. The law would apply to people circulating petitions for citizen initiatives, referendums seeking to change the county code or recall efforts against elected officials in Miami-Dade. It would not apply to groups petitioning state government or backing statewide initiatives.” [Miami-Herald, 6/28/06]

**Gifts**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Prohibiting The Acceptance Of Gifts Having A Value Of Excess Of $100 Without A Public Disclosure**
**Recall Elections**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Making It Easier To Recall Elected Officials**. “Giménez on Monday said he wants voters to also weigh in on charter amendments when they go to the polls for the recall election. Among the charter amendments he discussed: instituting term limits, having some commissioners elected county-wide and making it easier to recall elected officials. A previous attempt by Giménez to put term limits on the ballot failed when no other commissioners supported his motion.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

**Term Limits**

**Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of A Proposal Implementing Term Limits For Public Officials, But Also Voted Against It**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Implementing Term Limits For County Commissioners**. “Giménez on Monday said he wants voters to also weigh in on charter amendments when they go to the polls for the recall election. Among the charter amendments he discussed: instituting term limits, having some commissioners elected county-wide and making it easier to recall elected officials. A previous attempt by Giménez to put term limits on the ballot failed when no other commissioners supported his motion.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

**Giménez Said That Term Limits Would Help Political Newcomers Get Elected**. “Giménez said term limits would help more political newcomers get elected. ‘I know that’s what the people want,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]

**Giménez Voted Against 12-Year Term Limits For County Commissioners**

**Giménez Voted Against 12-Year Term Limits For County Commissioners**. “Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who is running for county mayor, has said that commissioners should remove the ballot proposals regarding a 12-year term limit and ending the strong-mayor system, two items he voted against. Giménez has said, however, that the other ideas — such as removing the notary requirement on ballot petitions and allowing two-thirds of a charter review task force to place items directly on the ballot — have merit and should go forward.” [Miami-Herald, 1/11/11]
**Energy Issues**

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez voted in favor of tax breaks on natural gas pipelines.

**Oil & Gas**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Tax Breaks For Natural Gas Pipelines**

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Tax Breaks For Natural Gas Pipelines. In April 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS SANS SOUCI NATURAL GAS PIPELINE EXTENSION SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 070776, 4/24/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 1/31/20]
Environmental Issues

Significant Findings

- In 2018, Giménez ordered to reopen Miami-Dade’s beaches despite red tide still being detected in Miami’s coasts.
  - Red tide caused breathing issues and skin irritation and proved fatal for fish and wildlife.
  - Giménez was in favor of adding funds for seaweed cleanup, but seaweed wasn’t considered as much of a public health concern as red tide.
- Giménez was in favor of using sewage water to cool down Turkey Point nuclear power plant; critics warned that the plan would lead to “long-lasting terrible algae blooms.”
- Giménez’s 2013 claim that Miami had the “nation’s highest-rated tap water” was rated “false” by PolitiFact.
- Giménez supported a county budget that took away $25 million from sewer funds, even after broken pipes spilled 47 million gallons of waste into Miami-Dade County waterways and farmlands.
- Giménez suggested to residents, whose houses had maximum water contamination levels of arsenic, that they would have to pay more over $5,000 to hook up to public water lines.
  - Giménez refused to look for alternative funding sources until residents supported the installations first.
- Giménez was in favor of committing $1.6 billion to upgrade Miami-Dade’s antiquated water and sewer pipes after they were found in violation of the Clean Water Act.
- Under Giménez’s watch, Miami lost $10 million in federal funding due to environmental compliance violations with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Giménez was in favor of expanding Miami-Dade’s urban development boundary line into the Everglades.
- Giménez was in favor of the construction of a new toll highway; The $1 billion highway plan would save drivers just 6 minutes and would harm the Everglades.
  - Giménez proposed highway in Kendall harmed Everglades restoration projects which were needed to battle sea level rise; Sen. Marco Rubio opposed the highway due to the environmental concerns.
- Giménez was in favor of buying foreign sand to replenish Miami’s beaches; the move would disqualify the possibility of using federal funds to cover for Miami’s sand.

Climate Change
Giménez Was Opposed To Trump’s Withdrawal From The Paris Climate Accords.

“The resolution adds Miami-Dade to a string of local governments and municipal officials seeking to counter Trump’s rejection of the nonbinding agreement between 195 countries. The legislation also gave Mayor Carlos Giménez a second chance to publicly back the Paris agreement after gingerly avoiding an outright endorsement after the rejection by Trump, who the mayor is hoping will shepherd billions of dollars in transit funds to Miami-Dade. On Tuesday, a spokesman answered ‘yes’ when asked if Giménez -- who can veto commission actions -- backed Levine Cava’s resolution. ‘Mayor Giménez signed the U.S.-China Climate Leaders Compact in 2015,’ said Michael Hernández, Giménez’s communications director. ‘Those benchmarks may be more ambitious than the Paris Accord.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/20/17]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Backs Paris Climate Agreement That President Trump Rejected.” [Miami-Herald, 7/20/17]

Giménez: “Sea-Level Rise Is A Very Serious Concern For Miami-Dade […] It’s Not A Theory. It’s A Fact”

“Hours before heading to Washington to witness Donald Trump become president, Miami-Dade’s Republican mayor offered a blunt message to skeptics of climate change and the crisis it presents the coast. ’Let’s be clear, sea-level rise is a very serious concern for Miami-Dade County and all of South Florida,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez told the crowd Wednesday morning at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center during his annual State of the County address. ‘It’s not a theory. It’s a fact. We live it every day.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/18/17]

Algae Blooms

Oct. 2018: Giménez Reopened Miami-Dade’s Beaches Despite The Red Tide Being Detected In Miami’s Coastal Waters

“A red tide that has sloshed up and down the Gulf Coast for nearly a year, leaving a wake of dead sea life, murky water and stinky beaches, has now landed on the state’s most crowded shores in Miami-Dade County. Following confirmation late Wednesday night that the algae that causes red tide had been detected at moderate levels, county officials closed beaches north of Haulover Park before dawn Thursday. Later Thursday, following a meeting with state environmental and health officials, the county said the beaches would reopen Friday, Mayor Carlos Giménez said in a statement. People with severe or chronic respiratory conditions should continue to keep away, he said. Signs will be placed at beaches warning visitors about potential risks. On Thursday, tests found red tide on four beaches.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]

The Red Tide Caused Breathing Issues And Skin Irritation, And Proved Fatal For Fish And Wildlife

“We are taking this proactive step to ensure our residents and visitors are not affected as we collect samples in other areas for state testing,’ Mayor Carlos A. Giménez said in a statement. ‘We will continue to seek guidance from the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and take precautionary measures as warranted.’ The toxic algae can cause breathing issues and skin irritation, and even has proved fatal for fish and wildlife.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade To Reopen Beaches Friday Despite Red Tide Detected In Coastal Waters Off Miami.” [Miami-Herald, 10/4/18]
Giménez Supported Adding Funds For Seaweed Cleanup Along County Beaches; Seaweed Wasn’t Considered As Much Of A Public Health Concern As The Red Tide

2019: Giménez Supported Adding Funds For Seaweed Cleanup Along County Beaches. “Giménez also wants to add $2.8 million to the budget for seaweed cleanup along county beaches, an extension funding for an emergency removal operation the county launched in July. Giménez wants to pay for the operation with hotel taxes, a funding move requiring a change in county law.” [Miami-Herald, 9/4/19]

Miami-Herald: Seaweed Wasn’t “Considered As Much Of A Public Health Concern As Last Year’s Red Tide.” “Miami-Dade is just one front in a larger seaweed battle ensnaring Florida and other parts of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico during a cycle of increased sargassum drifting over the last several years. This summer brought more of the brown, reedy mats of sea grass to Miami Beach and beyond, putting pressure on the county’s cleanup crews to do more. ’I think it could become a real crisis,’ said Commissioner Eileen Higgins, whose district includes parts of Miami Beach. ‘Some days are really bad. Some days are not so bad.’ While hydrogen sulfide gas that comes from sargassum can smell like rotten eggs and cause some respiratory issues, seaweed isn’t considered as much of a public health concern as last year’s red tide outbreaks across Florida. But for beachgoing residents and tourists, a primary driver of Miami-Dade’s hospitality industry, seaweed-covered sand is a nuisance and possibly a reason to vacation elsewhere.” [Miami-Herald, 7/18/19]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using Sewage Water To Cool Down The Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant; Critics Warned That The Plan Would Lead To “Long-Lasting Terrible Algae Blooms”

Giménez Was In Favor Of Using Treated Sewage Water To Cool Nuclear Power Plant Canals. “A plan to use costly treated wastewater to fix Florida Power & Light’s nuclear cooling canals could wind up polluting Biscayne Bay, environmentalists warned this week. Under the deal set to go before the Miami-Dade County Commission on Tuesday, FPL and the county plan to build a plant to clean sewage in South Dade and pump billions of gallons of treated wastewater into the over-heated canals each year. […] In March, Mayor Carlos Giménez pitched the plan as a fix to two vexing problems: the troubled canals and meeting a deadline to end the county’s decades-long practice of pumping polluted sewage offshore. But environmentalists say so far the plan provides no guarantee that wastewater will be clean enough for Biscayne Bay, which has been plagued by algae blooms and seagrass die-offs. [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]

Giménez’s Plan Was Criticized By Environmental Groups Because It Would Lead To “Long-Lasting Terrible Algae Blooms” “In a letter to commissioners last month, five environmental groups, including Tropical Audubon and the National Parks Conservation Association, warned that the plan also ignores a 20-year-old Everglades restoration plan to use wastewater to revive the bay and coastal wetlands, which stalled over the high price of treatment. […] “Let’s not do a half-assed solution,” said Southern Alliance for Clean Energy director Stephen Smith. “That’s what we’re really talking about here.” FPL canal aerial The Turkey Point cooling canals cover nearly 6,000 areas and have become too salty over the years, creating a massive underground saltwater plume the utility is now trying to clean up. Environmentalists also worry that the county, which has reviewed the plan twice in committee meetings with little public comment, is rushing into an agreement with the powerful utility and reneging on an earlier decision to retire the canals. ‘Biscayne Bay is at a tipping point,’ said Miami Waterkeeper Executive Director Rachel Silverstein. ‘If we continue putting nutrients into the bay we’ll start to get really long-lasting terrible algae blooms and we’re already starting to see these blooms.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]

Headlines

HEADLINE: Could Putting Treated Sewage Water In FPL Nuclear Canals Pollute Biscayne Bay? Critics Say Yes.” [Miami-Herald, 4/6/18]
HEADLINE: “FPL’s Troubled Cooling Canals Are About To Get A New Permit. Some Say That’s A Problem.” [Miami-Herald, 2/23/19]

Water Contamination

Politifact: Giménez’s Claim That Miami Had The “Nation’s Highest-Rated Tap Water” Was Rated False

“Miami-Dade has plenty to brag about: stellar beaches, celebrities who live in multimillion-dollar mansions, four-star restaurants, the world famous tennis tournament on Key Biscayne and Miami Heat national basketball champions. But a county document boasted about something far more ordinary on July 9 when Mayor Carlos Giménez released his budget proposal. A budget-in-brief document written by the county’s Office of Management and Budget stated that the county has “the nation’s highest-rated tap water.” Do we have some sort of liquid gold pouring out of our faucets that is the envy of other counties nationwide? We went in search of answers to quench our curiosity. […] The claim is wrong, but it isn’t so ridiculous to earn our lowest Pants on Fire rating. We’re still going to end with one more joke and pour a cold bucket of tap water to douse this claim. We rate this claim False. [Politifact via Miami-Herald, 7/12/13]

2012: Giménez Supported A County Budget That Took Away $25 Million From Sewer Funds, Even After Broken Pipes Spilled 47 Million Gallons Of Waste Into Miami Waterways And Farmlands

Giménez Offered A County Budget That Took $25 Million Away From The County’s Sewer Funds, Even After Broken Sewer Pipes Spilled 47 Million Gallons Of Waste Into Miami Waterways And Farmlands. “A broken water line in Little Haiti floods homes and some streets waist-high. The aging wastewater treatment plant on Virginia Key spills 19 million gallons of untreated waste into the ocean. A water main break in Hialeah creates a sinkhole. A burst pipe pours untreated sewage straight into Biscayne Bay. Over the past two years broken sewer pipes have spewed 47 million gallons of stinky waste onto roads and homes and into Miami-Dade waterways all the way from farmlands in the southern tip of the county to the northern border with Broward, which also is facing major sewer system breakdowns. […] Last year, Mr. Giménez offered a budget that took $25 million from the sewer funds as a ‘loan’ to balance the county’s books — an effort aimed at not having to lay off more county workers or reduce crucial services to residents. This year’s budget proposal does not dip into the sewer funds and the loan will start getting repaid in 2014.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 7/29/12]


Giménez Suggested To Residents, Whose Houses Had Maximum Water Contamination Levels Of Arsenic, That They Would Have To Pay Over $5,000 To Hook Up To Public Water Lines

Giménez Told Residents, Whose Houses Had Maximum Water Contamination Levels Of Arsenic, That They Would Have To Pay Over $5,000 To Hook Up To Public Water Lines. “With results in for 50 of the 99 houses tested, all showed traces of arsenic, with six found to be within 50 percent of the Maximum Contamination Level, 10 parts per billion. Another three houses tested above the MCL. All results were discussed with affected residents Thursday at a meeting organized by District 7 Commissioner Carlos Giménez and several government agencies. […] At Thursday’s meeting, Giménez, along with representatives from the county’s DERM and the state’s Department of Health, addressed possible solutions. Homeowners were given two choices: bring in a water line with public water or buy individual reverse-osmosis filters, both of which are costly procedures. Connecting homeowners to public water is a two-step process. According to county code, if a water line is brought in, all nearby homes must connect to it. ‘I’m going to fight . . . to get water to you,’ Giménez said, promising residents he
would find funding for the initial step. ’But if so, you have to hook up,’ he added, citing the second step, which may cost residents more than $5,000 each.” [Miami-Herald, 3/25/07]

Giménez: “I’m Trying To Find The Most Efficient Way To Solve The Problem, One That Costs The Residents The Least Amount Of Money Possible, And That Takes The Least Time.” “Only homes where arsenic concentrations reach the MCL will receive a filtration system worth $10,000. If residents agree to bring in a county line, only those above the MCL will have the connection costs to their homes covered — if below $10,000. Connection costs to individual homes are separate from the $3.4 million needed to bring in the county lines. Bringing in the lines will cost residents millions, and the commissioner will only do so if they reach a consensus. Those who want the lines brought in are asking Giménez to take a more strong-handed approach, one the commissioner is avoiding. ’I’m trying to find the most efficient way to solve the problem, one that costs the residents the least amount of money possible, and that takes time. Not everyone is going to be happy,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

HEADLINE: “Arsenic In Water Worries Residents; A Recent Study By The State’s Department Of Health Showed Traces Of Arsenic In Well Water At All 50 Houses Tested, With Nine Found To Be Above Accepted Levels.” [Miami-Herald, 3/25/07]

HEADLINE: “Tainted-Wells Fix Is Costly; Residents Whose Private Wells Have Tested Positive For Arsenic May Have To Come Up With A Significant Portion Of The $3.5 Million Necessary If They Want To Get Hooked Up To The County System.” [Miami-Herald, 5/13/07]

HEADLINE: “South Dade Has Less Help For Arsenic Wells; Lack Of Progress Leaves Residents Of Glenvar Heights Still Dealing With Arsenic In Their Private Wells, And They May Have To Pay Even More Than Originally Expected.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

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Giménez Refused To Look For Alternative Funding Sources Unless Residents Supported The Installations In The First Place

Giménez Refused To Look For Alternative Funding Sources Unless Residents Supported The Installations In The First Place. “Cejas is skeptical of the use of the questionnaire because District 7 Commissioner Carlos Giménez -- who suggested its creation -- has not yet clarified how the choice of method to remedy the problem will be chosen. ’I did not elect my neighbors. I depend on the government to act,’ said Cejas, whose house tested just below the MCL. The survey asks residents if they support the installation of water mains “regardless of the funding source,” warning them of the possible cost. This contrasts promises by Commissioner Giménez to look for funding because the search for it will commence only if residents support the installation in the first place. ”Believe me, if there’s anyone on the commission who knows where to find funding, it’s me,” Giménez said at a meeting with residents on March 22.” [Miami-Herald, 4/8/07]

Giménez: “I Know It’s Very Personal To Them, But I Can’t Make Things Happen Any Faster Than What I’m Doing Right Now.” “Residents are even more aggravated that they have not heard from County Commissioner Carlos Giménez and that little has yet been done. ”They’re not going to be left in the dark,” said Giménez, who has not met with homeowners because little has changed since May. ’Nothing is going to happen without more public input. I know they’re frustrated, but I’m frustrated myself. I know it’s very personal to them, but I can’t make things happen any faster than what I’m doing right now. They’re going to hear from us,’ Giménez promised. The commissioner plans to meet with his staff in the coming weeks and hold a public meeting before the end of August.” [Miami-Herald, 7/8/07]

2008: Miami-Dade Public Works Completed A Water Pipe Project With Funds That Giménez Helped Secure And Solved The Arsenic Contamination Problems

2008: Miami-Dade Public Works Completed A Water Pipe Project With Funds That Giménez Helped Secure And Solved The Arsenic Contamination Problems. “After an 18-month wait to get arsenic-free water in
their neighborhood, people in Glenvar Heights finally have the option of hooking up to county water. Department of Health inspectors found traces of arsenic in water pumped by private wells in the neighborhood near South Miami during the fall of 2006, leading to a long, uphill battle for funds led by Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez. Public works officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, marking the completion of the $1.9 million construction project that extended county water pipes into the neighborhood and placed 25 fire hydrants near the homes. ‘Everything worked out pretty well,’ Giménez said, noting that one part of the project cost $1.5 million -- half of what was originally budgeted using the county’s General Obligations Bond. The residents with the highest concentration of arsenic in their well water, like Larry Freedman, were satisfied with the project’s cost and speed of completion.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/08]

HEADLINE: “Dade Residents With Arsenic In Water Can Now Tap Into County System; People In Glenvar Heights Neighborhood, Where Traces Of Arsenic Had Been Found In Well Water.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/08]

Environmental Compliance Violations

2013: Giménez Was In Favor Of Committing $1.6 Billion To Upgrade Miami-Dade’s Antiquated Water And Sewer Pipes After They Were Found In Violation Of The Clean Water Act

Giménez Was In Favor Of Committing $1.6 Billion To Upgrade Miami-Dade’s Antiquated Water And Sewer Pipes After They Were Found In Violation Of The Clean Water Act. “‘Miami-Dade commissioners swallowed hard medicine Tuesday, approving an agreement with the federal and state governments to settle violations of environmental laws and committing $1.6 billion over the next 15 years to fix the county’s antiquated water and sewer pipes. ‘Any world-class city has good infrastructure, and the most important infrastructure in any city is its water and sewer,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez told the board. ‘Without water, we can’t live. Without getting rid of wastewater, then we’re susceptible to disease.’ The agreement, called a consent decree, will force the county to upgrade its leaky sewage system following violations of laws such as the federal Clean Water Act.” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/13]

Giménez: “Any World-Class City Has Good Infrastructure, And The Most Important Infrastructure In Any City Is Its Water And Sewer.” “‘Any world-class city has good infrastructure, and the most important infrastructure in any city is its water and sewer,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez told the board. ‘Without water, we can’t live. Without getting rid of wastewater, then we’re susceptible to disease.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/13]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Commissioners Approve Spending $1.6 Billion To Fix Water, Sewer Pipes.” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/13]

Under Giménez’s Watch, The City Of Miami Lost $10 Million in Federal Funding Due To Environmental Compliance Violations With The Department Of Housing And Urban Development

Under Giménez’s Watch, The City Of Miami Lost $10 Million in Federal Funding Due To Environmental Compliance Violations With The Department Of Housing And Urban Development. “The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has ordered the city of Miami to freeze $10 million in federal funding, destined for land acquisition and infrastructure projects, because the city has failed to comply with environmental regulations. The agency also scolded city officials for failing to keep environmental records, saying they ‘violated compliance with numerous federal laws.’ The announcement was made in a May 23 letter sent to City Manager Carlos Giménez. HUD based its assessments on an April inspection of the city’s Community Development Department by environmental specialist Linda Poythress. She decided that Community Development had ignored HUD’s warnings from last year that they were not in compliance with environmental requirements. ‘Despite the technical assistance provided in the past, the review of the environmental records indicates a number of violations in the city’s compliance,’ the HUD letter states. HUD’s order is the latest in a series of embarrassments for the city’s Community Development department, which is in charge of distributing federal grant money to programs designed to help the city’s poor. Giménez said he knew about the order and had directed his staff in Community
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 283

Development to address the problem. ‘I’m not happy about it,’ Giménez said. ‘I want to know why we did not comply with HUD’s past requests.’” [Miami-Herald, 9/11/02]

HEADLINE: “HUD Puts Out Order For Freeze On Funding: City Violated Codes.” [Miami-Herald, 9/11/02]

**Everglades Conservation**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of The Construction Of A New Toll Highway; The $1 Billion Highway Plan Would Save Drivers Just 6 Minutes And Would Harm The Everglade’s Waterways**

Giménez Was In Favor Of The Construction Of A New Toll Highway Into Kendall. “Urging county leaders not to neglect the vast majority of residents who drive, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez used a high-profile speech Tuesday to champion the extension of the Dolphin Expressway south into Kendall while resisting calls for a quick expansion of Metrorail into different suburbs. […] plan for 836 extension. A proposal by the administration of Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez to extend the Dolphin Expressway (State Road 836) southwest in Kendall. The bold line shows the proposed route, while the longer dotted line shows the current edge of the county’s Urban Development Boundary The smaller dotted line shows where the boundary would move if certain growth targets were met. Those words came during a passage on the county’s new computer-synced traffic.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/18]

