



***City of North Miami Beach, Florida***

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MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**COUNCIL CONFERENCE**

**Tuesday, January 5, 2010**

**6:30 pm**

**Second Floor, Council Chambers**

**AGENDA**

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**6:30 P.M.**

- 1. State of the State: Ronald L Book, City Lobbyist**  
*(Approximately 50 minutes)*

# City of North Miami Beach Memorandum



*City Manager's Office*

**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Kelvin L. Baker, City Manager  
**DATE:** December 22, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K. Baker", written over the "FROM:" line of the memorandum.

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**RE:** Governmental Consulting Services provided by Ronald L. Book

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The City of North Miami Beach recognizes the need to maximize its opportunities before the Florida Legislature, Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, the various state and county agencies, the Governor and the Cabinet. The City has determined that Legislative Consultant Ronald L. Book, P.A. has the requisite background and experience and has effectively provided the City with such professional services including matters of law, policy, legislation, and funding.

The responsibilities and duties of Ronald L. Book, P.A. have included but are not limited to the following:

1. Lobby on behalf of the City before the Florida Legislature during the annual legislative session, extended sessions, special sessions, committee meetings, and Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, with particular attention to legislation that would benefit and not adversely impact the City.
2. Make presentations on behalf of the City before the Governor, members of the Cabinet and their aides.
3. Appear before State and County agencies on proposed rules and policies.
4. Review existing and future State policies and programs on an ongoing basis with particular attention to the manner in which such policies and programs affect the City and its citizens.
5. Report regularly to brief the City concerning state and county legislation, rules, policy, and program directions.
6. Provide technical assistance to the City in the interpretation of State objectives as they may relate to circumstances and conditions unique to the City.
7. Assist the City in obtaining State grants.

Mr. Book was instrumental in lobbying the outside city utility rate surcharge the City Water and Sewer Utility may charge under Florida Statute Section 180.191 as he assisted in amending in 1998. He continues to lobby on our behalf so that we can continue to charge this surcharge to outside city utility customers which currently bring in annual revenues to the City of more than \$6,000,000.

The State grants received from 2003 thru 2008 can be found in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) listed on the City's Website. The grants can be found in the Compliance Section at the end of the reports.

The state grants received this year which Mr. Book has assisted in obtaining for the City are ARRA Grants (American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009) as follows:

1. Transit Projects (MPO) - 2 new circulatory buses with lifts, ADA ramps and stop locations citywide, and bus bay pullouts - \$ 410,990
2. Surface Transportation Projects – \$ 925,438
3. Department of Energy - Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) - \$156,600
4. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (FDEP) - Wastewater rehabilitation project - \$ 487,000
5. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) - Highland Village Sewer Connections - \$2,409,000
6. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) - VOC Removal Project – \$ 6,000,000

Ronald L. Book is a dedicated, zealous and tireless advocate for the City of North Miami Beach. He lobbies on our behalf for innumerable governmental issues ranging from property tax reform to red light camera programs. He is well-known by officials in all levels of government and his fine reputation allows him access to these individuals on the City's behalf.

Mr. Book receives \$5000 per month (\$60,000 per year) for his services. This includes all of his expenses. Many of his lobbying efforts on our behalf cannot be measured or valued with mathematical certainty but set the stage to benefit the City today as well as far into the future.

cc: Darcee S. Siegel, City Attorney  
Susan Owens, City Clerk  
Susan Gooding-Liburud, Financial Services Director