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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2020

## City of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County Broaden Emergency Measures

*–Closing Hotels throughout Miami-Dade County–*

**Miami Beach, FL** – As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, the City of Miami Beach is already feeling the widespread effects throughout its tropical, urban oasis. From the closures of local businesses and beaches to curfews designed to keep the community safe, daily life is definitely not what it used to be. In an effort to curb the spread of this virus as quickly as possible, drastic measures are needed.

Starting today, the City of Miami Beach in close coordination with Miami-Dade County, is officially ordering commercial lodging establishments (including hotels, suite hotels, hotel units within apartment-hotels, hostels, dormitories, motels, and temporary vacation/short term rentals) to immediately begin to shut down operations and vacate guests from their premises. Properties must be fully closed to guests and renters **by 11:59 p.m. on March 23, 2020**, subject to certain exceptions set forth in the city's Order.

"Our hotels have always been the lifeblood of our economy, so shuttering them is not something to do impulsively. But right now, as painful as it may be, the reality is we just cannot be a tourist destination," said Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber. "Attracting visitors and tourists is just utterly incompatible with social distancing. For the many amazing operators and employees who are impacted, and the families that rely upon them, we are so sorry that you will feel this most acutely and we will advocate for whatever relief will be available at the state and federal level. These decisions were made collaboratively with County Mayor Gimenez, our City Manager Jimmy Morales and after input from all of our Miami Beach City Commissioners."

"These are extraordinarily difficult times," added Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez. "As we continue to combat the spread of this virus in Miami-Dade County, we are making daily decisions based on the evolving recommendations of health experts. I am ordering the closure of all hotels, commercial lodging establishments and short-term rentals in Miami-Dade County and fully support the decision by Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber and City Manager Jimmy Morales to close hotels and all other commercial lodging establishments on Miami Beach. We must not rule out any measures that will stem the spread of COVID-19 and protect our residents."

The city has also added the following summary of changes to their State of Emergency Declaration, effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.:

- Establishment of a general curfew throughout the city from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m., effective Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at 12 a.m., until further notice. (The curfew in