HEADLINE: “$1 Billion Highway Plan In Doubt. Hearing Reveals It Would Save Kendall Drivers Just 6 Minutes.” [Miami-Herald, 7/30/19]

HEADLINE: “Mayor Fighting For A New Toll Highway Into Kendall, Past The Development Boundary.” [Miami-Herald, 1/30/18]


**Giménez’s Proposed Highway In Kendall Could Harm Everglades Restoration Projects Which Were Needed To Battle Sea Level Rise**

Giménez’s Proposed Highway Could Harm Everglades Restoration Projects Which Were Needed To Battle Sea Level Rise. “However, the area remained critical to future Everglades restoration. When a task force created by Giménez looked at the basin last year, the majority recommended keeping the area outside the urban development boundary. As sea level rises, more freshwater than previously estimated under Everglades restoration will likely be needed to beat back saltwater intrusion making buffer areas even more critical.” [Miami-Herald, 6/19/18]


HEADLINE: “State Regulators Latest To Raise Flags Over Miami-Dade’s 836 Highway Extension.” [Miami-Herald, 8/15/18]

**Sen. Marco Rubio Opposed The Highway Due To The Environmental Concerns**

Sen. Marco Rubio Opposed The Highway Due To The Environmental Concerns. “Marco Rubio announced Tuesday that he will ask federal agencies to oppose the 836 expressway expansion into West Kendall, a major roadblock for Mayor Carlos Giménez and the Miami-Dade County Commission after they gave preliminary approval for the 14-mile highway in June. The Republican senator’s alignment with environmentalists, who say the highway would damage the Everglades and cause urban sprawl, could affect the project’s progress due to federal land swaps from the Department of Interior that are needed before construction can begin.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/18]
HEADLINE: “Rubio To Oppose 836 Extension Into Kendall Due To Everglades Concerns.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/18]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Expanding Miami-Dade’s Urban Development Boundary Into The Everglades

“In a sweeping bid to stop development from edging closer to the Everglades, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez on Friday vetoed applications to expand the county’s Urban Development Boundary. Alvarez vetoed a package of building proposals affecting the UDB that the County Commission sent to the state this week for further review. But the commission can override Alvarez’s veto when it meets on Tuesday. If the veto stands, the proposals are dead, although they can be resubmitted in two years. The move endeared Alvarez to those fighting changes to the urban development line. They said the mayor showed political mettle in standing up to Miami-Dade’s influential development industry. […] ‘It’s pure politics, and I don’t think it’s good policy,’ Commissioner Carlos Giménez said of the veto. Alvarez said the commission could have separated projects inside the boundary from those outside it. He also said they could have made a final decision on the projects. ’They could have put an end to the endless lobbying of officials. They didn’t,’ Alvarez said. ‘Instead of dealing with the issue, commissioners chose to wash their hands of this political ‘hot potato.’’” [Miami-Herald 12/3/05]

Wildlife Protections

2007: Giménez Voted Against Creating The Manatee Protection Plan Review Committee

Giménez Voted Against Creating The Manatee Protection Plan Review Committee. In October 2007, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE CREATING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MANATEE PROTECTION PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE, MEMBERSHIP, ORGANIZATION, JURISDICTION, FACILITIES AND STAFF SUPPORT; AUTHORIZING DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO DERM FROM THE BISCAYNE BAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT TRUST FUND TO COMPILE DATA AND INFORMATION REQUIRED TO UPDATE MANATEE PROTECTION PLAN; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 072037] [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO. 12B4].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 0722629, 10/2/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Having A Python Hunting Competition For The Population Control Of Pythons

Giménez Was In Favor Of A Python Hunting Competition For The Population Control Of Pythons. “Gov. Ron DeSantis met with members of state agencies to announce a python hunting competition in southern Florida coinciding with the 11th Super Bowl held in Miami. The governor announced the 2020 Python Bowl at Everglades National Park alongside Eric Sutton of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and members of the South Florida Water Management District’s board. The competition begins Jan. 10 and runs through Jan. 19. […] Miami’s Mayor Carlos Giménez said he is grateful for the governor’s record on environmental issues and is happy the committee has taken on the challenge. ‘I represent 2.8 million people, 1 million alligators, but also a whole bunch of pythons,’ Giménez said. ‘This species is making its way east and, we’ve seen pythons get into inhabited areas, which we don’t want.’ The competition is broken into two teams: the pros and the rookies. Competition will revolve around the longest invasive snake, heaviest snake and largest number of snakes pulled out in the 10-day period.” [Stuart News, 12/6/19]

HEADLINE: “Gov. Ron DeSantis Announces Python Hunting Competition.” [Stuart News, 12/6/19]
HEADLINE: “With Football Made Of Python Skin, Florida Aims To Tap Super Bowl Hype For 2020 Snake Hunt.” [Miami-Herald, 12/6/19]

Giménez Handled An 11-Foot Python At The Competition’s Opening Day.” Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez handles an 11-foot female python during a demonstration at Markham Park at opening day for the 2020 Python Bowl at Markham Park in Sunrise, Florida on January 10, 2020. 550 hunters have registered for the contest that ends on January 19.” [Palm Beach Post, 1/11/20]

Giménez: “This Is What You Do If You Catch One!” “This is what you do if you catch one! Friday the Sun Sentinel caught me at the 2020 Python Bowl kick-off in the Everglades showing hunters what to do with the invasive reptiles. Participants have until January 19th to catch pythons for cash and other prizes. Click here to read more in the Sun-Sentinel article: https://bddy.me/2QF4U77 (Photo Courtesy (one time use): Joseph Cavaretta/Sun-Sentinel) La cámara del diario Sun Sentinel captó mi demostración para la caza de pitones en los Everglades el viernes. Este día marcó el comienzo del Python Bowl que dura hasta el 19 de enero, y premia a los participantes con efectivo y otros regalos por tener la mejor caza de esta especie invasiva.” [Facebook, Mayor Carlos A. Giménez, 1/10/20]

Coastal Infrastructure

2019: Giménez Supported Adding Funds For Seaweed Cleanup Along County Beaches

2019: Giménez Supported Adding Funds For Seaweed Cleanup Along County Beaches. “Giménez also wants to add $2.8 million to the budget for seaweed cleanup along county beaches, an extension funding for an emergency removal operation the county launched in July. Giménez wants to pay for the operation with hotel taxes, a funding move requiring a change in county law.” [Miami-Herald, 9/4/19]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Buying Foreign Sand To Replenish Miami’s Beaches; The Move Would Disqualify The Possibility Of Using Federal Funds To Cover For Miami’s Sand

Giménez Was In Favor Of Buying Foreign Sand To Replenish Miami’s Beaches. “Using foreign sand would disqualify Miami-Dade from the possibility of using federal funds to cover half of the $40 million program cost.
Federal rules require domestic sand for most renourishment programs. Giménez wants to spend only $10 million in county tax dollars for the renourishment program, which would bring about 220,000 tons of new sand to Miami Beach between 46th and 53rd streets next summer. Sunny Isles Beach would get a similar refill the following year. Miami-Dade would likely qualify for a $10 million state matching grant, with Washington expected to contribute its own match of $20 million.” [Miami-Herald, 7/21/15]

The Move Would Disqualify The Possibility Of Using Federal Funds To Cover For Miami’s Sand. “Using foreign sand would disqualify Miami-Dade from the possibility of using federal funds to cover half of the $40 million program cost. Federal rules require domestic sand for most renourishment programs. Giménez wants to spend only $10 million in county tax dollars for the renourishment program, which would bring about 220,000 tons of new sand to Miami Beach between 46th and 53rd streets next summer. Sunny Isles Beach would get a similar refill the following year. Miami-Dade would likely qualify for a $10 million state matching grant, with Washington expected to contribute its own match of $20 million.” [Miami-Herald, 7/21/15]
Equal Rights & Workplace Fairness

**Significant Findings**

✓ In 1987, Giménez was in charge of investigating a racially motivated fight between two firefighters but was removed from the investigation at the request of the Black Firefighters Association.

✓ Giménez urged the African American firefighter who was knocked unconscious by another firefighter to drop the charges.

✓ Giménez said that the firefighter culpable for the fight would not be fired, even if convicted; that firefighter received a 23% raise and was transferred to another department.

✓ In 2011, Giménez was criticized for not having any African American employees in positions of power.

**Discrimination**

Giménez Was In Charge Of Investigating A Racially Motivated Fight Between Two Firefighters, But Was Removed From The Investigation At The Request Of The Black Firefighters Association

Giménez Was Executive Assistant To The Miami Fire Chief. “Dennis, of 2925 NW 103rd St., and Deleveaux, of 875 NE 80th St., were relieved of duty without pay and will be fired, said Capt. Carlos Giménez, executive assistant to Miami Fire Chief C.H. Duke. Their dismissals will take effect in about a week.” [Miami-Herald, 8/21/87]

Giménez Was Charged With Investigating Whether A Fight Between Two Firefighters Was Racially Motivated. “Saturday’s fight between two Miami firefighters, which left one unconscious and both suspended, is the latest eruption in a longstanding feud in a department rocked by accusations of discrimination. […] Chief Carlos Giménez, head of management services for the department, is conducting a separate internal investigation. ‘If there is any allegation of a racial matter, it will be checked into,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 11/23/88]

Giménez Said That There Was A “Strong Possibility” That The Investigation Would Lead To Nowhere. “The embattled Miami Fire Department, plagued by accusations of discrimination and internal feuding, is investigating another conflict within its ranks. Kibbie Brown, a black firefighter, reported to police that someone urinated inside his duffel bag on Dec. 15. It happened while Brown was working at Fire Station No. 4, at 1105 SW Second Ave. He was one of the few black firefighters at that station. Brown, who normally works at Fire Station No. 2, was assigned temporarily to Station No. 4 because of a staffing shortage, said Fire Chief C.H. Duke. Brown was off Thursday and Friday and could not be reached for comment. ‘It’s kind of weird,’ said Chief Carlos Giménez, who is in charge of the department’s internal investigation. Giménez said investigators questioned everyone on duty that day, but have come up with nothing. ‘There is a very strong possibility’ the investigation will lead nowhere, Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/88]

HEADLINE: “Embattled Department Probes Black Firefighter’s Complaint.” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/88]

Giménez Urged The African American Firefighter Who Was Knocked Unconscious By Another Firefighter To Drop Charges

Giménez Urged A Firefighter Who Was Knocked Unconscious By Another Firefighter To Drop Charges. “Last November, Miami firefighter Leo Garcia punched another firefighter in the face, knocking him unconscious.
[...] Garcia was transferred four days after Patelsky was persuaded to not press criminal charges against Garcia. Assistant Chief Carlos Giménez told Patelsky: Drop the charges and you’ll be reinstated -- Garcia will be transferred. Giménez also told Patelsky that Garcia would not be fired even if convicted of the misdemeanor charge. ‘The final determination had been made that Leo Garcia was not going to be fired,’ Giménez said. The decision was made -- Giménez refused to say by whom -- even though a special committee created to look into the incident has not yet finished its report. ‘People have struck other firefighters in the past and have not been terminated,’ Giménez said. Patelsky was offered the deal ‘because if we could resolve the issue, then both sides could go on their ways as quickly as possible,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 5/16/89]

Giménez Said That The Firefighter Culpable Of The Fight Would Not Be Fired, Even If Convicted

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The Firefighter Responsible For The Fight Received A 23% Raise And Was Transferred To Another Department

The Fire Fighter Responsible For The Fight Received A 23% Raise And Was Transferred To Another Department. “Last November, Miami firefighter Leo Garcia punched another firefighter in the face, knocking him unconscious. [...] His superiors recommended termination, the third time in four years that a high-ranking department official has made the request. Garcia’s punishment: a 23 percent pay raise and transfer to an engineering job created especially for him in the city’s parks department.” [Miami-Herald, 5/16/89]

HEADLINE: Brawling Firefighters Gets New Job, Raise Transferred To Parks Department.” [Miami-Herald, 5/16/89]

Giménez Was Removed From The Investigation After A Request From The Professional Black Firefighters Association

Giménez Was Removed From The Investigation After A Request From The Professional Black Firefighters Association. “Miami Fire Chief C.H. Duke, whose department is rife with racial tension, has named a black officer to head the division that investigates discrimination complaints and labor grievances. [...] Last week, Duke appointed Waters as chief of the Management Services Division, part of a shuffling of his top staff. He changed the jobs of five of his seven division chiefs without giving any a change in rank or salary. Waters replaces Chief Carlos Giménez, who belongs to the old-line union, as do many other ranking officers. Several months ago, the Professional Black Firefighters Association asked Duke to remove Giménez ‘because we didn’t think he was sensitive to the needs of all the firefighters,’ said officer Ben Boykin, president of the black firefighters group. ‘I don’t agree with that assessment,’ said Giménez.” [Miami-Herald, 11/30/89]

President Of The Professional Black Firefighters Association: Giménez Was Not “Sensitive To The Needs Of All The Firefighters”

The President Of The Professional Black Firefighters Association Requested Giménez To Be Removed From The Investigation Because They Did Not Think That He Was “Sensitive To The Needs Of All The Firefighters.”
“Last week, Duke appointed Waters as chief of the Management Services Division, part of a shuffling of his top staff. He changed the jobs of five of his seven division chiefs without giving any a change in rank or salary. Waters replaces Chief Carlos Giménez, who belongs to the old-line union, as do many other ranking officers. Several months ago, the Professional Black Firefighters Association asked Duke to remove Giménez ‘because we didn’t think he was sensitive to the needs of all the firefighters,’ said officer Ben Boykin, president of the black firefighters group. ‘I don’t agree with that assessment,’ said Giménez.” [Miami-Herald, 11/30/89]

**Workplace Fairness**

**Giménez Was Criticized For Not Having Any African American Employees In Positions Of Power.** “How quickly do they forget? It appears that County Mayor [Carlos Giménez] has forgotten his promises for diversity, to increase County projects to Black contractors and to dedicate resources to the neglected Black community. The Miami-Herald recently noted that Giménez, who has been an administrator and politician for decades, has been hiring a lot of his friends to positions of power. His five deputy mayors are all white or Hispanic. His most recent appointment of fire chief, William ‘Shorty’ Bryson, is white. Every member of his senior staff on the mayor’s website is white or Hispanic. I guess this tells us that in over 20-odd years in government service, he never met one Black administrator that he can call friend, never met one Black administrator qualified to serve in his administration.” [Miami Times, 9/7/11]

**Miami Times:** “Every Member Of His Senior Staff On The Mayor’s Website Is White Or Hispanic.” The Miami-Herald recently noted that Giménez, who has been an administrator and politician for decades, has been hiring a lot of his friends to positions of power. His five deputy mayors are all white or Hispanic. His most recent appointment of fire chief, William ‘Shorty’ Bryson, is white. Every member of his senior staff on the mayor’s website is white or Hispanic. I guess this tells us that in over 20-odd years in government service, he never met one Black administrator that he can call friend, never met one Black administrator qualified to serve in his administration.” [Miami Times, 9/7/11]

**HEADLINE:** “Blacks Absent On Giménez’s Cabinet.” [Miami Times, 9/7/11]
Financial Protections & Wall Street

Significant Findings

✓ In 2008, Giménez said that he was opposed to Obama’s stimulus plan and any handouts at any governed level.

✓ Giménez said that he would accept government handouts to help finish a new terminal at Miami International Airport.

2008 Financial Crisis

2008: Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Obama’s Stimulus Plan And Any Handouts At Any Government Level Unless It Was For A Miami International Airport Terminal

2008: Giménez Said That he Was Opposed To Obama’s Stimulus Plan And Any Handouts At Any Government Level “Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who describes himself as a fiscal conservative, is wary of Obama’s stimulus plan and handouts at any government level. ’My view on how to stimulate the economy is to put the people’s money back in their pockets,’ he said. But Giménez said there are exceptions. Asked what he would do if the federal government offered $1 billion to help finish the new terminal at MIA, Giménez said, ‘we’ll take it.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/11/08]

Giménez: “My View On How To Stimulate The Economy Is To Put The People’s Money Back In their Pockets.” “Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who describes himself as a fiscal conservative, is wary of Obama’s stimulus plan and handouts at any government level. ’My view on how to stimulate the economy is to put the people’s money back in their pockets,’ he said. But Giménez said there are exceptions. Asked what he would do if the federal government offered $1 billion to help finish the new terminal at MIA, Giménez said, ‘we’ll take it.’” [Miami-Herald, 12/11/08]

Giménez Said That He Would Accept Government Handouts To Help Finish A New Terminal At Miami International Airport

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Foreign Policy Issues

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez said that he was opposed to Obama’s plan to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba because of a lack of “concessions in terms of freedom for the Cuban people.”

✓ Apr. 2016: Giménez said that he was opposed to Carnival Cruise Lines opening services to Cuba due to a law that prohibited Cuban born Americans from visiting the island.

✓ Jan. 2016: Giménez supported a proposal to construct a ferry terminal with services to Cuba.

✓ Giménez claimed that the county’s business would only be with the carriers, and not with the Cuban government.

✓ Giménez agreed to place Cuban exile groups protesting the Latin Grammy’s inside a “security zone,” and away from the vent.

✓ Exile group spokeswoman: “This has been an insult to the Cuban Community.”

✓ Giménez said that he was opposed to having the Cuban National Soccer Team play in Miami and urged promoters to move the event.

✓ As Fire Chief, Giménez stationed a fire rescue unit outside the home of Elian Gonzales’s uncle as he awaited an asylum hearing to determine if he would return to his father in Cuba.

Cuba

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Obama’s Plan To Restore Diplomatic Relations With Cuba Because Of A Lack Of “Concessions In Terms Of Freedom For The Cuban People”

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Obama’s Policy Shift To Restore Diplomatic Relations With Cuba. “President Barack Obama announced he would restore diplomatic relations with Cuba after the communist regime led by Raúl Castro freed American political prisoner Alan Gross and other dissidents. That was welcome news to exiles but the president also agreed to a spy swap, the kind of deal stalwart Castro critics have long opposed. […] Obama’s director of intergovernmental affairs, Jerry Abramson, gave individual briefings to Regalado and County Mayor Carlos Giménez before the president’s speech. The two Republican mayors, though, still panned his deal. ‘I think we just didn’t get enough,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m deeply disturbed that the United States didn’t get any concessions in terms of freedom for the Cuban people.’” [Miami herald, 12/17/14]

Giménez: “I’m Deeply Disturbed That The United States Didn’t Get Any Concessions In Terms Of Freedom For The Cuban People.” Obama’s director of intergovernmental affairs, Jerry Abramson, gave individual briefings to Regalado and County Mayor Carlos Giménez before the president’s speech. The two Republican mayors, though, still panned his deal. ‘I think we just didn’t get enough,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m deeply disturbed that the United States didn’t get any concessions in terms of freedom for the Cuban people.’” [Miami herald, 12/17/14]

Apr. 2016: Giménez Was Opposed To Carnival Cruise Lines Opening Services To Cuba
Giménez Was Opposed To Carnival Cruise Lines Opening Services To Cuba Due A Cuban Law That Prohibited Cuban Born Americas To Visit The Island. “Cuban-born Americans cannot visit the island by sea because of a Cuban law that dates to the Cold War era, and therefore are barred from joining in Carnival Corp.’s sailings to the island. Individuals born in Cuba can, however, travel to the island on an airplane. […] Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez called a press conference to raise the possibility of a court fight between the world’s largest cruise company and the county that owns the port where Carnival plans to launch its first cruises to Havana. Giménez said the policy violates the county’s human-rights policy. He has also asked county lawyers to determine whether Carnival Corp. is in violation of a local law that bans discrimination based on national origin. ’As a Cuban-born, naturalized American citizen myself, it is clear to me that this policy violates the Code,’ Giménez wrote in a memo titled ‘Inquiry Regarding Possible Human Rights Violation the Code of Miami-Dade County.’ Giménez stopped short of saying he would block Carnival from using PortMiami for its upcoming Cuba cruise but said he wanted to know what authority he has to enforce the human-rights law.” [Miami-Herald, 4/13/16]


HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Mayor Calls On Carnival To Cancel Cruise To Cuba If Cuban-Born Americans Can’t Buy Tickets.” [Miami-Herald, 4/13/16]

HEADLINE: “Lawsuit Filed Against Carnival For Agreeing To Discriminatory Cuba Cruise Policy.” [Miami-Herald, 4/13/16]

Miami-Herald: “Giménez Stopped Short Of Saying He Would Block Carnival From Using PortMiami For Its Upcoming Cuba Cruise”

Giménez Supported A Proposal To Construct A Ferry Terminal With Services To Cuba. “County officials want to transform the waterfront property into a bustling terminal for ferries running between Miami and Cuba. The initiative could position Miami as the prime jumping-off point for a fledgling that hopes to provide affordable travel and shipping between the longtime enemies. And it marks a milestone for the administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez, which until now has not openly pursued economic opportunities with a country whose outlaw status has long been an axiom of local politics.” [Miami-Herald, 1/6/16]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Pursuing Ferry Service To Cuba From PortMiami.” [Miami-Herald, 1/6/16]
Giménez Claimed That The County’s Business Would Only Be With The Terminal, And Not With The Cuban Government. “‘We don’t do business with countries. We just do business with carriers,’ Giménez said at the start of the conference, a day after the port was pursuing a terminal for ferries traveling between Miami and Cuba. ‘Where the ferry services decided to go in order to make money, etc., well, that’s up to the ferry service as long as it’s legal.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/7/16]

Giménez: “Where The Ferry Services Decide To Go In Order To Make Money, Etc., Well, That’s Up To The Ferry Service As Long As It’s Legal.” “‘We don’t do business with countries. We just do business with carriers,’ Giménez said at the start of the conference, a day after the port was pursuing a terminal for ferries traveling between Miami and Cuba. ‘Where the ferry services decided to go in order to make money, etc., well, that’s up to the ferry service as long as it’s legal.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/7/16]

