

Prime Minister of Guyana visits MIA



Pictured above, from L-R: Brian W. Kirton, president, GACC, Sgt. Humberto Perez, MDPD Airport District, Capt. Patrick Lewis, MDRF Airport Operations, Ramzan Roshanali, Honorary Consul General of the Guyanese Consulate in Miami, FL., U. Desmond Alufohai, Director of Protocol & International Affairs Division, MDAD, PM Mark Phillips, Jimmy Nares, MDAD's Marketing Division, Honorable Oneida Walrond, Guyanese Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, and Honorable Collin Croal, Guyanese Minister of Housing & Water Resources. Mark Hatfield, MDAD's Assistant Aviation Director for Public Safety and Security (not pictured) gave his presentation remotely.

A delegation from Guyana, led by His Excellency Brigadier Mark Phillips, Rtd., Prime Minister of Guyana officially visited Miami International Airport on October 8, 2021. The delegation was briefed on several topics of interest by senior officials of the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD), Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) Airport Operations, and Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) Airport District. Prime Minister Phillips was accompanied by Guyanese Cabinet Ministers, and representatives of Go Invest, Guyana American Chamber of Commerce (GACC), and the Guyanese Honorary Consulate in Miami.

The Protocol School of Washington® - Miami Graduating Class of 2021



Pictured above - seating, front row, 4th from left: Pamela Eyring, (dark blue suit) president of the Protocol School of Washington®; On her right - Sarah Putlock (white jacket) PSOW's Director of Training, and on her left - Diane Brown, PSOW's Senior Master Trainer, surrounded by the graduates.

MDAD's Protocol & International Affairs Division hosted its first-ever *Protocol Officer Training™* - a five-day comprehensive course conducted by [The Protocol School of Washington®](#) (PSOW) at MIA's Hotel Conference Room, from Sept. 27 - Oct. 1, 2021. The course provided expert instructions, guided exercises, and coaching in the fundamentals of operational protocol on the following topics: Protocol History, Ceremonies, Dining Etiquette, Flags and Logos, Personal Diplomacy, Precedence & Positioning, Military Protocol, Seating, Titles and Forms of Address, Official Gifts, and VIP Mgmt. The course was attended by thirty (30) participants from Japan, Nigeria, South Korea, and the U.S. (District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio, Puerto Rico, and Virginia).

October 2021

Division Director's Message



U. Desmond Alufohai
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division
Miami-Dade Aviation Department

We dedicate our annual Pink Edition to those ravaged by breast cancer and cancer diseases in general. According to the [American Cancer Society®](#) in 2021, there will be an estimated 1.9 million new cancer cases diagnosed and 608,570 cancer deaths in the United States, which translates to about 1,670 deaths per day. Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the U.S., exceeded only by heart disease.

We extend our gratitude to the Guyanese delegation led by Prime Minister Mark Phillips for visiting MIA. We also express our appreciation to Ms. Pamela Eyring, president of the Protocol School of Washington® (PSOW), master trainers, staff, and the 30 graduates for the opportunity to host PSOW's first-ever Protocol Certificate Course at MIA.

We salute the nations commemorating their independence anniversary or national day, and those who celebrate their national heritage, culture, and causes in October.

We look forward to our continuing collaboration with all our partners at MIA as we welcome Chief CBP Officer Alexis A. Morante.

Finally, congratulations to Mr. Avila, who is deserving of his promotion. As always, please be safe.

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October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

In 1985, the [National Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#) (NBCAM) was created with collaborating efforts of the American Academy of Family Physicians, AstraZeneca Healthcare Foundation's Cancer Care, Inc., and various sponsors. Janelle Hail, founder of the [National Breast Cancer Foundation](#), was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1980 at the age of 34. At that time little information about the disease, and limited treatments existed. She started a movement to educate women around the world about breast cancer and its early detection.

Also, in 1980, Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan, that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, that promise became the [Susan G. Komen](#)[®] organization and the beginning of a global movement. Today, it has grown into the world's largest nonprofit source of funding for the fight against breast cancer.

Evelyn Lauder, Senior Vice President of the Estée Lauder Companies, established [The Breast Cancer Research Foundation](#) (BCRF) in 1993 and established the pink ribbon as its symbol. Since then, 'Evelyn Lauder's life's mission has become ours: to rid the world of breast cancer. BCRF stands as a testament to her fierce dedication, keen intuition and extraordinary vision.

