

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

**RESOLUTION 2026-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENSURE THAT ALL FIRE RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL COMPLETE AN ASSAULT, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, AND ABUSE TRAINING COURSE WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS FOCUSED ON FAMILIARIZING EMERGENCY RESPONDERS WITH THE UNIQUE PATIENT CARE CONSIDERATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS INHERENT IN INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, AND ABUSE, DIRECTING NEW FIRE RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL TO COMPLETE SIMILAR TRAINING WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THEIR INITIAL HIRE, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENSURE THAT ALL FIRE RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL COMPLETE ADDITIONAL TRAINING THEREAFTER**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables is committed to protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of all residents, visitors, and emergency responders; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida consistently ranks third in the United States for reported human trafficking cases, according to annual data published by the National Human Trafficking Hotline; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County, including the City of Coral Gables, has recognized the ongoing regional impact of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking and has participated in coordinated law enforcement and multi-agency task force initiatives to address prevention and response; and

**WHEREAS**, victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking frequently encounter emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics as first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, City Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel routinely respond to incidents of sexual assault, human trafficking, and abuse that require that personnel to provide sensitive, informed, and trauma-informed patient care to survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, victims of human trafficking are frequently hidden in plain sight and may present during medical emergencies without self-identifying due to coercion, fear, language barriers, immigration concerns, or dependency; and

**WHEREAS**, Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel are often uniquely positioned to observe indicators of human trafficking, including repeated calls for service to the same location, controlling companions, untreated injuries, signs of neglect, or environmental conditions consistent with exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, trauma-informed training on identifying and responding to human trafficking and victims of sexual assault and abuse will enhance victim safety, improve coordination with law enforcement and victim advocacy organizations, and strengthen community trust; and

**WHEREAS**, specialized, evidence-based training tailored to the prehospital scope of practice enhances trauma-informed care, forensic awareness, documentation integrity, mandatory reporting compliance, and multidisciplinary coordination; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission of Coral Gables finds that it is in the best interest of the City to provide for ongoing professional development for all City Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel within the next six months, to require all new hires to those positions be provided that training within six months of beginning their positions with the City, and require similar training on assault, human trafficking, and abuse responses every two years thereafter.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:**

**SECTION 1.** That the foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Commission directs that all City Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel complete an assault and abuse training course designed to familiarize emergency responders with the unique patient care considerations and characteristics inherent in situations involving incidents of sexual assault, human trafficking, and abuse within the next six months.

**SECTION 3.** That the City Commission directs that all Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services personnel hired after adoption of this Resolution also complete the aforementioned training within six months of their initial hire and further, that all Fire Rescue and Emergency Services personnel complete additional assault, human trafficking, and abuse training every two years thereafter.

**SECTION 4.** That the City of Coral Gables shall recognize, identify, or facilitate the continued support of a specialized multidisciplinary response initiative designed to strengthen coordinated medical and forensic response services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking within Miami-Dade County.

**SECTION 5.** That such initiative shall be developed and delivered by qualified subject matter experts in emergency medicine, forensic healthcare, trauma-informed care, and public health, and shall be specifically tailored to licensed EMTs and paramedics, and the program is certified by the appropriate EMS regulatory board for continuing education and aligns with Florida statutory requirements, Department of Health standards, and applicable EMS protocols.

**SECTION 6.** That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ day of. , 2026

(Moved: )

(Yeas:

(Majority : Vote:)

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

CRISTINA M. SUÁREZ  
CITY ATTORNEY