Giménez Agreed To Place Cuban Exile Groups Protesting The Latin Grammy’s Inside A “Security Zone” Away From The Event, Which A Spokeswoman Called An Insult To The Cuban Community

Giménez Agreed To Place Cuban Exile Groups Protecting The Latin Grammy’s Inside A “Security Zone,” And Away From The Event. “Members of the Cuban exile groups who want to protest, however, say they’re outraged that Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez and Police Chief Raul Martinez, both of whom are Cuban-Americans, agreed to the security zone in the first place. ‘I hope that they take the Grammys there,’ said Laura Vianello, a spokeswoman for the exile group Vigilia Mambisa. ‘This has been an insult to the Cuban community. It has been a mockery.’ Vianello said the Grammys ‘had all the right’ to rent the arena as it is a public facility. But keeping the protesters out of sight and out of mind, she said, isn’t right. ‘The protesters would have to stand two blocks away,’ she said. ‘They’re telling us we’re a bunch of delinquents who are going to set fire to Miami.’ Members of Miami’s arts community hope that an agreement is reached soon. ‘I am an eternal optimist,’ said Beth Boone, artistic and executive director of the Miami Light Project. ‘I believe the Grammy people will get what they want and the protesters will have due process.’ Although Boone dislikes the antipathy of some Cuban-Americans toward visiting Cuban musicians, she defends their right to protect their rights through the ACLU.” [Sun-Sentinel, 8/18/01]

Exile Group Spokeswoman: “This Has Been An Insult To The Cuban Community”

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2001: Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Having The Cuban National Soccer Team Play At The Orange Bowl And Urged The Promoters To Move The Game Out Of Miami

2001: Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Having The Cuban National Soccer Team Play At The Orange Bowl And Urged The Promoters To Move The Game Out Of Miami. “‘From a legal perspective, there is not much we can do, but we have conveyed to the promoter that it could be a very contentious issue in this community if he brings the Cuban national team to the Orange Bowl, and it is something he should be concerned about,’ Miami city manager Carlos Giménez said. ‘He wants a positive event, and Miami is not the best place in the
world to have the Cuban national team. It’s probably the worst place. We suggested it would be in his best interest to move to a neutral site.” [Miami-Herald, 4/13/01]

HEADLINE: “Miami Wats To Give Event The Boot Team From Cuba In Soccer Tourney.” [Miami-Herald, 4/13/01]

Jun. 2000: Giménez Said That He Did Not Expect That There Would Be “Any Problem” With Law Enforcement, After A Court Ruling Related To Elian Gonzalez’s Asylum Case

Elian’s Mother Was Killed On Their Way To The U.S. From Cuba; His Miami Relatives Attempted To Keep Him In The U.S., While His Cuban Father Urged To Have Him Sent Back To Cuba

The court decision would come a little more than six months after Elian’s dramatic rescue from an inner tube off Fort Lauderdale on Thanksgiving Day. The child’s survival of a shipwreck that killed 11 Cuban migrants, including his mother, and his Miami relatives’ attempt to keep him in the United States have captured the world’s interest. Police and others monitoring the public pulse say they do not expect a repeat of the angry street protests that erupted in April after federal agents removed Elian from his Miami relatives’ home. Still, community leaders from all ethnic groups have been putting plans in place to lessen the chance of violence if the court decides that Elian is not entitled to an asylum hearing. ‘We will have some additional police officers on duty, but we do not expect there will be any problem or that it will be an extraordinary event,’ Giménez said.” [Florida Times-Union, 6/1/00]

The Court Decision Decided Whether Immigration And Naturalization Service Should Give Elian An Asylum Hearing Or If His Father Could Take Him Back To Cuba

Elian’s Mother Was Killed On Their Way To The U.S. From Cuba; His Miami Relatives Attempted To Keep Him In The U.S., While His Cuban Father Urged To Have Him Sent Back To Cuba

“The ruling by a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will decide whether the Immigration and Naturalization Service should give the 6-year-old an asylum hearing or his father can take him back to Cuba. ‘We received word that the ruling will be given sometime today,’ Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez said yesterday. The court decision would come a little more than six months after Elian’s dramatic rescue from an inner tube off Fort Lauderdale on Thanksgiving Day. The child’s survival of a shipwreck that killed 11 Cuban migrants, including his mother, and his Miami relatives’ attempt to keep him in the United States have captured the world’s interest. Police and others monitoring the public pulse say they do not expect a repeat of the angry street protests that erupted in April after federal agents removed Elian from his Miami relatives’ home. Still, community leaders from all ethnic groups have been putting plans in place to lessen the chance of violence if the court decides that Elian is not entitled to an asylum hearing. ‘We will have some additional police officers on duty, but we do not expect there will be any problem or that it will be an extraordinary event,’ Giménez said.” [Florida Times-Union, 6/1/00]
Apr. 2000: Giménez Was In Favor Of Stationing A Fire Unit Outside Elian’s Great-Uncle’s House To “Prepare For Any Eventuality”

“The Miami Fire Department has spent $8,000 thus far, and its costs, too, are increasing rapidly. The department since Saturday has stationed a fire rescue unit that costs $100 per hour near the home of Elian’s great-uncle Lazaro Gonzalez, said Fire Chief Carlos Giménez. The money is coming from the department’s $350,000 overtime budget. ‘We’ll be out there until this thing subsides,’ said Giménez. ‘We have to prepare for any eventuality.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/18/00]
Gun Issues

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez said that he was opposed to the private sale of handguns.
✓ Giménez was in favor of reinstating an assault weapons ban.
✓ Giménez said that banning high capacity ammunition magazines was a “no-brainer.”
✓ Giménez said that he was in favor of universal background checks for gun purchases.

Gun Show Loophole

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To The Private Sale Of Handguns

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To The Private Sale Of Handguns. “There are currently stiff federal penalties that aren’t being enforced,’ said Giménez. ‘Private sales of handguns should not be allowed, banning high capacity ammunition magazines is a no-brainer and we have to engage the community. In Miami-Dade we have a bounty, a one thousand dollar reward for people who report crimes.” [South Florida Times, 1/24/13]

Assault Weapons Ban

2007: Giménez Was In Favor Of Reinstating An Assault Weapons Ban, Which Excluded Police Officers

Giménez Was A Cosponsor Of An Assault Weapons Ban, Which Excluded Police Officers. “Miami-Dade County commissioners on Tuesday joined a growing chorus to reinstate the assault weapons ban that President Bush let expire in 2004. The commission ordered their lobbyists to pressure Congress to renew the law, and urged the Florida Legislature to institute a ban on assault weapons, and to lift a preemption in place that keeps local governments from imposing the ban. […] The assault weapons have become so easily found in South Florida, and are so affordable, that Miami Police Detective Delrish Moss said he’s heard they’re being sold from the trunks of cars for as little as $200 or $300. Also joining the call to reinstate the ban was Miami-Dade’s police union chief John Rivera, who said that while he supports the right to bear arms, ‘I do not believe there’s a place in society for certain assault weapons, an AK-47 is one of them. It was blue-printed for war.’ […] In Miami-Dade on Tuesday, the commission’s resolution focused on how semiautomatic assault weapons like Uzis and AK-47s are designed for military purposes and are ‘the weapons of choice for gang members, drug dealers and other dangerous criminals.’ The commission voted 8-3, with Chairman Bruno Barreiro, and commissioners Rebeca Sosa and Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz voting against the measure. Barbara Jordan and Javier Souto were absent. The resolution was sponsored by Jordan, and commissioners Audrey Edmonson, Carlos Giménez, Dorrin Rolle and Katy Sorenson.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/07]

HEADLINE: “Dade Urges Renewing Assault-Arms Ban; Miami-Dade Lobbyist Will Urge Congress To Renew An Assault Weapons Ban The President Let Expire Three Years Ago.” [Miami-Herald, 10/8/07]

High Capacity Magazines
Giménez Said That Banning High Capacity Ammunition Magazines Was A “No-Brainer”

Giménez Said That Banning High Capacity Ammunition Magazines Was A “No-Brainer.” “‘There are currently stiff federal penalties that aren’t being enforced,’ said Giménez. ‘Private sales of handguns should not be allowed, banning high capacity ammunition magazines is a no-brainer and we have to engage the community. In Miami-Dade we have a bounty, a one thousand dollar reward for people who report crimes.’” [South Florida Times, 1/24/13]

Background Checks

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Universal Background Checks For Gun Purchases

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Universal Background Checks For Gun Purchases. “Tampa Mayor Jane Castor, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez and 14 other Florida mayors wrote to a Republican senator Thursday encouraging him to pass universal background checks for gun purchases. The letter was sent to Sen. Tom Lee, R-THONOTOSASSA, who is leading an uphill battle in the GOP-controlled Senate to pass, which closes the so-called gun show loophole. ‘As you lead the effort to consider legislation this session to prevent gun violence, including mass shootings, we write to express our support for passing a state law to require criminal background checks on all gun sales,’ the mayors, including the mayor of Parkland, wrote.” [Tampa Bay Times, 2/5/20]

HEADLINE: “Florida Mayors Urge Legislature To Pass Universal Background Checks; The Idea Goes Beyond What’s Currently On The Table In Tallahassee.” [Tampa Bay Times, 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted in Favor Of Imposing A Waiting Period And Background Check For The Sale Of Tasers

## Health Care Issues

### Significant Findings

- In 2015, Giménez was opposed to Gov. Rick Scott’s denial of federal Affordable Care Act subsidies to help the county’s health system.

- In 2013, Giménez made it harder for Miami-Dade County residents to enroll in Affordable Care Act exchanges by eliminating the county’s Healthcare Planning Department.

- In 2009, Giménez voted in favor of urging passage of the ACA, consistent with the National Association of Counties’ suggestions which consisted of eliminating the Cadillac Tax and coverage for voluntary emergency responders.

- Giménez required county employees to double their salary contributions for health insurance, even after a $42 million surplus in the county’s health-insurance account.

  - The county commission eliminated the unpopular employee health care concessions in defiance of Mayor Giménez; Giménez vetoed the commission’s decision.

- Giménez was opposed to cutting health insurance premium costs for county employees.

- 2016: Giménez ordered county administrators to “spend whatever it takes” to prevent the Zika virus. Giménez criticized Trump for not making Zika a priority on the campaign and praised Clinton for having done so.

- Giménez urged the county commission to hire a collection agency to aggressively pursue patients who could not pay for ambulance rides.

- In 2013, Giménez did not endorse an $830 million voter-approved bond for Jackson Memorial Hospital System; in 2020, the hospital credited the bond for its ability to treat coronavirus patients.

### Affordable Care Act (ACA)

#### Giménez Was Opposed To Gov. Rick Scott’s Denial Of Federal Affordable Care Act Subsidies To Help The County’s Health System

**Giménez Was Opposed To Gov. Rick Scott’s Denial Of $200 Million A Year In Federal Funding To Help The County’s Health System.** “Miami-Dade County does not have the money to cover the potential loss of $200 million a year in federal funding that helps Jackson Health System, the county’s public hospital network, provide medical care for the uninsured and Medicaid patients, Mayor Carlos Giménez said Tuesday. Giménez said he expects Florida legislators will tap state dollars to fill a potential shortfall in federal hospital funding -- although he could not offer any assurances as to how that would happen.” [Miami-Herald, 4/21/15]

#### Giménez Made It Harder For Miami-Dade County Residents To Enroll In Affordable Care Act Exchanges By Eliminating The County’s Healthcare Planning Department
Giménez Opposed Gov. Scott’s Decision To Ban Affordable Care Act “Navigators” From Helping County Residents…

Giménez Opposed Gov. Scott’s Decision To Ban Affordable Care Act “Navigators” From Helping County Residents. “Miami-Dade, where a third of the residents are uninsured, may follow Broward and Pinellas counties in defying Florida’s ban on Obamacare navigators at county health departments. ‘We welcome the federal government doing that,’ Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, a Republican, told the Miami Herald’s Naked Politics blog. ‘From my understanding, it’s just helping people navigate the new laws. I don’t see any problems with that.’ Navigators, essentially counselors hired under Affordable Care Act (ACA) to assist the uninsured with signing up for the new expanded coverage, were prohibited at county buildings in Florida after Gov. Rick Scott (R) and other state officials cited concerns over identity theft.” [HuffPost, 9/25/13]

…But Eliminated The County’s Healthcare Planning Department, Which Closed The Same Day The Exchanges Open; Critics Said It Would Make Enrollment More Difficult

Miami-Dade County Announced It Would Eliminate Its Healthcare Planning Department On The Same Day That Affordable Care Act Exchange Enrollment Started For The First Time. “The federal government is spending $67 million to eliminate confusion as consumers shop for coverage on the new health insurance exchanges mandated by the Affordable Care Act. Critics say Miami-Dade County is making it more difficult. The Associated Press reports Florida’s most populous county plans to eliminate its Healthcare Planning Department, the agency responsible for assisting residents ‘who may not know which health program or service best fits their needs’, on October 1 — the same day that the new state insurance exchange and open enrollment goes live.” [HuffPost, 9/18/13]

A Spokeswoman For Giménez Stated The Elimination Was Not Related To The Affordable Care Act, But The Strapped County Budget. “A spokeswoman for Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez (R) told the AP the department’s elimination is not tied to the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, noting that the move will save $728,000 from the strapped county budget. But the decision also follows a week after Florida’s department of health banned federally-funded Obamacare counselors, or “navigators,” from helping residents sign up for insurance on the grounds of county health departments.” [HuffPost, 9/18/13]

The Spokeswoman Said The Timing Was Because Of The Beginning Of The Fiscal Year, But Could Not Guarantee Other County Departments Would Absorb The Services. “A spokeswoman for Republican Mayor Carlos Gimenez’s office said the department is being cut because of limited resources and that the move will save $728,000, including five staff positions. The timing is the beginning of their fiscal year and not related to the new federal health law, spokeswoman Vanessa Santana-Peña told The Associated Press. She said other departments in the county will try to absorb the services, but she added it's likely ‘we will have to partner with other agencies.’” [Associated Press, 9/18/13]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of The Affordable Care Act Consistent With NACO’s Reform Principles Which Opposed The “Cadillac Tax” And Exempting Volunteer Emergency Responders

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Urging Congress To Pass The Affordable Care Act Consistent With NACO’s Health Care Reform Principles. In June 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL HEALTH REFORM LEGISLATION CONSISTENT WITH NACO’S HEALTH CARE REFORM PRINCIPLES.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-892-09, Vote 091899, 6/30/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

The National Association Of Counties Was Opposed To The ACA’s “Cadillac Tax” On The Most Expensive Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Plans Meant To Protect Consumers
The National Association Of Counties Was Opposed To The ACA’s “Cadillac Tax.” “On Feb. 23, the IRS issued a notice seeking comments as it prepares to develop regulations for the Affordable Care Act’s so-called “Cadillac tax” that is set to take effect in 2018, including on potential “excepted benefit[s]” that would not count toward the tax, Modern Healthcare reports.” [National Association of Counties, 3/24/15]

The “Cadillac Tax” Was A 40% Tax On The Most Expensive Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Plans. “The Cadillac tax levies a 40 percent tax on the most expensive employer-sponsored health insurance plans, those worth about $11,200 for individuals and $30,100 for families, starting in 2022. The tax on businesses would hit the part of the plan above the price threshold. It was supposed to go into effect in 2018 at a lower price threshold, but was delayed. Repealing the tax would cost the United States an estimated $197 billion over 10 years, according to an analysis by the Joint Committee on Taxation. The House bill, the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act of 2019, has more than 350 co-sponsors and is expected to pass with bipartisan support.” [Vox, 7/17/19]

2018: Tax Extenders Delayed ACA Excise Tax On Medical Device Manufacturers, Suspended The Health Insurer Fee For Two Years, And Delayed The Cadillac Tax From Taking Effect For One Additional Year. “Meanwhile, Brady would further delay the onset of several of the 2010 health care law’s taxes that Congress has already repeatedly pushed back, namely the excise tax on medical device manufacturers, a fee applied to health insurers and the so-called Cadillac tax on high-cost employer-sponsored health plans. Brady’s revised bill would extend the medical device tax suspension for five years, through 2024; suspend the health insurer fee for two years through 2021; and delay the Cadillac tax from taking effect for one additional year, through 2022.” [Roll Call, 12/11/18]


The National Association Of Counties Opposed The ACA Including Coverage For Volunteer Emergency Responders Through The Employer Mandate

The National Association Of Counties Opposed The ACA Including Volunteer Emergency Responders To It’s Employer Mandate. “The National Association of Counties (NACo) is pleased to report that today the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) announced that final regulations on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) employer mandate will exempt the hours of volunteer fire fighters and other local government and non-profit emergency responders from triggering the coverage mandate which would require that they be provided affordable comprehensive health insurance. […] Under the ACA employers with 50 or more full time workers are required to offer affordable comprehensive health insurance to their employees or be subject to a penalty. Under the ACA, full time generally means 30 or more hours per week, with the hours of part time workers combined into full time equivalent employees (FTEs). Treasury had not, to date, responded to the concerns raised by NACo or the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) about the status of volunteer emergency workers. Counties served by volunteer fire departments often rural counties were very concerned that being required to offer comprehensive health coverage to their volunteers could force the departments to close.” [National Association of Counties, 1/10/14]

HEADLINE: “Treasury Issues Final Rules Exempting County Volunteers From ACA Coverage Requirement.” [National Association of Counties, 2/14/14]

HEADLINE: “Big Win For Counties: Volunteer Firefighters And EMTs Exempted From ACA Coverage Requirements.” [National Association of Counties, 1/10/14]
**Giménez Required County Employees To Double Their Salary Contributions For Health Insurance, Even After A $42 Million Surplus In The County’s Health-Insurance Account**

“Giménez announced Monday that nonunion employees’ healthcare contribution will jump to 10 percent of their salaries from 5 percent to ease county costs. Coupled with the county’s previously announced step to eliminate three percent cost-of-living raises for nonunion workers, the move is expected to save $9.2 million through the balance of the current fiscal year — which ends Sept. 30 — and more than $35 million in the new fiscal year.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/11]

**Giménez Was Criticized By County Labor Unions For Asking Employees To Contribute More Towards Healthcare Costs After Carrying A $42 Million Surplus In The County’s Health-Insurance Account.** “The heads of three county labor unions fired up their troops outside County Hall on Tuesday afternoon, castigating Mayor Carlos Giménez’s administration for carrying a $42 million surplus in the county’s health-insurance account while asking employees to contribute more toward healthcare costs.” [Miami-Herald, 6/18/13]

**2013: The Miami-Dade County Commission Eliminated The Unpopular Employee Health Care Concession In Defiance Of Mayor Giménez; Giménez Then Vetoed The Commission’s Decision**

2014: The Miami-Dade County Commission Eliminated The Unpopular Employee Healthcare Concession In Defiance Of Mayor Giménez. “Miami-Dade County commissioners eliminated an unpopular employee healthcare concession on Thursday, restoring public workers’ pay in defiance of Mayor Carlos Giménez after hours of harrowing testimony from labor unions. As of Jan. 1, most of the county’s nearly 26,000 employees will stop contributing 5 percent of their base pay toward group healthcare costs, for the first time in more than three years.” [Miami-Herald, 12/5/13]


**Giménez Was Against Overhauling Miami-Dade County Employee’s Health Insurance And Cutting Premium Costs**

Giménez Was Against Overhauling Miami-Dade County Employee’s Health Insurance And Cutting Premium Costs. “County commissioners voted Tuesday to overhaul county employees’ health insurance -- cutting premium costs by thousands of dollars for some. […] A private company will administer the plan, and the commission hired AvMed Health Plan. AvMed was the highest rated of seven bidders, but is charging some about $15 million more over the three-year contract than runner-up United HealthCare -- which concerned commissioner Carlos Giménez. ’I know that maybe $5 or $20 million is not a big thing for the administration, but I think taxpayers may have a different opinion,’ he said. ‘They’re the ones footing the bill.’ Most commissioners, however, welcomed Burgess’ recommendation to value service quality over price. Giménez was the only commissioner to oppose the deal, which passed 10-1.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/07]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Health Insurance For Domestic Partners And Dependent Relatives Of County Employees**

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Health Insurance For Domestic Partners Of County Employees. In May 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING ARTICLE IX OF CHAPTER 11A OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER BENEFITS TO THE DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY EMPLOYEES; PROVIDING FOR THE REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS; ESTABLISHING DOMESTIC PARTNER RIGHTS OF VISITATION; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 080406].” The ordinance was adopted by the
Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Health Insurance For Dependent Relatives Of County Employees. In March 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING A SEPARATE ARTICLE TO BE INCLUDED IN CHAPTER 11A OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY EMPLOYEES; ESTABLISHING DEPENDENT RIGHTS OF VISITATION; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 080787, 3/18/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Zika

Giménez Ordered County Administrators To “Spend Whatever It Takes” To Prevent The Zika Virus

2016: Giménez Ordered County Administrators To “Spend Whatever It Takes” To Prevent The Zika Virus. “Giménez, the county mayor, said that as summer approaches, traffic through South Florida’s airports and seaports will peak at the same time as mosquito season -- with many travelers visiting Latin American and Caribbean countries most affected by the virus. Giménez said Miami-Dade’s budget of about $1.68 million for mosquito control is ‘not set in stone,’ and that three months ago he ordered county administrators to spend ‘whatever it takes’ on spraying and other efforts.” [Miami-Herald, 4/8/16]

2016: Giménez Criticized Trump For Not Making Zika A Priority On The Campaign, And Praised Clinton For Having Done So

2016: Giménez Criticized Trump For Not Making Zika A Priority On The Campaign. “Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

