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**Office of the Inspector General  
Miami-Dade County**

# Memorandum

To: The Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor  
The Honorable Chairperson Joe Martinez  
Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Christopher Mazzella  
Inspector General

Date: April 18, 2006

Re: OIG Investigation Results in Monetary Recovery for Non-Profit Organization

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An investigation by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) into the former Executive Director of Camillus House, a non-profit organization, has concluded with a plea agreement. Dale Simpson (Simpson), age 58, of Stuart, Florida, the former Executive Director of Camillus House, was sentenced on February 3, 2006, after entering into a plea agreement to two counts of Fraudulent Claim of Exemption, and one count of Grand Theft.

Simpson was hired by Camillus House in 1998 and installed as Executive Director to run the day to day operations of Camillus House. Camillus House is a non-profit organization that provides food, clothing, shelter, and counseling services to the poor and homeless of South Florida. In 2003, Camillus House received funding from various Miami-Dade County funding sources. The OIG investigation uncovered that Simpson abused the power entrusted to him and directed Camillus House employees to complete numerous personal tasks and home improvement projects for properties he owned. Simpson also directed Camillus House employees to purchase materials for his personal projects with Camillus House funds, using the non-profit's credit cards and taking advantage of the tax-exempt status enjoyed by Camillus House. The illicit projects ranged in nature from building a wood deck, to having his dog transported to Broward County for grooming. The purchases ranged from nuts and bolts to barbecue grills.

Simpson, who was sentenced to two years probation, paid Camillus House \$10,000 in restitution and costs of investigation to the OIG as part of the plea agreement. In addition, the plea prohibits Simpson from working with a government agency or with a government funded organization during the term of his probation and requires that he perform 150 community service hours.

cc: Mr. George Burgess, County Manager  
Ms. Mae Bryant, Assistant County Manager  
Mr. David Raymond, Director, Homeless Trust  
Mr. Silvia Unzueta, Acting Director, Office of Community and Economic Development  
Ms. Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit & Management Services

Clerk of the Board (copy filed)