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**MIAMI DDA SPONSORS 76TH ANNUAL U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
LUNCHEON**

MIAMI (June 30, 2008)—The Miami Downtown Development Authority (Miami DDA) sponsored the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) luncheon on June 22nd at the InterContinental Miami. The 600-plus guest luncheon was part of a four-day event that brought together approximately 1,500 of the nation’s mayors and business community partners. The luncheon’s featured guest speaker was City of Miami Commissioner Joe Sanchez, who also serves as chairman of the board of the Miami DDA.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. Its primary roles are to promote the development of effective national urban/suburban policy; strengthen federal-city relationships; ensure that federal policy meets urban needs; provide mayors with leadership and management tools; and create a forum in which mayors can share ideas and information. The USCM winter conference is held each year in Washington, DC with annual meetings rotated between major US cities.

City of Miami Mayor Manny Diaz was sworn in as the organization’s president during the conference and Nitin Motwani, a Miami DDA board member and managing director and principal of Miami Worldcenter Group, sat on the host committee.

Alyce Robertson, interim executive director of the Miami DDA welcomed guests to the luncheon and later noted, “This is a unique opportunity for leadership from across the country to experience the vitality of Downtown Miami firsthand and bring their impressions back to their respective communities. We are fortunate that this conference is being held here in Miami and that so many influential attendees are making Downtown their primary destination during their stay. Participating as a sponsor for this event brings attention directly to Downtown Miami and to the great things happening here.”

The Miami Downtown Development Authority, founded in 1965, is a public/private not-for-profit business governed by a 15-member Board comprised of three (3) public appointees and twelve (12) downtown property owners, residents and / or workers. Through its own programs and services and partnership with the City of Miami and other governmental entities, Miami DDA is dedicated to making Downtown a more livable community and improving the quality of life for employers, employees, residents, property owners, and visitors. For more information, please call (305) 579-6675 or visit www.miamidda.com.

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The Miami DDA and the non-profit Downtown Miami Partnership also publish the DWNTWNR Newsletter, a quarterly update on what's new and happening in Downtown. The colorful informational piece is distributed to 15,000 residents, businesses, corporate centers and the Welcome Center. For more information on Downtown Miami, please visit the online version of the DWNTWNR Newsletter at www.dwntwnr.com.

For more information on the conference, visit www.uscm08miami.com.

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