



## Message from Mayor Manny Diaz



Dear Citizens:

Since 2003, the amount of crime involving a firearm has dropped significantly in Little Haiti. The Miami Police Department and the community's diligence in fighting crime has resulted in less homicides and less armed robbery cases involving a gun over the past three years. From 2003 to 2005, the number of homicides involving a firearm declined from 15 to 5 and the amount of armed robberies dropped from 334 to 122.

These reductions are owed in large part to the increased number of coordinated drug enforcement operations undertaken by the Miami Police Department in Little Haiti. Recognizing that narcotics are the fuel engine for crime, cracking down on drug activities helps reduce the overall level of crime in the community.

As members of the Little Haiti community you can be of great help by informing the Miami Police Department when you see someone carrying a gun in your neighborhood. Pay close attention to their location and the shoes they are wearing, because while someone may change their shirt to disguise themselves from the police they usually will be wearing the same shoes.

This is important because as a community we cannot simply sit idly by and watch as our neighborhoods are overrun by individuals whose senseless actions are facilitated by the use of a gun. Gun violence affects us all when it is no longer safe to walk the streets at night or let our children play outside.

Together we can curb gun violence. We must work hard as a community in order for these crime reductions to continue. We must prevent guns from falling into the wrong hands and inform law enforcement of when they do. Together we can make our streets and neighborhoods safer and cleaner, making Miami the city that all of us deserve.

Sincerely,