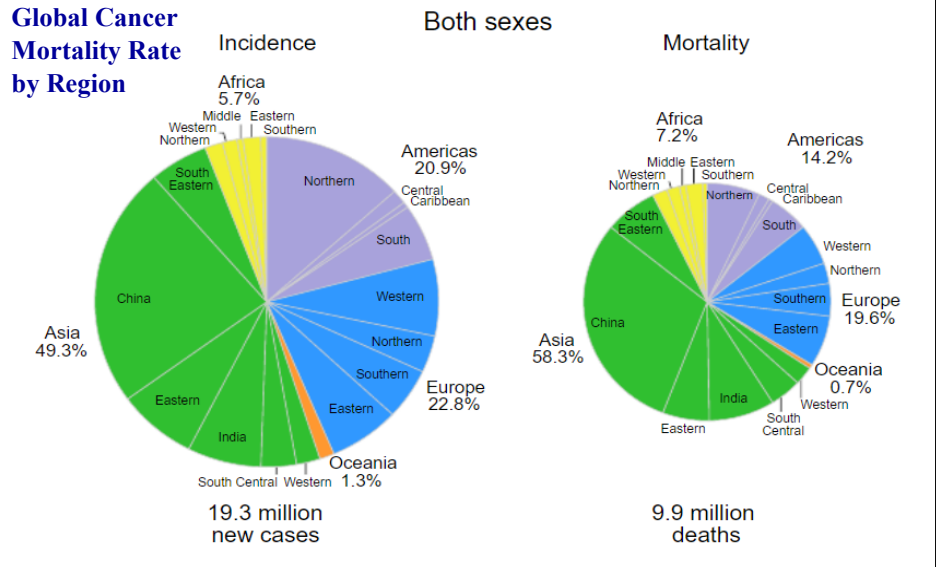
The pink ribbon for breast cancer was selected because it is a color of health and stands for femininity. A blue ribbon is the symbol for men with breast cancer.

Furthermore, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation provides critical funding for cancer research worldwide for advances in tumor biology, genetics, prevention, treatment, metastasis, and survivorship. Please contact the [American Cancer Society](#) or [Florida Breast Cancer Foundation](#) for breast cancer resources in your region or city.



GLOBAL IMPACT OF CANCER

Global Cancer Mortality Rate by Region



Cancer ranks as a leading cause of death and an important barrier to increasing life expectancy in every country of the world. According to estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2019, cancer was the first or second leading cause of death before the age of 70 years in 112 of 183 countries and ranked third or fourth in a further 23 countries. Cancer's rising prominence as a leading cause of death partly reflects marked declines in mortality rates of stroke and coronary heart disease, relative to cancer, in many countries.

There were an estimated 19.3 million new cases (18.1 million excluding non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSC), except basal cell carcinoma). There were 10 million cancer deaths (9.9 million excluding NMSC, except basal cell carcinoma) worldwide in 2020. The distribution of all-cancer incidence and mortality according to world region for both sexes combined are as follows: 49.3% of all cases and 58.3% of cancer deaths are estimated to occur in Asia in 2020, where 59.5% of the global population resides. Europe accounts for 22.8% of the total cancer cases and 19.6% of the cancer deaths, although it represents 9.7% of the global population, followed by the Americas' 20.9% of incidence and 14.2% of mortality worldwide. In contrast to other regions, the share of cancer deaths in Asia (58.3%) and Africa (7.2%) are higher than the share of incidence (49.3% and 5.7%, respectively) because of the different distribution of cancer types and higher case fatality rates in these regions.

Overall, the burden of cancer incidence and mortality is rapidly growing world-wide; this reflects both aging and growth of the population as well as changes in the prevalence and distribution of the main risk factors for cancer, several of which are associated with socioeconomic development. The global cancer burden is expected to be 28.4 million cases in 2040, a 47% rise from 2020, with a larger increase in transitioning (64% to 95%) versus transitioned (32% to 56%) countries due to demographic changes, although this may be further exacerbated by increasing risk factors associated with globalization and a growing economy. Efforts to build a sustainable infrastructure for the dissemination of cancer prevention measures and provision of cancer care in transitioning countries is critical for global cancer control.

[Global Cancer Observatory](#) (GCO) is an interactive web-based platform that presents global cancer statistics to inform cancer control and research. The platform focuses on the visualization of cancer indicators to illustrate the changing scale, epidemiological profile, and impact of the disease worldwide, using data from several key projects of IARC's [Section of Cancer Surveillance \(CSU\)](#), including [GLOBOCAN](#); [Cancer Incidence in Five Continents \(CI5\)](#); [International Incidence of Childhood Cancer \(IICC\)](#); and [Cancer Survival in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Central America \(SurvCan\)](#). [Click here](#) to view the full report of the Global Cancer Statistics: GLOBOCAN Estimates of Incidence and Mortality Worldwide for 36 Cancers in 185 Countries.