Giménez: “I’m Glad To See That [Clinton] Is Worried About [Zika] And Want To Be Informed About It.” “Among those listening was Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez, who met Clinton for the first time and got a couple of shout-outs from the candidate. He’s one of several notable local Republicans who have refused to endorse Trump. County fights Zika on two fronts: killing mosquitoes, calming public Giménez was the only local elected politician invited to the Clinton event. He told reporters his appearance wasn’t a Clinton endorsement. But he had no qualms about acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald 8/9/16]

Aug. 2016: Giménez: “Trump Hasn’t Been Down Here, As Far As I Know”
acknowledging that Trump hasn’t made Zika a priority. ‘Trump hasn’t been down here, as far as I know,’ Giménez said. ‘I’m glad to see that the secretary is worried about it and wants to be informed about it.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/9/16]

**Emergency Services**

Giménez Urged The County Commission To Hire A Collection Agency To Aggressively Pursue Patients Who Could Not Pay For Ambulance Rides

Giménez Urged The County Commission To Hire A Collection Agency To Aggressively Pursue Patients Who Could Not Pay For Ambulance Rides. ‘The bigger problem may exist at the fire department. Miami charges patients anywhere from $175 to $290 for a trip in a rescue truck. That amounts to nearly $8 million in billings annually, according to Gabriel, the fire union official. Miami hires billing agencies to send invoices to patients -- but not a collection agency to collect them. The city collects less than 45 percent of what its owed for hospital runs. Dade County uses a collection service -- and collects about 64 percent of what it is owed for fire rescue runs to the hospital. Miami Fire Chief Carlos Giménez said his department asked commissioners to hire a collection agency. They said no. Commissioners did not want to ‘aggressively pursue’ people who could not pay, he said.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/96]

**Public Health**

Giménez Did Not Endorse An $830 Million Voter-Approved Bond For Jackson Memorial Hospital System; Years Later, The Hospital Credited The Bond For Its Ability To Treat Coronavirus Patients

2013: Gimenez Did Not Endorse A Referendum To Raise Property Taxes To Fund $830 Million For Upgrades And New Equipment And Facilities At Jackson Memorial. “Four months of campaign messages about the long-deferred needs of Jackson Health System and the urgency for the aging public hospital system to more effectively compete against South Florida’s private and not-for-profit hospitals paid off Tuesday. Miami-Dade voters approved a referendum to raise their property taxes and fund $830 million in upgrades and new equipment and facilities for Jackson. […] However, several high-profile elected officials, including Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, never fully endorsed the campaign — even if they publicly voiced support for using public funds to fill Jackson’s capital and long-term needs. Gimenez said Tuesday that he voted yes on the bond referendum, but he expressed reservations in a written statement this week explaining why he has not publicly endorsed the campaign. ‘While I am personally in favor of funding the modernization and improvements of facilities to the Jackson Health System, I still have questions on the long-term use of those funds in light of the Affordable Care Act,’” Gimenez said in the statement. ‘That said, if the voters approve the funding, I will ensure that we exercise the necessary due diligence so that the people’s money is well spent.’” [Miami Herald, 11/5/13]

July 2013: Asked If He Would Vote For A Property Tax Increase To Fund $830 Million Upgrades At Jackson Memorial, Gimenez Replied, “I Don’t Know Yet.” “Don’t count on Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez to help the public Jackson Health System make its pitch to voters for $830 million in taxpayer-funded upgrades. Gimenez told The Miami Herald last week that he has not decided if he will vote for the property-tax rate hike on the Nov. 5 ballot. ‘I don’t know yet,’ he said.” [Miami Herald, 7/14/13]

Miami’s Jackson Health System Credited An $830 Million Bond Approved By Voters In 2013 For Its Ability To Adequately Treat Coronavirus Patients. “In the worst-case scenario of a massive surge of patients infected by the novel coronavirus, Miami’s public hospital says it’s much better prepared than it would have been if county voters had not approved an $830 million ‘miracle’ bond issue in 2013. Aside from shortages of personal protective gear like N95 respirator masks, public health experts and healthcare professionals across the country have sounded alarms about hospital bed space and intensive care unit capacity for facilities likely to see a wave of patients
suffering from COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, in the coming weeks. At Jackson Health System, Miami-Dade’s safety-net hospital, more than five years of supercharged capital spending has left the healthcare network more flexible in its capacity, which could be crucial as it prepares to deal with a potential surge, hospital leaders said this week.” [Miami Herald, 3/20/20]

NOTE: Jackson Memorial Hospital billed a Miami resident over $3,000 for a coronavirus test. [Miami Herald, 2/24/20]

Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 304

Giménez Helped Create The Child Safety Awareness Week Meant To Prevent Child Car Accident Deaths

Giménez Helped Create The Child Safety Awareness Week Meant To Prevent Child Car Accident Deaths. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who recently sponsored a measure creating Child Safety Awareness Week, noted how thousands of children are killed yearly in car accidents that can easily be prevented with the proper use of a seat belt or car seat. ‘Our collective goal is to reduce the number of deaths,” Giménez said. “We need to do everything we can, not only this week but every day to prevent tragedies on the roadways.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/4/08]

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Adding The Dean FIU’s School Of Medicine As A Non-Voting Member Of The Public Health Trust Board Of Trustees

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Adding The Dean FIU’s School Of Medicine As A Non-Voting Member Of The Public Health Trust Board Of Trustees. In May 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25A OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST; ADDING DEAN, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AS NON-VOTING, EX OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-30, Vote 100282, 5/4/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Disability Issues

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Imposing Airport Parking Charges On Vehicles Displaying A Disabled Parking Permit

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Imposing Airport Parking Charges On Vehicles Displaying A Disabled Parking Permit. In September 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 30-388.2 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING THAT CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW PARKING CHARGES MAY BE IMPOSED ON VEHICLES DISPLAYING A DISABLED PARKING PERMIT OR LICENSE TAG AT ANY COUNTY AIRPORT OR SEAPORT UNDER SPECIFIED CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THAT SUCH CHARGES MAY NOT BE IMPOSED FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES AS DEFINED IN SUCH STATE LAW; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 081945, 9/11/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]
Housing Issues

**Significant Findings**

- During the 2007 housing crisis, Giménez said that he was in favor of doubling homestead tax exemptions, and noted he couldn’t afford to pay his home’s full market value.

- Giménez said that he was in favor of raising prices on affordable housing.

- Giménez was opposed to expanding the Omni Community Redevelopment Districts which could capture $2 billion over 20 years and aided affordable housing construction.
  - Giménez said that he was against benefiting projects that won’t pay taxes.

- Giménez said that feeding the homeless helped “homeless individuals remain homeless.”

- Giménez was in favor of closing a homeless shelter because he said it had a “negative effect on development.”

- Giménez voted in favor of making homeowners responsible for the maintenance of foreclosed properties.

**Homestead Tax**

**2007: Giménez Was In Favor Of Doubling Homestead Tax Exemptions Because He Said He Couldn’t Afford To Pay His Home’s Full Market Value**

Giménez Was In Favor Of Raising Homestead Tax Exemptions Because He Said He Couldn’t Afford To Pay On His Home’s Full Market Value. “Giménez then spoke about raising the homestead exemption from $25,000, where it has been for more than 20 years. At the time of its adoption, the exemption covered half the cost of an average home -- it now covers less than a tenth. Gov. Charlie Crist has recently shown interest in doubling the homestead exemption to $50,000. But that alone will not be enough to alleviate a troubled market. Giménez, who said he himself cannot afford to pay taxes on his home’s full market value, said: ‘The only way to downsize is to leave the state.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/07]

Giménez: “People Need To Keep As Much Money In Their Pockets As Possible Right Now.” “‘People need to keep as much money in their pockets as possible right now,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez, vice chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. The biggest savings have gone to those who receive the newly doubled $50,000 homestead exemption or took advantage of a new law that lets them carry tax caps from one home to another. Those adjustments are the overwhelming cause of the change.” [Miami-Herald, 6/3/08]

**2008: The Biggest Tax Savings Would Go To Those Who Received The New Doubled Homestead Exemption**

Jun. 2008: The Biggest Tax Savings Would Go To Those Who Received The New Doubled Homestead Exemption. “‘People need to keep as much money in their pockets as possible right now,’ said Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez, vice chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. The biggest savings have gone to those who receive the newly doubled $50,000 homestead exemption or took advantage of a new law that lets them carry tax caps from one home to another. Those adjustments are the overwhelming cause of the change.” [Miami-Herald, 6/3/08]
Affordable Housing

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Raising Prices On Affordable Housing

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Raising Prices On Affordable Housing. “In justifying the community development department’s plan in a memo to commissioners, Giménez cited new tariffs on building materials that are pushing up costs as well as rising real estate prices in Miami. ‘The housing market has changed significantly,’ Giménez wrote, ‘and the cost of construction has increased.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

Giménez: “The Housing Market has Changed Significantly […] The Cost Of Construction Has Increased.” “In justifying the community development department’s plan in a memo to commissioners, Giménez cited new tariffs on building materials that are pushing up costs as well as rising real estate prices in Miami. ‘The housing market has changed significantly,’ Giménez wrote, ‘and the cost of construction has increased.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

HEADLINE: “Miami-Dade Says Affordable Housing Isn’t What It Used To Be, Wants To Raise Prices.” [Miami-Herald, 4/9/19]

Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding The Omni Community Redevelopment Districts Which Captured $2 Billion Over 20 Years And Aided Affordable Housing Construction

Giménez Was Opposed To Expanding The Omni Community Redevelopment Districts Which Would Capture $2 Billion Over 20 Years And Aid Affordable Housing Construction. Extending the timeline and expanding the boundaries of two CRA districts in order to generate revenue to help build the port tunnel and museum park, and to pay off the county’s heavy PAC debt. And, by extension, to help build the new Florida Marlins baseball stadium rising in Little Havana. The expansion of the CRAs was hailed by Diaz as key to the deal, a move that would potentially capture almost $2 billion over the next 20 years and also aid affordable housing construction. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez -- who voted for the global pact and the port tunnel -- argued against expanding the CRA last month because doing so would benefit projects that won’t pay taxes, such as the museum park and tunnel.” [Miami-Herald, 12/15/09]

Giménez Said That He Was Against Benefiting Projects That Won’t Pay Taxes

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Homelessness

Giménez Said That Feeding The Homeless Helped “Homeless Individuals Remain Homeless”

Giménez Said That Feeding The Homeless Helped “Homeless Individuals Remain Homeless.” “People who are feeding the homeless go where the need is,’ said the Rev. Mark H. Sims of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. But Giménez said the current efforts have problems. ‘There are many people that feed one day of the week, and we are missing nights where people are being fed,’ he said. In addition, Giménez said, the feedings ‘help the homeless individuals to remain homeless’ because it allows people to avoid programs that will offer long-term help and something more than food. Although the idea of banning food distribution altogether was discussed previously, Giménez and Winton said it’s not the city’s intention to eliminate the street feedings. Instead, they want to assign
homeless-outreach workers to both sites during meals so a homeless person who wishes to enter a program can do so.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/00]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Closing A Homeless Shelter Because He Said It Had A “Negative Effect On Development”**

“Miami’s Community Redevelopment Agency will decide today whether to buy the building that houses Camillus House - a 40-year-old homeless shelter that city leaders say now stands in the way of development. The shelter at 726 NE First Ave. is between Biscayne Bay and the Miami Arena, in the heart of an area that business and city leaders hope will soon become one of the nation’s leading technical centers. “The current location of the shelter and the sight of the homeless on the street has deterred businesses from moving to the area in the past, Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez said. ‘I don’t know of any specific plans for the site,’ he said. ‘But the Camillus House could have a negative effect on development in the entire area.’” [Miami-Herald, 6/26/00]

**Foreclosures**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Making Homeowners Responsible For The Maintenance Of Foreclosed Properties**


The Measure May Prevent Banks From Being Forced To Pay Maintenance Fees On Foreclosed Properties Until They Acquired Its Land Title. “With tens of thousands of homes across Florida left abandoned, government officials from Miami to Orlando have responded by sending crews out to mow lawns, clean pools and do other basic work and then billing the banks to pay once they take possession of the property. The state’s banking industry wants to put a stop to the practice. Banking lobbyists have quietly crafted a measure in the Florida Legislature that would prevent cities and counties from forcing the banks that hold mortgages on properties in foreclosure to maintain those properties until they have actually acquired the title to the land. That foreclosure process can take six months or more.” [Sun Sentinel, 4/23/09]
**Infrastructure & Transportation Issues**

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez was in favor of providing Virgin Trains $76 million for the construction of a rail line that connected downtown Miami to Orlando and would have cost $20 to ride.

✓ Giménez initially supported the construction of a monorail system built by Casino and Chinese companies; Sens. Rubio and Scott opposed the proposal due to Chinese espionage concerns.

✓ Giménez supported unpopular fare hikes to the Metro bus and Metrorail systems.

✓ Giménez said that he wanted Miami-Dade to be a “test-bed” for self-driving car technology even after two self-driving car accidents claimed the lives of two Floridians.

✓ Giménez voted in favor of having slot machines and horse racing at the Miami International Airport.

✓ Giménez was in favor of creating an independent authority to oversee the Miami International Airport.

✓ Giménez oversaw a blunder which cost Miami up to $6 million in state grant money to build the first park in Little Haiti.

**Brightline**

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Providing Virgin Trains $76 Million For The Construction Of A Rail Line That Connected Downtown Miami To Orlando And Would Have Cost $20 To Ride**

Giménez was in favor of providing Virgin Trains $76 million for the construction of a Brightline train in Aventura that would have cost $20 to ride. “Suarez joined Levine Cava on the losing No side earlier this month for the vote to pay Brightline with transportation-tax dollars to build the for-profit train station in Aventura. Bovo and Monestime voted for it. At the forum, Penelas joined the opposition to the Aventura deal, calling the Giménez initiative ‘a $76 million giveaway’ that will produce round-trip tickets costing riders $20. ‘It’s not what I would refer to as public or community transportation,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 10/21/19]

The Brightline Rail Service was operated by Virgin Trains, and would run services from downtown Miami to downtown Palm Beach and Orlando. “Brightline a privately owned passenger rail service, currently runs from downtown Miami to downtown West Palm Beach. An extension to Orlando is currently underway. The service is expected to transition to the name Virgin Trains by the end of the year.” [Miami-Herald, 10/29/19]

**Giménez Supported The Construction Of A Monorail Built By Chinese Companies But Senators Rubio And Scott Opposed It Due To Espionage Concerns**

Giménez supported the construction of a monorail system built by a casino and a Chinese transportation company. “Florida Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott expressed ‘grave concerns’ and alarm...
Monday over Miami-Dade County’s considering a Chinese company’s monorail system to connect Miami with Miami Beach, saying the project is vulnerable to espionage from a hostile power. A letter to County Mayor Carlos Giménez strikes at the heart of the confidential monorail proposal submitted by casino operator Genting and an affiliate of BYD, the Chinese electric-car maker that also has a monorail arm.” [Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Florida Senators Call Proposals For Miami-Dade Monorail ‘Alarming’ Over Ties To China.” [Miami-Herald, 7/15/19]

**HEADLINE:** “Miami-Dade Mayor Wants To Block Genting From Using Chinese Trains For Monorail Bid.” [Miami-Herald, 8/30/19]

### Public Transportation

**Giménez Supported Unpopular Fare Hikes To The Metro Bus And Metrorail Systems**

2014: **Giménez Was In Favor Of An Unpopular Fare Hike To The Metro Bus And Metrorail.** “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez has two weeks to lock up support for his 2015 budget among county commissioners, who revealed their resistance to unpopular fee and fare hikes in an unexpected insurrection early Friday morning. Of particular concern was a proposed increase to Metrobus and Metrorail fares — to $2.50 from $2.25 — that, if rejected, would create a new $7.6 million budget hole that Giménez said could force his administration to revive a plan to eliminate some bus routes.” [Miami-Herald, 9/5/14]

2008: **Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Bus And Rail Fare Increase, Even After Doubts That The Increase Would Help The County’s Transit System.** “The 50-cent bus and rail fare increase that Miami-Dade County commissioners narrowly ratified Tuesday may be killed before it goes into effect Oct. 1. The cause: a political U-turn. Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who voted in favor of the increase, said Thursday he will ask colleagues to reconsider on Sept. 16. Giménez expressed doubts that the fare increase would put the transit system on a stable financial footing, and he now questions some of the budget numbers submitted by county administrators. […] ‘I really think we need to take a more holistic look at everything,’ Giménez said. Voting for the fare increase: Giménez, Rolle, Moss, Jordan, Katy Sorenson and Audrey Edmonson.” [Miami-Herald, 9/5/08]

**HEADLINE:** “Giménez Wants More Discussion Before Transit Fare Increases.” [Miami-Herald, 9/15/08]

2005: **Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Public Transit Fares.** In April 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 99-138 TO INCREASE TRANSIT FARES, RATES AND CHARGES; AUTHORIZING SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS TO THE SCHEDULE OF TRANSIT FARES, RATES AND CHARGES ATTACHED TO SAID ORDINANCE BY RESOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-150 OF THE CODE; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 050528, 050671 AND 050696].” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 4/5/05, accessed 1/31/20]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Privatizing Miami-Dade’s Public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, And Light Rail Transit Systems**
Giménez Was In Favor Of Privatizing Miami-Dade’s Public Tri-Rail, Metrorail, And Light Rail Transit Systems. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez is supporting, if not pushing, a plan to contract the tri-rail, Metrorail and light rail systems out to private companies. Giménez wants county government out of operating transit systems; not even managing them. It’s a bad idea and perhaps Giménez needs a refresher course about having private companies provide security at the Tri Rail and Metro Rail facilities.” [South Florida Times, 10/1/15]

### Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Taxicab Rate Increase

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of A Taxicab Rate Increase.** In June 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 31-87 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR TO IMPLEMENT A PER TRIP TAXICAB RATE SURCHARGE DUE TO AN UNFORESEEN INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GASOLINE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NOS. 081284 AND 081511].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 08-71, Vote 081612, 5/6/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

### Giménez Supported Purchasing Bus Benches That Were Criticized For Being Unsightly, And Too Hot To Sit On In The Sun

**Giménez Supported Purchasing Bus Benches That Were Criticized For Being Unsightly, And Too Hot To Sit On In The Sun.** “While Giménez characterized the resignation as a natural transition, city sources say tension had been mounting between Diaz and Giménez, who most recently took the blame for buying bus benches that have been widely criticized for being too hot to sit on in the sun. […] On Aug. 4, Diaz sent Giménez a critical e-mail over the benches -- which have been criticized by many residents in Brickell, the Upper Eastside and Coconut Grove as being too hot to sit on and unsightly because of the free-standing advertising panels attached to the benches. ‘One of the things that struck me and Winton, when we witnessed the benches ourselves was that it just didn’t look like the city had any kind of a plan with respect to the issue. And we don’t,’ Diaz said.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]

**Miami Mayor On The Benches: “It Just Didn’t Look Like The City Had Any Kind Of Plan On The Issue.”** [Miami-Herald, 8/13/02]

### Traffic

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of An Interlocal Agreement With FIU For The Provision Of Research And Technical Assistance With Traffic And Transportation Issues**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of An Interlocal Agreement With FIU For The Provision Of Research And Technical Assistance With Traffic And Transportation Issues.** In May 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION APPROVING EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR THE PROVISON OF RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ISSUES ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS, PURSUANT TO AVAILABLE FUNDING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $200,000 PER YEAR FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-506-08, Vote 081018, 5/6/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]
Giménez Said That He Wanted Miami-Dade To Be A “Test-Bed” For Self-Driving Car Technology Even After Two Self-Driving Car Accidents Claimed The Lives Of Two Floridians

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Making Miami-Dade A “Test-Bed” For Self-Driving Car Technology Even After Two Self-Driving Car Crashes Claimed The Lives Of Two Floridians. in Miami-Dade, Ford and its tech partner, Argo AI, continues to test out its AV technology after launching a pilot program in 2018. ‘Among lots of rich insights, Miamians want self-driving services to integrate seamlessly into their lives so as to maximize their time and reduce their anxiety,’ the company said in a statement. Among those who share Brandes’ vision is Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez. In an interview, he said he believes the technology is ‘very close’ to being widely available. ‘We want to be a test-bed for this technology,’ he said. Giménez also touted the region’s no-snow advantage. Florida has also drawn headlines as the site of at least two accidents involving Tesla’s ‘autopilot’ feature; in 2016 Joshua Brown was killed in an accident near Williston; in March, Jeremy Beren was killed near Delray Beach. [Miami-Herald, 11/22/19]

Miami International Airport

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Adding Slot Machines And Horse Racing At The Miami International Airport As Means To Boost Revenue

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Adding Slot Machines And Horse Racing At The Miami International Airport As Means To Boost Revenue. “County administrators’ push to add slot machines to Miami International Airport could one day require turning an airport parking lot into a horse-racing track, state documents reveal. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez supports the slots idea as a needed revenue boost to financially-strapped MIA. The county estimates adding slots could bring in $17 million a year. But though Giménez voted in favor of the quarter-horse permit application, he said no one ever told him about the possibility of actually holding races at the airport. ‘I’m not OK with that,’ Giménez said. ‘Number one, where are we going to put the employees and their cars?’ If an airport track became the only way for slots to be installed, Giménez predicted ‘there would be a lot of resistance to that’ among commissioners.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/23/09]


Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Installing Slot Machines At The Miami International Airport

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of Installing Slot Machines At The Miami International Airport. “‘I supported it because I thought it was out-of-the-box thinking by the airport,’ County Commissioner Carlos Giménez said. Though an appeal process exists for the county to fight the state’s rejection, Giménez was reluctant to pursue a long, protracted fight. The commission as a whole will have to make that decision in the coming months. ‘The state is against it . . . so be it as far as I’m concerned,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 12/18/09]

