



County Administrator
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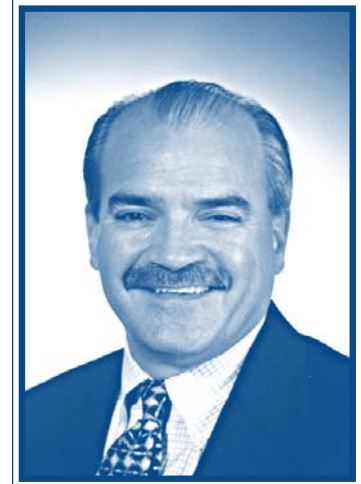
December 21, 2001

To the Chair and Members, Board of County Commissioners,
and Citizens, Broward County, Florida

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to forward to you the Broward County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001. The financial position of Broward County remains sound and strong as we approach the challenges of this new century.

During the year, the Board held their fourth annual Goal-Setting Workshop to review the six strategic goals established in previous years and reaffirm their commitment to these priorities. The CAFR document features photographs which illustrate the Board's first goal: Continuing efforts to protect the environment and develop a comprehensive environmental strategy.



Significant progress has been made in achieving the Board's goals during the past year, and the major service initiatives and accomplishments are described in another section of this document. Unfortunately, the events of September 11 and our ongoing response to the attacks on our country will continue to create significant impacts on our organization, requiring certain changes in operations in Broward County. Security is of paramount importance at all governmental facilities. In the months and years ahead, it will be necessary for us to take extra precautions to protect lives and property. Many efforts to enhance security have already been implemented and more are planned, with the ultimate goal of keeping our citizens and communities safe. While the full impact of these events is not yet known and our responses are not yet complete, we will remain focused on providing efficient and effective vital services to our citizens, always considering the long-term fiscal impacts of our decisions.

The Board's policy direction and conservative management approach resulted in a fourth consecutive decrease in the millage rate for Fiscal Year 2001. The County's financial strength was recognized by a general obligation bond rating increase during the year. This strong financial condition provides a solid foundation for the future, especially as we deal with the challenges of a weakened economy and increased security concerns.

Broward County is a dynamic and exciting place to live and work, and it has been my privilege to serve as your County Administrator during this past year. I appreciate the Board's support and direction and look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger J. Desjarlais
County Administrator