HEADLINE: “State Rejects Slots At Miami Airport.” [Miami-Herald, 12/18/09]

Giménez Said That He Was Opposed To Having Horse Racing At The Airport, And That No One Told Him About The Possibility Of Actually Holding Races At The Airport

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Adding Slot Machines And Horse Racing At The Miami International Airport As Means To Boost Revenue. “County administrators’ push to add slot machines to Miami International Airport could one day require turning an airport parking lot into a horse-racing track, state documents reveal. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez supports the slots idea as a needed revenue boost to financially-strapped MIA. The county estimates adding slots could bring in $17 million a year. But though Giménez voted in favor of the quarter-horse permit application, he said no one ever told him about the possibility of actually holding races at the airport. ‘I’m not OK with that,’ Giménez said. ‘Number one, where are we going to put the employees and their cars?’ If an airport
track became the only way for slots to be installed, Giménez predicted “there would be a lot of resistance to that” among commissioners.”” [Miami-Herald, 7/23/09]

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing The Maximum Amount Of The Customer Facility Charge That Rental Car Companies Operating At Miami International Airport Must Collect**

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing The Maximum Amount Of The Customer Facility Charge That Rental Car Companies Operating At Miami International Airport Must Collect. In July 2007, ORDINANCE RELATING TO RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE MIAMI-DADE AVIATION DEPARTMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 25-4.1(F)(4) AND (5) OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CODE TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF THE CUSTOMER FACILITY CHARGE THAT RENTAL CAR COMPANIES OPERATING AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MUST COLLECT FROM CUSTOMERS DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT PRECEDES COMPLETION OF THE RENTAL CAR FACILITY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE CUSTOMER FACILITY CHARGE TO BE COLLECTED FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE RENTAL CAR FACILITY BASED ON THE LEVEL OF THE COUNTY’S PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS FOR DEBT SERVICE AND OPERATIONAL COSTS OF THE RENTAL CAR FACILITY; AUTHORIZING AVIATION DEPARTMENT TO AMEND THE APPLICABLE OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE TO INCORPORATE SUCH CHANGES IN THE CUSTOMER FACILITY CHARGE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEMS UNDER FILE NO. 072069 AND 072267].” The ordinance was adopted as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 072356, 7/24/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/3/20]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of Creating An Independent Authority To Oversee The Miami International Airport**

Giménez Was In Favor Of Creating An Independent Authority To Oversee The Miami International Airport. “A proposal to have an independent authority oversee Miami International Airport has also been part of the political discourse this election season. Giménez supports it, saying the County Commission is not equipped with the time or scope to properly manage the airport. ‘I’m not an expert on running an airport, and neither are they,’ he said. ‘I want to make sure that there is a group of people who have the time to commit to overseeing the airport, and the skills to do it.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/20/04]

**Water Infrastructure**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Water Use Efficiency Standards**

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Increasing Water Use Efficiency Standards. In February 2008, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO WATER USE EFFICIENCY STANDARDS; CREATING SECTION 8-31 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING LOCAL TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA BUILDING CODE FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS; REVISING AND PROVIDING FOR MAXIMUM FLOW RATES AND CONSUMPTION FOR PLUMBING FIXTURES, FIXTURE FITTINGS AND APPLIANCES; CREATING SECTIONS 32-84, 32-85 AND 32-86 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF WATER USE EFFICIENCY STANDARDS MANUAL FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS; PROVIDING FOR EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT; PROVIDING FOR WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND OUTREACH; AMENDING SECTION 8A-381 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA TO REQUIRE SUBMETERS IN MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO.
The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 080212, 2/5/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

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<th>Giménez Voted In Favor Of The Construction Of A Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant in Hialeah</th>
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Giménez Voted In Favor Of The Construction Of A Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant in Hialeah. In December 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE WAIVING ALL COUNTY PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OTHER THAN LIVING WAGE, RESPONSIBLE WAGE AND INSPECTOR GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF REVERSE OSMOSIS WATER TREATMENT PLANT JOINTLY OWNED BY COUNTY AND CITY OF HIALEAH AND LOCATED IN CITY OF HIALEAH; AUTHORIZING CITY OF HIALEAH TO USE ITS MUNICIPAL PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH REVERSE OSMOSIS WATER TREATMENT PLANT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; EXCLUSION FROM THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 072873].” The ordinance was adopted as amended. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 073727, 12/4/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

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<th>City Planning</th>
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2006: Giménez Was Appointed To The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Which Reviewed Land-Use Changes In Miami-Dade, Broward, And Monroe Counties

2006: Giménez Was Appointed To The South Florida Regional Planning Council, Which Reviewed Land-Use Changes In Miami-Dade, Broward, And Monroe Counties. “Martínez appointed Moss and Commissioner Carlos Giménez to replace Sorenson and to fill another seat that had been vacant for about a year. The 19-member planning council serves as an advisory panel to the Florida Department of Community Affairs in reviewing land-use changes in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. The group is composed of elected officials from the three counties and private individuals appointed by the governor. Giménez accepted Martínez’s appointment, calling it ‘a pretty cool assignment.’ Moss didn’t -- at first. ‘Effective immediately, Commissioner Dennis C. Moss has declined to serve on the South Florida Regional Planning Council Board,’ read the e-mail he sent to the council and the chairman’s office. It didn’t offer an explanation for his decision. Late Friday, Moss sent a second e-mail to the Planning Council saying his staff had declined the post for him without consulting with him first.” [Miami-Herald, 1/23/06]
Labor & Working Families

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez opposed legislation requiring county tenants to pay their employees $15 an hour.
✓ Giménez voted against providing for responsible wages in county construction contracts.
✓ Giménez voted against prohibiting wage theft.
  ✓ Giménez voted to prohibit wage theft after the Miami-Herald came out in favor of the measure.
✓ Giménez voted in favor of reduction for non-union county employees.
  ✓ Giménez said that he supported salary cuts to county employee over several years and encourages unions to adopt their own cuts.
✓ Giménez was in favor of a 15% reduction in every county department’s payroll.
✓ Giménez threatened labor unions with layoffs if they didn’t agree to new labor contracts.
  ✓ New contracts voided old contracts which guaranteed pay raises.
✓ Giménez supported the right to dismiss public union employees without cause.
✓ Giménez said that providing sick leave for Miami-Dade contractors would make contracts more expensive.

Minimum Wage

Giménez Opposed Legislation Requiring County Tenants To Pay Their Employees $15 An Hour

Giménez Opposed Legislation Requiring County Tenants To Pay Their Employees $15 An Hour. “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez on Wednesday vetoed legislation requiring county tenants to pay their employees up to $15 an hour, saying the ‘living wage’ rules would hurt the government’s ability to compete for business. ’It puts us at a competitive disadvantage,’ Giménez said of the ordinance passed May 15 in a 7 to 5 vote. ‘It may actually discourage some investments in the county.’” [Miami-Herald, 5/23/18]

HEADLINE: “Mayor Blocks Effort To Boost Pay At Miami Airport In Latest ‘Living Wage’ Fight.” [Miami-Herald, 5/23/18]

Sept. 2010: Giménez Voted Against Providing For Responsible Wages In County Construction Contracts

Giménez Voted Against Providing For Responsible Wages In County Construction Contracts. In September 2010, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR RESPONSIBLE WAGES IN COUNTY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS; MODIFYING THE EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PRIVATELY FUNDED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS; PROVIDING THAT CERTAIN PRIVATELY FUNDED PROJECTS WITH AN ESTIMATED COST LESS THAN FIVE MILLION DOLLARS SHALL BE
EXEMPLARY; DELETING THE EXEMPTION FOR PROJECTS WHOSE ESTIMATED COST EXCEEDS ONE MILLION DOLLARS; AMENDING SECTION 2-11.16 OF THE CODE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 102113, 9/10/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Nov. 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Responsible Wages In County Construction Programs

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Responsible Wages In County Construction Programs. In November 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR RESPONSIBLE WAGES IN COUNTY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS; MODIFYING THE EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PRIVATELY FUNDED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS; PROVIDING THAT CERTAIN PRIVATELY FUNDED PROJECTS WITH AN ESTIMATED COST LESS THAN FIVE MILLION DOLLARS SHALL BE EXEMPT; DELETING THE EXEMPTION FOR PROJECTS WHOSE ESTIMATED COST EXCEEDS ONE MILLION DOLLARS; AMENDING SECTION 2-11.16 OF THE CODE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 102113].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 102582, 11/16/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Wage Theft

Jan. 2010: Giménez Voted Against Prohibiting Wage Theft, And Then Voted For The Same Ordinance After A Miami Herald Editorial


Feb. 2010: Giménez Voted To Prohibit Wage Theft After The Miami-Herald Came Out In Favor Of The Measure

Feb. 18, 2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Prohibiting Wage Theft. In February 2010: Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 22 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROHIBITING WAGE THEFT, PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR WAGE THEFT PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 093228).” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-16, Vote 100638, 2/18/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Feb. 17, 2010: The Miami-Herald Editorial Board Urged County Commissioners To Vote To Prohibit Wage Theft. People in low-paying jobs -- U.S.-born and migrants alike -- are overly susceptible to unscrupulous employers who exploit them, as the South Florida Wage Theft Task Force has found. Activists call this ‘wage theft,’ and they have enlisted Miami-Dade Commissioner Natasha Seijas to their cause. The result is a county ordinance, cosponsored by Commissioners Audrey Edmonson and Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, prohibiting wage theft. The County Commission will consider the ordinance on Thursday. Commissioners should adopt it.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 2/17/10]

**Pay Cuts**

**Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Pay Reductions For Non-Union County Employees**

Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2009-2010 PAY PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR PAY REDUCTIONS FOR EXEMPT, NON-BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 092659].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 092735, 10/20/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

**Giménez Said That He Supported Salary Cuts To County Employees Over Several Years And Encouraged Unions To Adopt Their Own Cuts**

Giménez said that he supported salary cuts to county employees over several years. “Money that allowed county administrators to stave off deeper cuts came from a few different sources: savings from delaying capital improvement projects, cutting employee expenses such as travel and putting a hold on merit raises. County employees also will have to absorb $106 million in salary cuts. Commissioners may end up basing that on a sliding scale, with the biggest earners taking the biggest cuts. Commissioner Carlos Giménez said he supports the tiered salary cuts, and said Burgess has suggested having a range of cuts from 4 percent to 7.5 percent. Giménez proposed his own range. Those making $100,000 to $150,000 would get a 7.5 percent cut, those making $150,000 to $250,000 would get a 10 percent cut and those making $250,000 or more would see a 15 percent cut. Anyone making less than $100,000 would see a 5 percent reduction in pay. Giménez presented the idea at a hearing Wednesday, but the motion failed. He said even if it passed, commissioners would have to have to make more cuts next year. ‘Next year, we are going to have to do the same thing,’ he said. ‘The universe of people above $100,000 is much smaller than the universe of people below $100,000. Those over $100,000 are going to generate about $6 million. And we are going to have to generate a hell of a lot more than $6 million in revenue next year.’” [South Florida Business journal, 9/18/09]

Giménez encouraged county workers unions to adopt salary cuts. “Commissioner Carlos Giménez said he’s open to each union adopting its own cuts -- whether through salary cuts, furloughs or another route -- so long as it results in a balanced budget. ‘I’m open to unions coming up with their own way,’’ Giménez said. ‘‘To me, it’s about the bottom line.’’ Hills, who has led the county fire union for seven years, has decided not to seek another term as president, prompting an election over the next two months, and possibly delaying any action by the group.” [Miami-Herald, 9/27/09]

**Giménez Was In Favor Of A 15% Reduction In Every County Department’s Payroll**

Giménez was in favor of a 15% reduction in every county department’s payroll. “Commissioners Joe Martinez and Carlos Giménez, chairman and vice chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, called for a 15 percent reduction to nearly every department’s administrative payroll. No one suggested specific jobs or functions that could be cut, but Martinez said the move would save $56 million.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/07]

Giménez: “This Government Needs To Get Leaner.” “Commissioners Joe Martinez and Carlos Giménez, chairman and vice chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, called for a 15 percent reduction to nearly every department’s administrative payroll. No one suggested specific jobs or functions that could be cut, but Martinez said the move would save $56 million. […] Giménez was among those forecasting an even tougher year to come, especially if voters approve a constitutional amendment that would further reduce taxes and require another $200 million-plus cut at the county. ‘I believe we’re heading into even greater economic challenges next year,’ Giménez said. ‘This government needs to get leaner.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/24/07]
October 2011: As Mayor, Giménez Threatened Labor Unions With Layoffs If They Didn’t Agree To New Labor Contracts

Giménez Threatened Labor Unions With Layoffs If They Didn’t Agree To New Labor Contracts. “Mayor Carlos Giménez, elected on a pledge to rein in spending, has warned employees and unions that the county will have to lay off substantially more workers if the new labor agreements aren’t in place by Nov. 1. Giménez has said the tough stance is necessary to ensure the county stays within budget.” [Miami-Herald, 10/3/11]

The New Contracts Voided Old Contracts Which Guaranteed Pay Raises

Giménez Supported Voiding Contracts With Labor Unions Which Guaranteed Pay Raises. “Recently elected Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez is proposing to undue and rollback tax increases implemented under his predecessor Carlos Alvarez. Giménez also wants to void contracts with various labor unions, which granted pay raises in a poor economy. In addition, 1300 jobs will be cut and employees will be asked to pay an additional five percent of their salaries toward healthcare. Alvarez was recalled from office over the tax increase and labor contracts. Giménez won a special election to replace him.” [South Florida Times, 7/28/11]

January 2011: As Commissioner, Giménez Was Opposed To Union Contracts That Included Pay Raises

Giménez Was Opposed To Union Contracts That Included Pay Raises. “The commissioner voted against using public dollars to fund construction of a new Florida Marlins ballpark and, more recently, opposed union contracts that included pay raises. Giménez also favors term-limits for commissioners but, in the face of wary fellow boardmembers, has proven unable to get a charter amendment on the ballot.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]

Right To Work

Giménez Supported The Right To Dismiss Public Union Employees Without Cause

Giménez Supported The Right To Dismiss Public Union Employees Without Cause. “Carollo blamed Thursday’s endorsements on the inability of City Manager Carlos Giménez, his appointee, to negotiate new contracts with the three unions. Those contracts expired Sept. 30 but remain in place while the negotiations continue. ‘It was clear to me that if the contracts were not signed by the city manager, I would not get their endorsements,’ Carollo said. ‘In the real world, that’s why it happened.’ Carollo said that Giménez advised him there was a key sticking point that the mayor wouldn’t identify. Charlie Cox, the public employees union president, said in a letter to his members that Giménez - who could not be reached Thursday - was seeking the right to dismiss union employees without cause ‘if the city claims it does not have enough money. I would not agree to this. I never will.’ Of the three unions, political insiders said the firefighters’ endorsement was the most coveted.” [Miami-Herald, 10/12/01]

Paid Sick Leave

Giménez Said That Providing Sick Leave For Miami-Dade Contractors Would Make Contracts More Expensive

Feb. 2020: Giménez Said That Providing Sick Leave For Miami-Dade Contractors Would Make Contracts More Expensive. “Levine Cava, a Democrat on the nonpartisan commission, said commissioners should be ‘ashamed’ that workers providing county services aren’t granted paid sick time. ‘We’re talking about a basic human
right,’ she said, addressing members of the health committee from the lectern for public speakers. ‘They’re going to work sick. They’re leaving sick children home. They’re losing pay. They’re losing their jobs.’ The administration of Mayor Carlos Giménez told commissioners the proposal would make contracts more expensive for Miami-Dade and shared a survey from county vendors warning the new burdens would cause some of them to stop bidding for more work. “All of this is very difficult to quantify,” said Jennifer Moon, a deputy mayor. "It will increase the cost of the county’s services that we pay for.” Levine Cava is not a member of the health committee, and had no vote. When her ordinance appeared to be heading for defeat before the five-member panel, Commissioner Xavier Suarez, an independent and also a candidate for mayor, moved to defer a vote until the March meeting. The Giménez administration plans to deliver a report before then with an estimate on the costs tied to the legislation. [Miami-Herald, 2/14/20]
**Immigration & Border Issues**

**Significant Findings**

✓ 2017: Giménez supported the protection of DACA recipients as part of comprehensive immigration reform.

✓ 2007: Giménez supported Guiliani for president, who he said was not in favor of “amnesty” for undocumented immigrants.

✓ Giménez urged to grant “temporary protected status” to all Venezuelans living in the U.S.

✓ Giménez abandoned Miami-Dade’s position as a sanctuary community to comply with Trump’s immigration requests; he was the only big-metro mayor to do so.

  ✓ Giménez said that undocumented immigrants who committed minor offenses would be held by the county for Ice to pick up.

  ✓ Giménez claimed that Miami-Dade was incorrectly labeled a sanctuary community and said that his decision to gut Miami-Dade’s sanctuary city status was purely financial.

✓ Giménez called the Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center a “pretty well-run facility” when it was under scrutiny for sexual exploitation of minors and employee drug abuse.

✓ The GEO group has contributed $8,000 to Giménez; the Geo group was the country’s largest private prison operator for immigrant detainees.

  ✓ The GEO Group was heavily criticized for failing to treat immigrants humanely at its facilities.

**DACA, DAPA & The DREAM Act**

**Giménez Supported The Protection Of DACA Recipients As Part Of Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

Giménez Supported The Protection Of DACA Recipients As Part Of Comprehensive Immigration Reform. “In a private meeting with Sessions at the port, Giménez urged the Trump administration to pursue comprehensive immigration reform and protection for ‘dreamer’ children who came to the country illegally with their parents, a Giménez spokesman said.” [Miami-Herald, 8/16/17]

**2010: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Urging The President To Suspend The Deportations Of Immigrant Families In The U.S. Until Congress Passes Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Urging The President To Suspend The Deportations Of Immigrant Families In The U.S. Until Congress Passes Comprehensive Immigration Reform. In January 2010, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE U.S. SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO SUSPEND THE DEPORTATIONS OF IMMIGRANT FAMILIES IN THE U.S. AND TAKE OTHER STEPS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES UNTIL CONGRESS PASSES COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 100068].” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners as amended. [Miami-Dade County
Carlos Giménez (FL-26) Research Book | 320

Commission, R-74-10, Vote 100402, 1/21/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20

2007: Giménez Supported Giuliani’s “Pragmatic” Message On Immigration, Saying He Was Not In Favor Of “Amnesty” For Undocumented Immigrants

Giménez Said That He Was Not In Favor Of “Amnesty” For Undocumented Immigrants. “One of Romney’s most visible Hispanic supporters, Miami lobbyist Al Cárdenas, said, ‘He’ll be very comfortable with the immigration issue because the strong position he takes is against breaking the law. He also takes a strong position on increasing legal immigration . . . so he has a well-rounded response that will set him apart.’ ‘I think Mayor Giuliani’s message is a pragmatic one,’ said Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who is backing Giuliani. ‘He does not support amnesty, and he believes there there has to be some kind of process. I don’t think the message to Hispanic voters will be any different.’” [Miami-Herald, 10/9/07]

Refugees

Giménez Urged Trump To Grant “Temporary Protected Status” To All Venezuelans Living In The United States

Giménez Urged Trump To Grant “Temporary Protected Status” To All Venezuelans Living In The United States. “The resolution passed Monday triggers a letter to Trump from the commission and Mayor Carlos Giménez urging the federal government to grant ‘temporary protected status’ to all Venezuelans living in the United States. The status is reserved for citizens of countries under extraordinary strain, such as from a natural disaster or government failure, and temporarily halts rules that otherwise require the citizens to return home.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/17]

HEADLINE: Miami-Dade Urges Trump To Extend Asylum To Venezuelans During Maduro Crackdown.” [Miami-Herald, 8/7/17]

Sanctuary Cities

Giménez Abandoned Miami-Dade’s Position As A Sanctuary Community To Comply With Trump’s Immigration Requests; He Was The Only Big-Metro Mayor To Do So

Giménez Supported Gutting Miami-Dade County’s Position As A “Sanctuary” To Comply With Trump’s Immigration Request. “Fearing a loss of millions of dollars for defying immigration authorities, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez on Thursday ordered county jails to comply with federal immigration detention requests -- effectively gutting the county’s position as a ‘sanctuary’ for immigrants in the country illegally. Giménez cited an executive order signed Wednesday by President Donald Trump that threatened to cut federal grants for any counties or cities that don’t cooperate fully with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Since 2013, Miami-Dade has refused to indefinitely detain inmates who are in the country illegally and wanted by ICE -- not based on principle, but because the federal government doesn’t fully reimburse the county for the expense.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/17]

Giménez: “In Light Of The Provisions Of The Executive Order, I Direct You And Your Staff To Honor All Immigration Detainer Requests From The Department Of Homeland Security.” “In light of the provisions of the Executive Order, I direct you and your staff to honor all immigration detainer requests received from the Department of Homeland Security,’ Giménez wrote Daniel Junior, the interim director of the corrections and rehabilitation department, in a brief, three-paragraph memo.” [Miami-Herald, 1/26/17]

Apr. 2018: Miami-Herald: Giménez Remained The Only Big-Metro Mayor To Reverse A Local “Sanctuary” Policy. “Friction between Trump and Giménez may seem remarkable, given the political hits the mayor took in
supporting Trump’s crackdown on local detentions of immigration offenders. He remains the only big-metro mayor to reverse a local ‘sanctuary’ policy, after Giménez’s Jan. 26, 2017, order to local jails to start holding inmates an extra 48 hours if they were being sought for deportation. Trump praised Giménez on Twitter for being ‘Strong!,’ setting off a firestorm over Miami’s tradition as a community largely led by immigrants.” [Miami-Herald, 4/16/18]


Giménez Said That Undocumented Immigrants Who Committed Minor Offenses Would Be Held By The County For ICE To Pick Up

Giménez Said That Undocumented Immigrants Who Committed Minor Offenses Would Be Held By The County For ICE To Pick Up. “Speaking at a Sunday television show, Giménez began rattling off his cellphone the crimes of undocumented immigrants that were being held by the county for ICE to pick up -- and not giving it a second thought, he lumped together minor offenses like petty theft with a man accused of a homicide, or possibly, two.” [Miami-Herald, Fabiola Santiago Column, 2/9/17]

HEADLINE: “Oops: County Issues Faulty Data On First-Time Offenders Held On Immigration Charges.” [Miami-Herald, 2/6/18]

Giménez Claimed That Miami-Dade Was Incorrectly Labeled As A Sanctuary Community

Giménez Claimed That Miami-Dade Was Never A Sanctuary Community. “Giménez has cast his new policy as a tweak of the status quo bound to have only minor consequences, and a change that reasserts county policy to cooperate with federal authorities. ‘The Executive Order I signed yesterday reaffirms that Miami-Dade County has never been a sanctuary community,’ Giménez wrote on Jan. 27 amid a national backlash against his decision.” [Miami-Herald, 2/2/17]

Giménez Claimed That Miami-Dade Was Incorrectly Labeled As A Sanctuary. “President Obama’s Department of Justice came to the same conclusion last year, issuing a memorandum that said all local governments must at least share information about their inmates with ICE. Giménez told the emotional crowd his order has been misunderstood and that it brings the county in line with federal law to ensure it is no longer incorrectly labeled a ‘sanctuary city.’” [Florida Today, 2/18/17]

Giménez Said That His Decision To Gut Miami-Dade’s Sanctuary Status Was Purely A Financial One

Giménez Claimed That His Decision To Gut Miami-Dade’s Sanctuary Status Was Purely A Financial One. “The county started down its path when Mayor Carlos Giménez, a Cuban-born immigrant, issued an order on Jan. 26, directing jail officials to honor all requests by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in order to shed the county’s ‘sanctuary’ label. That came one day after Trump signed an executive order threatening to crack down on ‘sanctuary cities.’ Giménez said his decision was a purely financial one. He doesn’t want to put at risk about $355 million a year the county receives in federal funding.” [Florida Today, 2/18/17]
Giménez Claimed The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Was A “Pretty Well-Run Facility” When It Was Under Scrutiny For Sexual Exploitation Of Minors And Employee Drug Abuse

Giménez Praised The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center. “I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,” said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez: “I Saw A Pretty Well-Run Facility And I Got To Talk To The Kids At Random.” “I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,” said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez: “They All Spoke Spanish And They All Looked At Me Straight In The Eye And Said The Food Was Fine.” “I saw a pretty well-run facility and I got to talk to the kids at random,” said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez. ‘They all spoke Spanish and they all looked at me straight in the eye and said the food was fine.’ The group that visited Tuesday -- Giménez, Deputy Mayor Maurice Kemp, Director of Emergency Management Frank Rollason and Police Director Juan Perez -- were invited to tour the campus by the Federal Protection Services agency, which oversees safety at the South Miami-Dade shelter. Giménez said he left Tuesday’s tour off his public calendar because he didn’t want to turn it into a big media event.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

Giménez Said That He Saw Thank You Notes Left By The Children Who Had Been Transferred Out. “Giménez said he had the chance to speak with case workers in Homestead, many of whom showed him pictures and thank you notes left by children who had been transferred out. The children, Giménez said were sleeping in bunk beds in the old Air Force barracks, no more than eight to a room. The girls and boys were separated, as were the 17-year-olds from the rest of the kids.” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

HEADLINE: “After Visiting Kids At Homestead Center, Miami-Dade Leaders Are ‘Pleasantly Surprised.’” [Miami-Herald, 7/16/19]

2018: A Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Worker Pleaded Guilty For Sexually Exploiting A Minor

2018: A Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Facility Worker Pleaded Guilty For Sexually Exploiting A Minor. “Less than a year ago, Merice Perez Colon, another youth care worker, pleaded guilty to swapping nude photos and video with a 15-year-old boy she met at the Homestead shelter. Court records show she met the boy at the facility in the summer of 2016 and struck up an online relationship with him later that year after he had been released and resettled in South Carolina. Colon was sentenced to 10 years in a federal prison.” [Sun Sentinel, 6/22/18]

HEADLINE: “From Extortion To Sex Exploitation, South Florida Facilities Holding Migrant Kids Have Faced Problems.” [Sun Sentinel, 6/22/18]
2018: The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Center Employed A Child Caregiver Who Faced Felony Drug Charges

2018: The Homestead Immigrant Children’s Detention Facility Employed A Children Caregiver Who Faced Felony Drug Charges. “During the day, Franky Santos attends meetings for people trying to get clean, occasionally performs community service, and appears regularly before the Miami judge who oversees the county’s Drug Court. At night, he’s a caregiver for immigrant children being held at a Homestead shelter. As controversy continues to swirl over the Trump administration’s immigration policy — even after it walked back a decision to separate undocumented immigrant children from their parents and house them in shelters — a new question looms: Who’s minding the kids?” [Miami-Herald, 6/21/18]


The GEO Group Has Contributed $8,000 To Giménez; The GEO Group Was The Country’s Largest Private Prison Operator For Immigration Detainees

2015: The GEO Group Has Contributed $3,000 To Giménez’s Campaigns For County-Level Office. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

2015: The Geo Group Contributed $5,000 To Giménez’s Miami-Dade Residents Now PAC. [Florida Department of State, accessed 3/17/20]

The Geo Group Was The Country’s Largest Private Prison Operator For Immigration Detainees. “The national tab for incarceration comes to $182 billion a year, according the Massachusetts-based Prison Policy Initiative. While most of that money is paid to public employees at public correctional facilities, a small but lucrative 4 percent goes to a lucrative and growing market for a myriad of private operators. The country’s largest: Boca Raton-based The Geo Group. Long-time Miamians know it better by its previous name: Wackenhut. […] In 1984, the company formed a new division, the Wackenhut Corrections Corporation. Within a few year, the new division was regularly winning contracts to house federal and state prisoners as well as immigration detainees. It expanded internationally, started offering drug rehabilitation and mental health services, and even got into the prison design-and-construction business. […] Along with prisons, Geo Group operates immigration detention centers for the federal government in California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Texas and Washington. That makes the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) the company’s largest customer followed by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the United States Marshals Service and the state of Florida.” [Miami-Herald, 4/22/19]

The Geo Group Was Heavily Criticized For Failing To Treat Immigrants Humanely It Its Facilities

The Geo Group Was Under Scrutiny For Failing To Treat Immigrants Humanely. “A lawsuit filed Monday alleges that immigration detention authorities have failed to ensure that tens of thousands of immigrants are held in safe and humane conditions as required by federal law and the U.S. Constitution. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of 55,000 detainees and future detainees in 160 ICE detention centers across the country. Many of the larger detention centers are under contract with Geo Group, based in Boca Raton, or CoreCivic, another private contractor based in Nashville. The suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles against the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency and the Department of Homeland Security by three organizations: the Southern Poverty Law Center, a non-profit group in Montgomery, Ala., that works on behalf of immigrant justice; the Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center in Denver, Colo.; and Disability Rights Advocates in California and New York.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]

HEADLINE: “ICE And Its Contractor GEO Group Failed To Treat Immigrants Humanely, Lawsuit Claims.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]
HEADLINE: “Protesters Block Access To Private Prison Company’s South Florida Headquarters.” [Sun Sentinel, 8/19/19]
LGBTQ Rights

Giménez Was In Favor Of Same-Sex Marriage And Transgender Protections

Giménez Was In Favor Of Same-Sex Marriage And Transgender Protections. “A spokesman for Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said Giménez backs allowing same-sex couples to marry. ‘Mayor Giménez supports the recent court rulings,’ said Michael Hernández, communications chief for Giménez, who has already endorsed transgender protections in Miami-Dade and won the backing of the county’s top gay-rights group when he first ran for mayor in 2011. ‘He believes adults should be free to marry whomever they desire. He respects anyone’s right to marry, gay or straight.’” [Miami-Herald, 1/5/15]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Allowing Unmarried And Same-Sex Couples The Right To Visit Their Partners In Jails And Hospitals

Giménez Was In Favor Of Allowing Unmarried Couples The Right To Visit Their Partners In Jails And Hospitals. “It’s a long time coming,” said Commission Chairman Bruno Barreiro. ‘I support this as a proud Republican.’ One opponent, Commissioner Joe Martinez, said advocates were dancing around the real issue. ‘This is about same-sex partners, period,’ he said. ‘It’s not about domestic partners -- call it what it is.’ Its passage had been widely expected, especially after an alternative version sputtered in committee last week. It was co-sponsored by Barreiro, Audrey Edmonson, Carlos Giménez, Sally Heyman, Barbara Jordan and Sorenson. Dennis Moss and Rebeca Sosa also voted for it. Commissioner Javier Souto was absent. Opponents, including a coalition of religious leaders, fought the proposal on moral and financial fronts. They said the county cannot afford the $2,200 it costs to subsidize insurance for each partner, the same it already spends on spouses.” [Miami-Herald, 5/21/08]

Advocacy

Giménez’s Mayoral Campaigns Have Been Consistently Endorsed By Miami’s Top Gay Rights Group

Giménez’s Mayoral Campaigns Have Been Consistently Endorsed By Miami’s Top Gay Rights Group, SAVE. “Miami-Dade’s top gay-rights group is backing Carlos Giménez in his reelection campaign, re-upping its endorsement of a Republican who supports same-sex marriage and the county’s new protections for transgender men and women. SAVE endorsed Giménez’s earlier runs for mayor in 2011 and 2012, and said it did not need to interview any challengers before deciding to back the incumbent in the 2016 mayoral race. ‘The mayor has been such a champion for us,’ said Tony Lima, executive director of SAVE, which is best known by its former name of SAVE Dade. ‘We veered from our traditional process in order to be able to early-endorse him.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/4/16]

SAVE Director: “The Mayor Has Been Such A Champion For Us.” “Miami-Dade’s top gay-rights group is backing Carlos Giménez in his reelection campaign, re-upping its endorsement of a Republican who supports
same-sex marriage and the county’s new protections for transgender men and women. SAVE endorsed Giménez’s earlier runs for mayor in 2011 and 2012, and said it did not need to interview any challengers before deciding to back the incumbent in the 2016 mayoral race. ‘The mayor has been such a champion for us,’ said Tony Lima, executive director of SAVE, which is best known by its former name of SAVE Dade. ‘We veered from our traditional process in order to be able to early-endorse him.’” [Miami-Herald, 4/4/16]

**State & Local Issues**

**Significant Findings**

✓ Giménez supported a deal for Miami to host an American Le Mans Series Race which caused the city over $2 million in losses.

✓ Under Giménez’s deal, Miami had to provide about $850,000 in street improvements and $320,000 annually for fire, police, and waste expenses.

✓ Homestead-Miami Speedway filed a lawsuit against Miami charging that the city violated Sunshine laws by not holding a public bidding process; Homestead city leaders also strongly opposed the race.

✓ Giménez flipped flopped when he opposed using taxpayer dollars to fund the construction of a new Marlin’s ballpark.

✓ 2009: Giménez said that he would only support the construction of a new Marlins stadium with county funds if the team covered $200 million of the project; he voted against the development and construction of the Marlin’s Stadium with public funds.

✓ 2007: Giménez wanted the Marlins to provide county commissioners with suites and infield seats in exchange for county financing for a new stadium.

✓ 2005: Giménez urged the state to provide more funding for the construction of a new Marlins stadium.

✓ 2001: Giménez was in favor of building a Marlins stadium with taxpayer funds and supported an unconstitutional parking fee increase to help pay for it.

✓ Giménez was in favor of a private company building a massive Ferris wheel at the Port of Miami.

✓ Giménez ordered the Public Works Department to write a preliminary analysis about the feasibility of the Ferris wheel construction.

✓ Giménez was in favor of having a Chinese company operate luxury hotel on Watson Island.

✓ Cuban exiles in Miami criticized the idea of offering land to a hotel chain based in a communist country.

✓ Giménez was in favor of developers constructing a mega-yacht facility on Watson Island.

✓ Giménez was in favor of building the largest mall in America in Miami.

✓ Giménez was in favor of increasing requirements for the creation of new cities in Miami-Dade.

**Motorsports**
Giménez Supported A Deal For Miami To Host An American Le Mans Series Race Which Would Cause The City Over $2 Million In Losses. “Miami commissioners on Tuesday night slowed their run toward hosting a glamorous auto race downtown, cautious in the face of uncertainty over the financial implications. The commission voted to defer until July 26 a decision on returning car racing to the city’s streets. City commissioners asked City Manager Carlos Giménez to negotiate a better deal with Raceworks LLC, backed by the Panoz Motorsports Group of Georgia. The group had agreed to pay the city 1 percent of its gross revenue for the first two years of the race in the American Le Mans Series, scheduled to begin April 5-7 next year. The percentage would rise to 3 percent in the fifth year and thereafter. The deal was expected to bring in $2 million to the city over a period of 10 years, Giménez said. In turn, the city would provide about $850,000 in initial street improvements and $320,000 annually for fire, police and solid waste expenses, among other provisions. Under that estimate, the city would lose a total of more than $2 million over 10 years. That arrangement didn’t pass the commissioners’ muster Tuesday night.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/01]

Under Giménez’s Deal, Miami Had To Provide About $850,000 In Street Improvements And $320,000 Annually For Fire, Police, And Waste Expenses

Under Giménez’s Deal, Miami Had To Provide About $850,000 In Street Improvements And $320,000 Annually For Fire, Police, And Waste Expenses. “Commissioners sent City Manager Carlos Giménez back to the negotiating table. Good. The idea is appealing: Race cars careening around a state-of-the art course in downtown Miami, cheered on by people who leave lots of money behind. But it’s also an idea that has been around the track before. The Miami Grand Prix left the city high and dry when it moved to Homestead in 1995. Under the latest proposal, Raceworks LLC had agreed to pay the city 1 percent of its gross revenue for the first two years of racing in the American Le Mans Series, set for April 2002. The percentage would jump to 3 percent in the fifth year and beyond. Though the deal was expected to bring in $2 million to the city over 10 years, the city could very well lose that amount over the same time. The city would provide about $850,000 in street improvements and $320,000 annually for fire, police and solid-waste expenses, among other provisions. The city has to do much better. Car racing is one of the most popular national sports, and Miami’s right to pursue this. But the costs exceed the benefits. The city must protect itself.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 7/21/01]

Homestead-Miami Speedway Filed A Lawsuit Against Miami Charging That The City Violated Sunshine Laws By Not Holding A Public Bidding Process; Homestead City Leaders Also Strongly Opposed The Race

Homestead-Miami Speedway Filed A Lawsuit Against Miami Charging That The City Violated The Sunshine Law By Not Holding Negotiations For A Race In Public; Homestead City Leaders Also Strongly Opposed The Race. “Under the final deal, Raceworks will pay the city a $50,000 fee for every race, plus $1 for every ticket sold, said City Manager Carlos Giménez. Raceworks will also absorb the costs of the city services it uses, including fire, police, solid waste, and barricade storage, city officials say. […] A few issues remain unresolved. For one thing, Homestead-Miami Speedway filed a lawsuit against Miami, charging that the city violated the Sunshine Law by not holding negotiations for a race in downtown Miami in public. The suit is pending. Homestead city leaders and Speedway officials have campaigned strongly against the race, claiming South Florida racing fans cannot financially support another race. Also, Raceworks officials said they are still negotiating with the Miami Exhibition and Sports Authority over the extent of the quasi-public agency’s involvement in the event.” [Miami-Herald, 12/13/01]

Giménez: “I Don’t Know What The Tactics Of Homestead Speedway Are Going To Be […] They Have Waged A Relentless Battle So That This Thing Doesn’t Happen.” “The speedway’s lawsuit, filed against the city last year, alleged the city broke its own rules by signing a contract with Raceworks without letting other firms put in competitive bids. A judge agreed and in March ordered the original pact between the city and Raceworks to be ‘null and void.’ In April, city commissioners approved a new agreement -- including making
the contract a revocable license agreement -- which they said brings it into compliance with the judge’s order. The city also formally invited any other racing company to apply for an unsolicited license to race in Miami. Although the suit is over, Giménez believes the war between the two races may not have seen its final battle. ‘I don’t know what the tactics of Homestead Speedway are going to be,’ Giménez said. ‘I feel confident that there will be something. They have waged a relentless battle so that this thing doesn’t happen.’” [Miami Herald, 7/21/02]

**Miami-Herald Editorial: “The Miami Grand Prix Left The City High And Dry When It Moved To Homestead In 1995”**

“Commissioners sent City Manager Carlos Giménez back to the negotiating table. Good. The idea is appealing: Race cars careening around a state-of-the-art course in downtown Miami, cheered on by people who leave lots of money behind. But it’s also an idea that has been around the track before. The Miami Grand Prix left the city high and dry when it moved to Homestead in 1995.” [Miami-Herald, Editorial, 7/21/01]

**Super Bowl**

**Jan. 2020: Giménez Was Part Of The Super Bowl Miami Host Committee Reception**

**Giménez Was Part Of The Super Bowl Host Committee Reception.** GIMENEZ: “It’s always great running into the Estefans! We were at the Super Bowl Host Committee reception Thursday night. #SBLIV.” [Facebook, Mayor Carlos A. Giménez, 1/31/20]

[Facebook, Mayor Carlos A. Giménez, 1/31/20]

**2006: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Approving The Issuance Of Temporary Limousine Licenses For Potential Super Bowls**

**2006: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Approving The Issuance Of Temporary Limousine Licenses For Potential Super Bowls.** In July 2006, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO TEMPORARY LIMOUSINE LICENSES; AMENDING SECTION 31-613 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO PRESCRIBE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE APPROVAL AND ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY LIMOUSINE LICENSES FOR SUPER BOWLS AND OTHER MAJOR SPECIAL EVENTS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 7/6/06, accessed 1/31/20]
Miami Marlins

Giménez Flipped Flopped When He Opposed Using Taxpayer Dollars To Fund The Construction Of A New Marlins Ballpark

**2009: Giménez Voted Against The Development & Construction Of The Marlin’s Stadium With Public Funds**

Giménez Voted Against The Development & Construction Of The Marlin’s Stadium With Public Funds. In March 2009, Giménez voted against: “RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MARLINS’ BALLPARK, RELATED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARKING FACILITIES, FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMPLETED BALLPARK AND PARKING FACILITIES, FOR THE MARLINS’ GUARANTY OF THE BALLPARK DEVELOPER’S OBLIGATIONS, AND FOR THE MARLINS’ ASSURANCES REGARDING NON-RELOCATION; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR SELECTION OF DEVELOPER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF BALLPARK AND RELATED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, FOR SELECTION OF OPERATOR OF BALLPARK, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE WORK RELATED TO BALLPARK, AND PURCHASE OF BUILDING MATERIALS, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN NAMING RIGHTS TO STADIUM PREMISES; DELEGATING TO THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE THE AUTHORITY TO PERFORM CERTAIN ACTS, EXPEND FUNDS UP TO $9,300,000, AND EXERCISE CERTAIN CANCELLATION AND TERMINATION PROVISIONS, SUBJECT TO THE PARAMETERS SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION AND THE STADIUM AGREEMENTS; AUTHORIZING COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL SUCH AGREEMENTS UPON FULFILLMENT OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-130-06 RELATED TO FINAL FORM AND EXECUTION BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTIES [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 090730].” [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-318-09, Vote 091009, 3/23/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Giménez Voted Against Miami-Dade County Paying For The Construction Of A Baseball Stadium. In April 2009, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SPORTS FRANCHISE FACILITIES TAX REVENUE BONDS, IN MULTIPLE SERIES, IN AGGREGATE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $378,000,000, PAYABLE SOLELY FROM CERTAIN PLEDGED REVENUES, TO REFUND PROFESSIONAL SPORTS FRANCHISE FACILITIES TAX REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 1998, AND TO PAY COSTS OF BASEBALL STADIUM; PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF TERMS, MATURITIES, INTEREST RATES AND OTHER DETAILS OF EACH SERIES OF BONDS BY SUBSEQUENT RESOLUTION(S); PROVIDING FOR ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL BONDS AND REFUNDING BONDS; PROVIDING FOR CREDIT FACILITIES, RESERVE ACCOUNT CREDIT FACILITIES AND HEDGE AGREEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO BONDS AS DETERMINED BY COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NOS. 5F, 8E1B, 8E1C.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 09-23, Vote 09029, 4/7/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted Against Using Taxpayer Dollars To Fund The Construction Of A New Marlins Ballpark. “The commissioner voted against using public dollars to fund construction of a new Florida Marlins ballpark and, more recently, opposed union contracts that included pay raises. Giménez also favors term-limits for commissioners but, in the face of wary fellow boardmembers, has proven unable to get a charter amendment on the ballot.” [Miami-Herald, 1/27/11]
2009: Giménez Said That He Wanted The Marlins To Continue Paying Leasing Fees To The Miami Dolphin To Continue Playing Games At Their Stadium Rather Than The Marlins Build Their Own Stadium

Giménez Said That He Was In Favor Of The Marlins Continuing To Pay The Dolphin’s Leasing Fees To Play Games At Their Stadium Rather Than Them Build Their Own Stadium. “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez says the Marlins should go back to the drawing board, cut a deal with the Dolphin Stadium folks and secure a lease for five more years. Ideally, he said, the Orange Bowl site would be turned into a professional soccer stadium, which the county has $50 million it can float in bonds. (Florida International University built a nice one for less than that.) And then the city and county could look at a downtown site for a stadium, he said, and even then, the taxpayers’ exposure shouldn’t be for more than about a third of the cost.” [Miami-Herald, 3/4/09]

2009: Giménez Said That He Would Only Support The Construction Of A Marlins Stadium With County Funds If The Team Covered $200 Million Of The $630 Million Project

2009: Giménez Said That He Would Only Support The Construction Of A Marlins Stadium With County Funds Of The Team Covered $200 Million Of the $630 Million Project. “Giménez said the team agreed in 2005 to contribute $192 million, but costs have escalated. The formula has changed since then and the Marlins have agreed to pay $155 million plus rent for the parking and cover cost overruns on construction of the stadium and the infrastructure. Giménez now says the Marlins should put up about $200 million towards a nearly $630 million project. The breakdown consists of $515 million for the stadium, $94 million for the parking garage and more than $20 million for infrastructure. The team’s financial contribution comes at the tail end of the project. Giménez wants the team to invest its money first, instead of local government providing the initial financing. That’s because local government is not only paying for the bulk of the stadium costs, but also for construction of the parking garage and infrastructure. Samson said Giménez is not making an apples-to-apples comparisons because the team is willing to pay more now and the deal is broken into more pieces.” [South Florida Business Journal, 2/17/09]


2008: Giménez Voted Against The Construction Of A New Marlins Stadium

2008: Giménez Voted Against The Construction Of A New Marlins Stadium. “Commissioners Carlos Giménez, Sally Heyman and Javier Souto -- who ranted about the unfairness of the negotiations and how it was kept from the public, at one point even tearing apart his copy of the agreement -- voted against. Commissioner Katy Sorenson was ill and absent. ’My heart would love to vote for this, but my head just can’t,’ Giménez said.” [Miami-Herald, 2/22/08]

Giménez: “We Are Rushing Into Something Where We Don’t Have All The Facts And All The Funding.” “The plan drew a mixture of support and criticism from residents who spoke at Thursday’s meetings. Several protested that residents were not able to vote on a project mostly financed with tax dollars. ’We’re rushing into something where we don’t have all the facts and all the funding,’ said County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, one of the no votes.” [Palm Beach Post, 2/22/08]

2007: Giménez Wanted The Miami Marlins To Provide County Commissioners With Suites And Infield Seats In Exchange For County Financing On A News Stadium

Giménez Wanted A New Marlins Stadium To Provide County Officials With Two Free Suites And 22 Infield Seats At Every Home Game In Exchange For County Financing. “Miami-Dade County commissioners on Thursday deferred voting on a financing plan for a proposed $525 million stadium in Little Havana for the Florida Marlins until their first meeting in January. […] There was late discussion Thursday on the ball club that focused mainly on a Miami-Herald story that noted part of the baseball agreement called for Miami and Miami-Dade officials to receive two free suites and 22 infield seats at every home game. […] Commissioner Carlos Giménez
suggested cutting the number of seats but believed it was probably a good idea to keep a suite for special events.” [Miami-Herald, 12/21/07]

**Giménez Said That He At Least Wanted The Marlins To Keep Suites Available For County Commissioners To Entertain Guests.** “The preliminary plan calls for the Marlins to give city and county officials two suites and 22 infield box seats at every Marlins home game, for free. The same or similar seats would be available at cost to government officials should the team make the playoffs. The plan was similar to one enacted by Major League Baseball’s recently relocated franchise, the Washington Nationals, and its district commissioners. Yet after the report ran, some commissioners went to pains to say they may be reluctant to pocket freebies. Commissioner Natacha Seijas said she would prefer to pay her own way. Commissioner Carlos Giménez said his preference would be for the Marlins to keep a suite available for the city or county to buy, should they need it for a special event. ‘We can always purchase it for the day,’ said Giménez, adding that otherwise, the club could use it for entertaining guests or kids from the Boys and Girls Club.” [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

**HEADLINE: “Free Baseball Tickets A Delicate Matter”** [Miami-Herald, 12/24/07]

### 2007: Giménez Said That The Orange Bowl Site Would Be A “Viable” Location For A Marlin’s Stadium

The University of Miami football program is forsaking the leaky, creaky, nostalgic dump that is the Orange Bowl for Wayne Huizenga’s ruthlessly efficient profit center at the Stadium Formerly Known as Joe Robbie. […] County Commissioner and former Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez says local leaders realize the OB site isn’t perfect: ‘I think it’s viable. Viable, not ideal. There are some serious access issues. But it could work.’” [Miami-Herald, 8/27/07]

### 2007: Giménez Said That A Marlins’ Stadium Would Work Better In An “Urban, Downtown Site.” “‘We’re just trying to get money from the state. That’s our No. 1 goal right now,’ said Barreiro. ‘We’re going to do what we can do, and they’ll have to make a decision. We can’t get distracted by the site issue.’ Commissioner Carlos Giménez, though, was willing to bend. Last month he was one of the strongest advocates for the Orange Bowl site. Now, after studying transportation issues, he says it’s no longer his first option. ‘For me, I think baseball would work better in an urban, downtown site,’ he said.” [Miami-Herald, 4/7/07]

### 2005: Giménez Believed That The Proposed $360 Million Price Tag For A New Marlins Stadium Was Too Low, And Urged The State To Provide More Funding For Its Construction

“The Florida Marlins, Miami-Dade County and the city of Miami now have the deal they need to press state legislators for the final piece in a $420 million stadium-financing plan. […] Even commissioners who supported the plan raised several questions about it, including its price tag, the need for public transportation, and methods for acquiring property. Commissioners Carlos Giménez and Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz expressed concern that $360 million earmarked for stadium construction would not cover the full cost of the ballpark, particularly since the price of steel and other materials has risen.” [Sun Sentinel, 3/2/005]

### Sept. 2001: Giménez Said That Tourism Losses After 9/11 Jeopardized The County’s Funding Of A Marlins Stadium

“While the nation prepares for a future after last week’s terrorist attacks, the Florida Marlins said Thursday they will delay negotiations for a ballpark in downtown Miami. Even if talks do resume, Miami City
Manager Carlos Giménez said Thursday he feared tourism losses as a result of the tragedy could jeopardize a key piece of the stadium-funding plan, which relies heavily on hotel taxes.” [Orlando Sentinel, 9/21/01]

Giménez Told The Marlins That The City Would “No Longer Negotiate” With Them For “Any Proposal For A Baseball Stadium” Unless They Offered A Financing Proposal

Giménez Told The Marlins That The City Would “No Longer Negotiate” With Them For “Any Proposal For A Baseball Stadium” Unless They Offered A Financing Proposal. “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez reminded the Florida Marlins by letter Tuesday that they need to meet a Sept. 13 deadline for a specific stadium financing proposal - a deadline that the team says it plans to meet. Giménez addressed a two-paragraph note to Marlins Vice Chairman David Ginsberg, telling him that commissioners voted unanimously Aug. 9 for the Marlins and the city to create a ‘letter of understanding’ by Sept. 13, or ‘the city shall no longer negotiate with the Florida Marlins organization for any proposal for a baseball stadium.’ A letter of understanding would be an agreement about where the $500 million to build a stadium would come from.” [Miami-Herald, 8/29/01]

2001: Giménez Was In Favor Of Building A Marlins Stadium Along The Miami River With Taxpayer Funds And Supported An Unconstitutional Increase In Parking Fees To Help Pay For The Marlin’s Stadium

2001: Giménez Was In Favor Of Building A Marlins Stadium Along The Miami River With Taxpayer Funds. “The new site, just across the river and southwest of the previous site, also would require bending part of Southwest Seventh Street slightly south between Interstate 95 and Second Avenue. It’s less than two blocks from a Metrorail station and near exits on I-95. Carollo and Giménez had said they believed a stadium could be built there by opening day 2005. They said the old site’s cost would have increased to almost $550 million, with most overruns caused by time and space constraints and the possible expense of moving underground utilities. Carollo first publicized his plan Wednesday night. Thursday, for the first time before his commission, he showed in part how it would be paid for. The new total cost: $500 million. The county would use the same $118 million in tourist tax dollars it has promised since December. The city would contribute $150 million from either extending the parking surcharge or from extending and refinancing the city’s bond debt. The city would also contribute $23 million it would receive from a parking tax rebate, which would be used to purchase the property. Carollo and Giménez also believe the city and county could contribute $30 million from tax increment financing along the river - meaning the Legislature could give approval to reinvest tax money paid on the site for improvements.” [Miami-Herald, 8/10/01]

Giménez Supported An Increase In Parking Fees To Help Pay For The Marlin’s Stadium. The city would contribute $150 million from either extending the parking surcharge or from extending and refinancing the city’s bond debt. The city would also contribute $23 million it would receive from a parking tax rebate, which would be used to purchase the property. Carollo and Giménez also believe the city and county could contribute $30 million from tax increment financing along the river - meaning the Legislature could give approval to reinvest tax money paid on the site for improvements.” [Miami-Herald, 8/10/01]

2002: The Florida Supreme Court Ruled That Miami’s Parking Surcharge Was Unconstitutional. “The Florida Supreme Court ruled Thursday the city of Miami’s parking surcharge is unconstitutional -- but failed to address whether the city must return the more than $30 million it has collected by enforcing the ordinance the past three years. The state’s high court, in its 25-page decision, agreed with a 2001 lower court ruling that said the city had violated the Florida Constitution by creating a ‘special law’ that effectively allowed only Miami to raise revenue from a source other than property taxes.” [Miami-Herald, 7/12/02]

HEADLINE: “Miami’s Parking Surcharge Is Ruled Unconstitutional.” [Sun-Sentinel, 7/12/02]

2001: Giménez Said That A New Miami Marlins Stadium Would Mean An Economic Boom For South Florida
2001: Giménez Said That A New Miami Marlins Stadium Would Mean An Economic Boom For South Florida. “Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez, explaining why a new stadium would mean an economic boon for South Florida, tried to sell it this way: A new park drawing lots of fans would mean the Marlins could afford more expensive players, who could then spend more of their millions in the area.” [Palm Beach Post, Editorial, 5/27/01]

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<tr>
<th><strong>As Mayor, Giménez Went Five Seasons Without Attending A Single Marlins Home Game</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Giménez Went Five Seasons Without Attending A Single Marlins Home Game.</strong> “On Opening Day, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez looks ready to extend his own remarkable baseball streak: five seasons without attending a home Marlins game. Giménez took office five years ago in part thanks to backlash over the 2009 deal that sent $370 million in borrowed county money to build Marlins Park, which he opposed as a county commissioner. The park opened in 2012, a year after Giménez was elected mayor, but he has steered clear of seeing the Marlins there. In 2014, Miami-Herald research found he was the rare mayor in a Major League city who has not watched a home game at the local ballpark.” [Miami-Herald, 4/5/16]</td>
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**HEADLINE:** “After Five Seasons, The Mayor Finally Takes In A Marlins Game.” [Miami-Herald, 7/27/16]

**HEADLINE:** “Another Opening Day In Miami Without A Mayor To Cheer The Home Team.” [Miami-Herald, 4/5/16]

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<th><strong>2017: Giménez Didn’t Attend The Marlins Park All-Star Game Because He Claimed That He Wasn’t Invited; The Team’s President Said That He Was Invited But Giménez Refused To Go</strong></th>
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<td><strong>2017: Giménez Didn't Attend The Marlins Park All-Star Game Because He Claimed That He Wasn’t Invited; The Team's President Said That He Was Invited But Giménez Refused To Go.</strong> “Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez said Tuesday he will not attend the All-Star Game at county-owned Marlins Park because the Miami Marlins did not invite him, a contention that the team’s president denied. Speaking with reporters after unveiling his 2018 budget proposal, Giménez said he is used to local teams inviting him with free tickets to major games that he then discloses as gifts. The Marlins sent the mayor’s office a link to purchase tickets for Tuesday night, but Giménez said he did not consider himself formally invited to attend Miami’s first All-Star Game. ‘If he wants to invite me as a representative of the people of Miami-Dade, I would probably attend,’ Giménez said of Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria. ‘But he hasn’t invited me.’ Marlins President David Samson rejected Giménez’s allegation of a snub, saying he was invited the same way the Marlins asked other prominent people to attend the game. ‘The mayor was invited to purchase tickets. And we received no response to that invitation,’ Samson said.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/17]</td>
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**HEADLINE:** “Mayor: I Would Go To All-Star Game If Marlins Had Invited Me. Marlins: We Did.” [Miami-Herald, 7/11/17]

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| **Giménez Voted Against The Construction Of The Seaport Tunnel Project With County Funds.** In April 2008, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE APPROVING COVENANT TO BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE ANNUALLY FROM LEGALLY AVAILABLE NON-AD VALOREM REVENUES OF COUNTY AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PAY REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT IN AMOUNT OF $75,000,000 IN FAVOR OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR SEAPORT TUNNEL PROJECT; PROVIDING THAT SELECTION OF LETTER OF CREDIT PROVIDER AND RELATED LOAN DETAILS AND AGREEMENTS SHALL BE APPROVED BY SUBSEQUENT RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE AGENDA ITEM NO.**
2007: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing $402.5 Million For The Construction Of The Port Of Miami Tunnel

In April 2007, Miami-Dade County commissioners voted in favor of providing $402.5 million for the construction of the Port of Miami Tunnel. "This would not be funded by the county in any way, but would be land. The only government contribution, Giménez said, would be land. 'This was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 080509, 4/8/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

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<td>“Miami-Dade commissioners took a leap of faith into Biscayne Bay on Tuesday, ratifying the county’s $402.5 million share of a historic public-private partnership to build a $1 billion tunnel to the Port of Miami. ‘Look, we’ve been talking about this for more than 20 years. It’s time to fish or cut bait,’ Commissioner Carlos Giménez said. […] Commissioners Giménez, Moss, Bruno Barreiro, Jose ‘Pepe’ Diaz, Audrey Edmonson, Sally Heyman, Barbara Jordan, Dorrin Rolle and Katy Sorensen voted for it. Commissioner Joe Martinez was absent.” [Miami-Herald, 7/24/07]</td>
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**Giménez Was In Favor Of A Private Company Building A Massive Ferris Wheel At The Port Of Miami**

“Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez thinks the county should consider building a massive Ferris wheel at the Port of Miami, duplicating England’s hugely successful London Eye and an even taller one being built in Beijing for next year’s Olympics. ‘It would be great views, and you wouldn’t be taking any parkland or green space,’ Giménez said. A private company would design, build and operate the wheel, sharing profits with the county. The only government contribution, Giménez said, would be land. ‘This would not be funded by the county in any way,’ Giménez said. The idea is still in its infancy. Giménez’s bill, which goes before the commission’s Transit Committee Wednesday, simply calls for a feasibility study. At Giménez’s request, the county’s Public Works Department wrote a preliminary analysis. It concluded: ‘Is it feasible to build? The simple answer is yes.’ A second study would explore cost projections and begin a discussion of the idea’s public and political support, Giménez said. If it passes committee Wednesday, the full commission would likely vote on Nov. 6 and ask for a report by early February.” [Miami-Herald, 10/10/07]

**Giménez Said That A Private Company Would Be Entirely Responsible For The Construction Of The Ferris Wheel.** “The last time the county built a major attraction, the Carnival Center for the Performing Arts, it was widely criticized for massive budget-busting during both construction and the first year of operation. The center, now in its second year, is receiving an $8.8 million subsidy from the county. Giménez said the county would not risk the same mistakes because a private company would be entirely responsible. ‘We’ll see if it’s a good idea or not,’ he said. ‘I know there’s going to be some negatives, but it sounds to me like it could be great for Miami-Dade County.”’ [Miami-Herald, 10/10/07]

**Giménez Ordered The Public Works Department To Write A Preliminary Analysis About The Feasibility Of The Ferris Wheel’s Construction.** “Miami-Dade Commissioner Carlos Giménez thinks the county should consider building a massive Ferris wheel at the Port of Miami, duplicating England’s hugely successful London Eye and an even taller one being built in Beijing for next year’s Olympics. ‘It would be great views, and you wouldn’t be taking any parkland or green space,’ Giménez said. A private company would design, build and operate the wheel, sharing profits with the county. The only government contribution, Giménez said, would be land. ‘This would not be funded by the county in any way,’ Giménez said. The idea is still in its infancy. Giménez’s bill, which goes before the commission’s Transit Committee Wednesday, simply calls for a feasibility study. At Giménez’s request, the county’s Public Works Department wrote a preliminary analysis. It concluded: ‘Is it feasible to build? The simple answer is yes.’ A second study would explore cost projections and begin a discussion of the
idea’s public and political support, Giménez said. If it passes committee Wednesday, the full commission would likely vote on Nov. 6 and ask for a report by early February.” [Miami-Herald, 10/10/07]

Watson Island Development

Giménez Was In Favor Of Having A Chinese Company Operate A Luxury Hotel On Watson Island

Giménez Was In Favor Of A Chinese Company Building A Luxury Hotel On Watson Island. “They billed it as paradise’s newest address in Miami: Shangri-La, a luxury hotel on Watson Island, the city of Miami’s most precious piece of waterfront land. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who was the city manager when the Watson Island redevelopment project was planned and approved, said he is not concerned about Shangri-La. ‘I have no problem with that corporation, they are very well qualified to open that hotel,’ Giménez said. ‘They seem to be a very well established hotel group with a lot of experience running luxury hotels.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/19/05]

Giménez: “I Have No Problem With That Corporation, They Are Very Qualified To Open That Hotel.” “They billed it as paradise’s newest address in Miami: Shangri-La, a luxury hotel on Watson Island, the city of Miami’s most precious piece of waterfront land. […] County Commissioner Carlos Giménez, who was the city manager when the Watson Island redevelopment project was planned and approved, said he is not concerned about Shangri-La. ‘I have no problem with that corporation, they are very well qualified to open that hotel,’ Giménez said. ‘They seem to be a very well established hotel group with a lot of experience running luxury hotels.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/19/05]

Cuban Exiles In Miami Criticized The Idea Of Offering Land To A Hotel Chain Based In A Communist Country

Cuban Exiles In Miami Criticized The Idea Of Offering Land To A Hotel Chain Based In A Communist Country. “They billed it as paradise’s newest address in Miami: Shangri-La, a luxury hotel on Watson Island, the city of Miami’s most precious piece of waterfront land. There’s just one catch. The company that owns the hotel chain, Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts, is based in Hong Kong, now part of communist China. The majority of the company’s holdings are in mainland China. And the chain’s goal is to cater to Chinese executives looking to do business with Latin America. Now some Cuban exile activists and politicians are wondering why the city of Miami, the capital of the anti-communist exilio, would dare offer its best land to a hotel chain based in a communist country and catering to business people who purportedly have to toe the Communist Party line to stay in business.

‘I find it insulting that voters were fooled,’ said anti-Castro activist and radio personality Ninoska Perez-Castellon. ‘In the case of the city of Miami, it’s a city full of victims of communism. I really find the rationale and justification difficult.’” [Miami-Herald, 11/19/05]

Giménez Was In Favor Of Developers Constructing A Mega-Yacht Facility On Watson Island

Giménez Was In Favor Of Developers Constructing A Mega-Yacht Facility On Watson Island. “The City of Miami is again trying to invigorate Watson Island. City Manager Carlos Giménez recently sent out ‘Dear prospective developer’ letters touting the island as ‘one of the finest development sites in the country.’ A formal request for proposals goes out Feb. 1. The city wants to create a mega-yacht facility for vessels 80 feet and longer with compatible development ‘mindful of its water’s edge locale and public use of the island,’ Giménez’s letter said. That could mean anything from an entertainment or educational facility, hotel, retail, restaurants or whatever else a developer dreams up. And they sure can dream. Three years ago, New York businessman David Plattner liked the island for an indoor ski slope. (City officials didn’t). The winning developer will plan, design, construct, lease and manage the project. A similar request went out years ago but no one wanted the job. The developer would get: about 24 acres, including 13 acres of submerged land and 1,100 feet of shoreline on Biscayne Bay; an initial 45-year lease with options for two 15-year renewals; city assistance in obtaining permits. ‘We envision the completed island as a waterfront development that emphasizes diverse and public open spaces, pedestrian activity and a welcoming mix of uses,’ Giménez wrote.” [Miami-Herald, 1/29/01]
American Dream Mall

Giménez Was In Favor Of Building The Largest Mall In America In Miami. “Giménez: He negotiated much of the deal that brought the owner of Minnesota’s Mall of America to Northwest Miami-Dade with plans for an even larger retail theme park in South Florida. In early 2015, Giménez announced the 200-acre project, which promises to be Miami-Dade’s largest employer with about 25,000 permanent jobs.” [Miami-Herald, 8/13/16]

Nov. 2019: Giménez Visited The New American Dream Mall In New Jersey To Showcase What It Could Deliver To Miami

“Two weeks before New Jersey’s American Dream mega-mall finally opened its doors after years of delay, developers led a tour through an unfinished artificial ski mountain and an indoor amusement park for some out-of-town guests with sway over an even larger retail theme park planned off the Florida Turnpike in Miami-Dade. ‘Pictures don’t do it justice,’ Mayor Carlos Giménez said of his 3 1/2-hour private visit to the $3 billion Meadowlands project on Oct. 13, where he was joined by chief of staff Alex Ferro and deputy mayor Jack Osterholt. ‘You have to see it to appreciate it.’ Finally able to show off an American Dream location in New Jersey, Triple Five is using the partially opened Meadowlands site as a showcase for what the company can deliver in Miami.” [Miami-Herald, 11/8/19]

Giménez: “You Have To See It To Appreciate It.”


Parks & Recreation

2008: Giménez Voted Against The Sale And Consumption Of Alcohol At Athletic Events Held In County Parks

Giménez Voted Against Allowing The Sale And Consumption Of Alcohol At Athletic Events Held In County Parks. In June 2008, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ENTITLED ‘PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS’; AMENDING SECTION 26-1, RULE 33 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TO PERMIT THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT ADULT ATHLETIC EVENTS HELD IN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 081537, 6/3/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]
Giménez: “Chalk It Up To My Days As A Firefighter […] During Games At The Orange Bowl, We Carried Too Many People Out, Most Of Them Involved Alcohol.” “The commission approved the rule 8-1, with Carlos Giménez dissenting and Audrey Edmonson, Dorrin Rolle and Natacha Seijas absent. ‘Chalk it up to my days as a firefighter,’” Giménez said. “During games at the Orange Bowl, we carried too many people out - - most of them involved alcohol.”” [Miami-Herald, 6/4/08]

2009: Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The Parks And Recreation Department Director To Continue To Authorize And Permit The Sale And Consumption Of Alcohol At Adult Athletic Events Held In County Parks

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Allowing The Park And Recreation Department Director To Continue To Authorize And Permit The Sale And Consumption Of Alcohol At Adult Athletic Events Held In County Parks. In March 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE RELATING TO CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ENTITLED ”PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”; AMENDING SECTION 26-1, RULE 33 TO DELETE THE SUNSET PROVISION AND MONTHLY REPORTING REQUIREMENT AND ALLOW THE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TO CONTINUE TO AUTHORIZE AND PERMIT THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT ADULT ATHLETIC EVENTS HELD IN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE SUBSTITUTE ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 090679].” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on first reading. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 090183, 3/3/09; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Giménez Voted To Abolish The Miami Lakes Parks And Street Lightening Improvement District

Giménez Voted To Abolish The Miami Lakes Parks And Street Lightening Improvement District. In February 2005, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE ABOLISHING THE MIAMI LAKES PARKS AND STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; RESCINDING RESOLUTION R-8286; REPEALING ORDINANCE 79-112; DELETING LIMITATION ON PARK USAGE; REPEALING SECTION 26-2.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, 2/1/05, accessed 1/31/20]

Giménez Oversaw A Blunder Which Cost Miami Up To $6 Million In State Grant Money To Build The First Park In Little Haiti

Giménez Oversaw A Bureaucratic Blunder Which Cost Miami Up To $6 Million In State Grant Money To Build The First Park In Little Haiti. “A bureaucratic blunder may have cost the city of Miami up to $6 million in state grant money to build the first park in Little Haiti. The park will be built, city leaders say, but a grant writer in the department of Management and Budget deemed partly responsible for the mistake has been asked to retire. There was never a guarantee the city would receive the entire $6 million - but the city expected to receive at least $2 million to $3 million, said Management and Budget Director Linda Haskins. The potentially costly error occurred at the end of a long and complicated process, Haskins said, when Barbara Broadbar stuck the application to the Florida Communities Trust inside a FedEx delivery service package, then placed it on a receptionist’s desk on the fifth floor of the Miami Riverside Center on a Friday afternoon, Aug. 10. The package was due to Florida Communities Trust’s Tallahassee office by 5 p.m. the following Monday, Aug. 13. When Broadbar left the office that afternoon, the package was still on the receptionist’s desk, Haskins said. It was still there Monday morning when she returned to work. The reason: FedEx had never been notified, Miami City Manager Carlos Giménez said. He said the gaffe occurred because Broadbar believed an assistant director in her office called the delivery company - and vice versa. ‘The ball was dropped here due to miscommunication,’ said Giménez.” [Miami-Herald, 9/29/01]
Dog Kennels

Giménez Voted Against An Expansion Of Dog Kennels In Miami-Dade County

Giménez Voted Against An Expansion Of Dog Kennels In Miami-Dade County. In January 2008, Giménez voted against: “ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO ZONING; AMENDING SECTIONS 33-1, 33-13, 33-255, AND 33-259 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING DEFINITION OF DOG KENNEL; PERMITTING DOG KENNELS IN BU-3 AND IU-1 DISTRICTS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 072484].” The ordinance as adopted as amended by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, Vote 080220, 1/22/08; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]

Olympic Exploratory Advisory Board

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Establishing An Olympic Exploratory Advisory Board

Giménez Voted in Favor Of Establishing An Olympic Exploratory Advisory Board. In October 2010, Giménez toed in favor of: “ORDINANCE CREATING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OLYMPIC EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE; SETTING FORTH DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF SUCH COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS; REQUIRING ANNUAL REPORTS AND PROVIDING FOR STAFF SUPPORT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 10-66, Vote 101304, 10/5/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/6/20]

Urban Planning

Giménez Was In Favor Of Increasing Requirements For The Creation Of New Cities In Miami-Dade

Giménez Was In Favor Of Increasing Requirements For The Process Of Creating New Cities In Miami-Dade. “The effort to create new cities in Miami-Dade County just got more difficult. Miami-Dade County commissioners voted 10-2 on July 7 to increase the number of petition signatures required to begin the incorporation process. Commissioners Katy Sorenson and Carlos Giménez cast the dissenting votes. Community activists looking to become their own city are now required to collect petition signatures from 25 percent of the proposed municipality’s registered voters, up from 10 percent.” [Miami-Herald, 7/17/05]
# Tax Issues

## Significant Findings

✓ **Giménez has repeatedly advocated for higher property taxes.**

✓ **As Mayor, Giménez proposed property tax increases three years in a row.**

✓ **Giménez was critical of the State Legislature lowering property taxes because he said it would cut local government revenue.**

✓ **2005: Giménez sponsored a yearly 3.5% increase in property taxes.**

✓ **Giménez was opposed to lowering local gas taxes when national travel was at its highest.**

## Property Tax

### Giménez Has Repeatedly Advocated For Higher Property Taxes

**As Mayor, Giménez Proposed Property Tax Increases Three Years In A Row**

2014: **As Mayor, Giménez Proposed Property Tax Increases Three Times.** “A tax increase occurs whenever the rate of taxation times the values of the properties equals more revenues, that is a tax increase. A flat tax rate with higher property values produces more funds. Mayor Carlos Giménez is relying on this to balance the budget. The proposed budget requires a ‘Notice of Proposed Tax Increase’ advertisement in the Miami-Herald. In fact, this will be the third year in a row that Mayor Giménez has proposed a budget with a property-tax increase.” [Miami-Herald, 7/10/14]

### Giménez Was Critical Of The State Legislature Lowering Property Taxes Because He Said It Would Cut Local Government Revenue

**Giménez Was Critical Of The State Legislature Lowering Property Taxes Because It Would Cut Local Government Revenue.** “Giménez ultimately stood alone as the plan failed 11-1. He said the Legislature’s plans to cut property taxes -- and thereby cut local government revenue -- require the county to freeze hiring for all noncritical jobs. Multiple ideas were in play when the Legislature’s regular session ended last week; some could slash more than $1 billion from Miami-Dade’s $6.9 billion budget.” [Miami-Herald, 5/11/07]

### 2005: Giménez Sponsored A Yearly 3.5% Increase In Property Taxes

**2005: Giménez Sponsored A Yearly 3.5% Raise In Property Taxes.** “As a commissioner, Giménez sponsored a 2005 deal with then-mayor Carlos Alvarez to lock in a yearly 3.5-percent increase in property taxes and other general funds for the transit budget, a change worth about $700 million so far, according to the current administration’s calculations.” [Miami-Herald, 12/12/19]

## Gas Tax

### Giménez Was Opposed To Lowering Local Gas Taxes


Giménez Was Against Suspending Gas Taxes When National Travel Was At Its Highest

Giménez Was Against Suspending Gas Taxes When National Travel Was At Its Highest. “In effort to assist local residents who been affected by price increase, Miami-Dade County commissioners are working to suspend gas taxes for the next three months when national travel is at its highest. Their request was forwarded to the Legislature and Congress; however, several elected officials are working internally to bring immediate relief to Florida residents. A preliminary hearing was held within the commission to curb local gas taxes by as much as 5 cents per gallon. However, In a 7-5 vote, commissioners such as Carlos Giménez, Barbara Jordan, Dennis Moss and Katy Sorenson voted against it, stating that the tax-break may ultimately end up benefiting gas stations where the price remains the same for consumers, but offers profits to store locations.” [Miami Times, 5/23/07]
Trade & Outsourcing Issues

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez voted in favor of changing the International Trade Consortium board’s reporting requirement from quarterly to annually.
✓ Giménez supported free trade agreements with Colombia and Panama.

International Trade Consortium

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Changing The International Trade Consortium Board’s Reporting Requirement From Quarterly To Annually


Colombia

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Free Trade Agreements With Colombia

Giménez Voted To Urge Congress To Approve Free Trade Agreements With Colombia And Panama. In June 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA’S ADMINISTRATION TO FACILITATE AND CONGRESS TO APPROVE TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENTS WITH BOTH COLOMBIA AND PANAMA.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-836-09, Vote 091756, 5/4/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]

Panama

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Free Trade Agreements With Panama

Giménez Voted To Urge Congress To Approve Free Trade Agreements With Colombia And Panama. In June 2009, Giménez voted in favor of: “RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA’S ADMINISTRATION TO FACILITATE AND CONGRESS TO APPROVE TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENTS WITH BOTH COLOMBIA AND PANAMA.” The resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. [Miami-Dade County Commission, R-836-09, Vote 091756, 5/4/10; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/5/20]
Veterans & Military Family Issues

Significant Findings

✓ Giménez voted in favor of providing fare-free transit services to honorably discharged veterans who were Miami-Dade residents.

Military Personnel

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Fare-Free Transit Services To Honorably Discharged Veterans Who Were Miami-Dade County Residents

Giménez Voted In Favor Of Providing Fare-Free Transit Services To Honorably Discharged Veterans Who Are Miami-Dade County Residents. In December 2007, Giménez voted in favor of: “ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 29-124 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA APPLYING CHARTER COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM SURTAX PROCEEDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PATRIOT PASSPORT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FARE-FREE TRANSIT SERVICES TO HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS WHO ARE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED THE STANDARD THRESHOLD APPLIED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE LOW-INCOME, SENIOR CITIZENS’ ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.” The ordinance was adopted. [Miami-Dade County Commission, 073542, 12/20/07; Giménez Voting Record via Freedom of Information Act, accessed 2/4/20]
Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures

2020 – Federal Personal Financial Disclosure

NOTE: Giménez has not yet filed his Federal House Personal Financial Disclosures as of April 9th, 2020.

2013-2019 Giménez Personal Financial Disclosure Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Asset Value</th>
<th>Earned Income</th>
<th>Unearned Income</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$2,177,593</td>
<td>$153,106</td>
<td>$136,338</td>
<td>$254,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,948,503</td>
<td>$149,998</td>
<td>$198,330</td>
<td>$260,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$1,874,663</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
<td>$134,334</td>
<td>$282,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$1,847,677</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
<td>$133,326</td>
<td>$307,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$1,799,193</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
<td>$132,054</td>
<td>$343,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$1,736,741</td>
<td>$150,516</td>
<td>$194,870</td>
<td>$163,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,502,008</td>
<td>$154,746</td>
<td>$148,382</td>
<td>$441,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


NOTE: Part A of the Florida Ethics Commission’s Full And Public Disclosure stated the net worth cited above was not calculated by subtracting the reported liabilities from the reported assets.

Taxpayer Funded Salaries

2012-2018: Giménez Earned $1 Million In Salary As The Mayor of Miami-Dade County

According to Florida Commission of Ethics filings, over his six years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez had earned a total of $1,060,739 in taxpayer-funded salary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mayoral Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$153,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$149,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$150,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$154,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$1,060,739</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Taxpayer Funded Pensions

2012-2018: Giménez Received $929,634 In Taxpayer Funded Pension From Miami Fire Fighters And Police Officers’ Trust

According to Florida Commission of Ethics filings, over his six years as Mayor in Miami-Dade County, Giménez collected $929,634 from Miami Firefighter and Police Trust.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pension Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$136,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$135,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$134,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$133,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$132,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$129,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$128,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$929,634</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Assets

#### 2013-2019: Giménez Disclosed He Held Stock in Diamondback


**Diamondback Energy Is An Oil And Gas Company Based Out Of Midland, Texas.** “Diamondback is an independent oil and natural gas company headquartered in Midland, Texas focused on the acquisition, development, exploration and exploitation of unconventional, onshore oil and natural gas reserves in the Permian Basin in West Texas. Diamondback's activities are primarily focused on the horizontal exploitation of multiple intervals within the Wolfcamp, Spraberry, Clearfork, Bone Spring and Cline formations.” [Diamondback Energy, Overview, accessed 04/27/20]

#### 2019 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

**Net Worth**

According To His 2019 Disclosure Of Financial Interests, Giménez’s Net Worth As Of June 30, 2019 Was $1,947,263. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

**Assets**

2019: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $125,000

2019: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $125,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

2019: Giménez Reported Over $2 Million In Assets

2019: Giménez Reported Over $2 Million In Assets Valued Over $1,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]
### Assets Individually Valued At Over $1,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$167,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association Retirement Corporation</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$150,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanguard</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$1,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>Banking Account</td>
<td>$43,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter Relief Fund</td>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>$128,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamondback Stock</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>$28,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$2,049,409</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

### Liabilities

#### 2019: Giménez Reported Over $250,000 In Liabilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 797179 Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$245,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$8,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$254,670</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

### Income

#### 2019: Gimenez Reported $289,000 In Income.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address Of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$153,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Retirement Fund</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$136,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$289,444.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

### Interests In Specified Businesses

#### 2019: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses.

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 07/02/19]

### 2018– Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Worth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
According To His 2018 Disclosure Of Financial Interests, Giménez’s Net Worth As Of June 27, 2018, Giménez Was $1,788,389. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

### Assets

**2018: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $105,000**

**2018: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets**

**2018: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets Valued Over $1,000.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,438,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$92,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$148,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$44,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanguard</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$1,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>Banking Account</td>
<td>$53,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter Relief Fund</td>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>$121,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamondback Stock</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>$27,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,948,503</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

### Liabilities

**2018: Giménez Reported Over $250,000 In Liabilities.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 797179 Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$247,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$12,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$260,672</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

### Income

**2018: Gimenez Reported $348,328 In Income.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$149,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Retirement Fund</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$135,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]
Interests In Specified Businesses

2018: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/29/18]

2017 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

Net Worth

According To His 2017 Disclosure Of Financial Interests, Giménez’s Net Worth As Of June 29, 2017 Was $1,608,761. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

Assets

2017: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $95,000

2017: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $95,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

2017: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets

2017: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets Valued Over $1,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$131,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association Retirement Corporation</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$150,391</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanguard</td>
<td>Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>Banking Account</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter Relief Fund</td>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>$112,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida Educational Credit Union</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$5,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energenc</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>$19,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,874,663</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

Liabilities

2017: Giménez Reported Over $250,000 In Liabilities. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]
### Income

**2017: Gimenez Reported $285,125 In Income.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address Of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Retirement Fund</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$134,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$285,125</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

### Interests In Specified Businesses

**2017: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/17]

### 2016 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

#### Net Worth


#### Assets

**2016: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $87,000**

**2016: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $87,000.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]

**2016: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets**

**2016: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million Assets Valued Over $1,000.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$119,091</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]
Liabilities

2016: Giménez Reported Over $300,000 In Liabilities. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citi Bank</td>
<td>PO Box 6248, Sioux Falls, SD</td>
<td>$56,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 797179 Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$244,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$7,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$307,913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income

2016: Gimenez Reported $284,117 In Income. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Retirement Fund</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$133,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$284,117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interests In Specified Businesses

2016: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/28/16]

2015 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

Net Worth

According To His 2015 Disclosure Of Financial Interests, Giménez’s Net Worth As Of June 28th, 2015 Was $1,443,038. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

Assets

2015: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $85,000
2015: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $85,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

2015: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets

2015: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets Valued Over $1,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$109,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association Retirement Corporation</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$192,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanguard</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$1,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>Banking Account</td>
<td>$26,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter Relief Fund</td>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>$101,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida Educational Credit Union</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$8,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energen</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>$27,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,799,193</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

Liabilities

2015: Giménez Reported Over $X In Liabilities. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citi Bank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 6248, Sioux Falls, SD</td>
<td>$81,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 941000, Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$245,735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Bank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 790179, St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>$5,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$11,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$343,715</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

Income


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Address Of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Retirement Fund</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$132,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$282,845</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]
**Interests In Specified Businesses**

**2015: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/15]

**2014 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure**

### Net Worth


### Assets

**2014: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $80,000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$98,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association Retirement Corporation</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$226,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanguard</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$1,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>Banking Account</td>
<td>$21,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter Relief Fund</td>
<td>Pension Fund</td>
<td>$96,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida Educational Credit Union</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>$5,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energen</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>$35,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,736,741</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/2014]

### Liabilities

**2014: Giménez Reported Over $350,000 In Liabilities.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/2014]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citibank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 6248, Sioux Falls, SD</td>
<td>$108,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 941000, Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$240,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Bank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 790179, St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>$14,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Income


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$150,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Fire and Police Pension</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td>$129,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Relief Fund</td>
<td>2980 S River Dr. Miami, FL</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$345,661</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/2014]

Interests In Specified Businesses

2014: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 6/30/2014]

2013 – Miami Dade Personal Financial Disclosure

Net Worth


Assets

2013: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $75,000

2013: Giménez Reported That His Household Goods And Personal Effects Were Valued At $75,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]

2013: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets

2013: Giménez Reported Over $1.5 Million In Assets Valued Over $1,000. [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide Retirement Solution</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$93,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International City Management Association Retirement Corporation</td>
<td>Retirement Plan</td>
<td>$228,291</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vanguard Investment $1,918
Miami Firefighters Federal Credit Union Banking Account $24,379
Miami Firefighter Relief Fund Pension Fund $125,000
South Florida Educational Credit Union Investment $9,555
Energen Stock $10,800
**TOTAL** $1,502,008

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Creditor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Amount Of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citibank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 6248, Sioux Falls, SD</td>
<td>$133,934</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of America</td>
<td>P.O. Box 941000, Simi Valley, CA</td>
<td>$245,947</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S Bank</td>
<td>P.O. Box 790179, St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>$21,850</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$40,069</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighters Creditors Union</td>
<td>1111 NW 7 St Miami, FL</td>
<td>$21,850</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$441,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]

**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Name Of Source of Income</th>
<th>Address Of Source Of Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade County</td>
<td>111 NW1 St Miami, FL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$154,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Fire and Police Pension</td>
<td>1895 SW 3 Ave Miami, FL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$128,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Firefighter and Relief Fund</td>
<td>2980 S River Dr. Miami, FL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$303,128</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]

**Interests In Specified Businesses**

**2013: Gimenez Reported No Interests In Specified Businesses.** [Financial Disclosure Report, Florida Ethics Commission, ID #97170, filed 7/5/13]
Appendix II – Campaign Finance

Toplines

NOTE: This analysis was completed before Giménez had filed any federal campaign finance disclosures.

Giménez’s Campaigns Raised $5,427,137.60 And Spent $5,379,928.17

Giménez’ Campaign Raised $5,427,137.60 And Spent $5,379,928.17. According to Miami-Dade County, Giménez’s campaigns raised $5,427,137.60 And Spent $5,379,928.17. [Miami-Dade County, accessed 3/16/20]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Total Receipts</th>
<th>Total Disbursements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monetary Contributions</td>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$2,642,936.00</td>
<td>$24,650.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,116,048.87</td>
<td>$10,661.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$912,217.90</td>
<td>$10,358.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$228,135.00</td>
<td>$685.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>$480,101.25</td>
<td>$1,342.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>$5,379,439.02</td>
<td>$47,698.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Miami-Dade County, accessed 3/16/20]

Giménez’s Leadership PACs Raised $7,445,277.92 And Spent $7,390,132.86

Giménez’s Leadership PACs Raised $7,445,277.92 And Spent $7,390,132.86. According to Miami-Dade County, Giménez’s Leadership PACs “Common Sense Now!” and “Miami-Dade Residents First” raised $7,445,277.92 And Spent $7,390,132.86. [Miami-Dade County, accessed 3/16/20]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Total Contributions</th>
<th>Total Disbursements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monetary Contributions</td>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career: Common Sense Now! Funds</td>
<td>$2,806,886.67</td>
<td>$14,384.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career: Miami-Dade Residents First Funds</td>
<td>$4,618,507.00</td>
<td>$5,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Miami-Dade County, accessed 3/16/20]
## Appendix III – Paid Media Summary

NOTE: Paid media advertisements saved on the DCCC research drive.

### 2020 Election

#### Giménez “Good Guy” Paid Media Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9/19</td>
<td>Debbie Mucarsel Powell for Congress</td>
<td>We Demand Courage</td>
<td>Guns</td>
<td>Positive, personal record, personal story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/10/20</td>
<td>Florida Democratic Party</td>
<td>Corrupt Carlos Giménez</td>
<td>Pay to play, ethics, family, corruption</td>
<td>Negative, personal record</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2016 Election

#### Giménez “Bad Guy” Paid Media Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/3/16</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Prepared and Ready</td>
<td>Disaster response, security, transportation, families and seniors</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/14/16</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Testimoniaios</td>
<td>Protect small business, education</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/16/16</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Liderazgo</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/16/16</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4/16</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Testimonials</td>
<td>Protect small business, education</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2012 Election

#### Giménez “Bad Guy” Paid Media Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/8/12</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Miami-Herald Recommendation</td>
<td>Miami-Herald endorsement</td>
<td>Positive, personal record, endorsements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/12</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Testimonials</td>
<td>Community service, family</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/17/12</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Tough Choices</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/18/12</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Keeping Promises, Moving Forward</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/26/11</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Vote Giménez June 28th!</td>
<td>Disaster response, security, transportation, families and seniors</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30/11</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14/11</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>Ad</td>
<td>Community service, family, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Positive, personal record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/27/11</td>
<td>Carlos Giménez for Mayor</td>
<td>The True Lies of a Stadium Deal</td>
<td>Jobs, economy, taxes</td>
<td>Negative, Miami Marlins Stadium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>