Symbolism of Ribbons

Ribbons as tokens of remembrance have been used for a long time. They are mentioned in five-hundred-year-old poems, were used in military marches, and are featured in folk songs. Since 1979, they have been a [universal symbol of awareness and support](#). Inspired by the hit song "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Ole Oak Tree", Penney Laingen, the wife of one of the men held during the Iran hostage crisis, started tying yellow ribbons around the trees in her front yard as a symbol of support for her husband and the other hostages. Almost overnight, yellow ribbons sprouted up across the country in solidarity. A decade later, the group [Visual AIDS](#) turned the ribbon bright red as a symbol of awareness and support for those affected by AIDS. After Jeremy Irons wore it on his lapel while hosting the 1991 Tony Awards, ribbons had arrived and, almost overnight, every charitable organization had its own ribbon.

In [the fall of 1991](#), just a few months after the Tony Awards, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation started giving out pink ribbons to every participant in its New York city race. In early 1992, Alexandra Penney, editor-in-chief of "Self" Magazine, together with Evelyn Lauder, [Estée Lauder](#) senior corporate vice president and a breast cancer survivor, wanted to have ribbons available on cosmetic counters across the country. Initially, the ribbon was going to be peach-colored, based on a design by 68-year-old [Charlotte Haley](#), a breast cancer survivor who had been making peach ribbons and distributing them at supermarkets. Since Mrs. Haley thought the companies were too commercial and refused to work with them, the ribbon color was changed to pink, and an international symbol was born.

In the fall of 1992, 1.5 million pink ribbons were handed out at Estée Lauder counters. Each ribbon was accompanied by a laminated card describing the way to perform a proper breast self-exam. Estée Lauder also collected over 200,000 pink ribbon petitions urging the White House to push for increased funding and research for breast cancer.



CONGRATULATIONS

Meet Chief CBP Officer Alexis A. Morante



Miami International Airport is an ecosystem of robust, complex, and multi-faceted logistical operations. The Protocol and International Affairs Division works collaboratively, and maintains effective working relationships, with private organizations, public officials of various local, state, and federal agencies as well as representatives of foreign governments.

The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is one of several federal agencies at MIA that supports the work of the Protocol and International Affairs Division. We are pleased to highlight our partner agency's Chief CBP Officer Alexis A. Morante.

Ms. Morante began her career in federal government in 2011 as a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer at Miami International Airport. She became a nationally certified Field Training Officer, giving her the opportunity to train and mentor many of the new officers that were joining CBP at that time. She also worked in temporary duty assignments in several teams as part of a crucial CBP operation at MIA.

She became Supervisory CBP Officer in 2020 and Chief CBP Officer in 2021. She also supervised CBP officers in Passenger Operations at MIA as well as officers from different ports in a temporary detail assignment at the Southwest Border Surge Support in 2020.

As the Professionalism Service Manager at MIA, she consistently works on developing, and maintaining professional relationships with internal and external stakeholders, facilitating the travel of dignitaries, delegations, and VIPs throughout MIA. Also, she maintains close working relationships with airline representatives, the Transportation and Security Administration (TSA), United States Department of State and other government agencies to ensure effective coordination of logistics associated with the arrival and departure of visiting dignitaries and diplomats.

Prior to joining the federal workforce, she worked with the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in the medical research field from 2008 - 2011. She obtained a Bachelor of Science (Pre-medical field) and a master's degree in Biomedical Sciences from Barry University, Miami, Florida.

She is continuously focused on enhancing the safety of our country, creating partnerships with outside agencies, and the passenger experience for legitimate travelers at MIA. Chief Morante epitomizes multiculturalism - born to a Cuban mother, a Peruvian father, and raised in Venezuela.

Staff Promotion



Mr. Israel Avila was promoted to the position of Senior Protocol & International Affairs Coordinator, effective October 1, 2021. Mr. Avila will also assume additional responsibilities, including, assisting the Division Director with important functions and meetings with members of the Consular Corps of Miami, VIPs, foreign, federal, state, and local government officials. Mr. Avila joined the Division in 2015. He obtained a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Florida International University (FIU).

He is proficient in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian. He completed the Supervisory Leadership Development Workshop Series, conducted by Miami-Dade County and FIU in June 2019. Mr. Avila was among the Protocol School of Washington® - Certificate Training - Miami graduating class of 2021.

BRIEFS & NOTES

Haitian Monument in Savannah, GA



The [Battle of Savannah](#), often referred to as the Siege of Savannah, was one of the most unique actions of the Revolutionary War. Savannah, Georgia's capital, and a vital coastal city had been occupied by British forces for a year when Continental forces tried to regain control of the city. The action was so unique because it did not involve just Patriot and British forces, but also African American, Haitian, French, Irish, German, Scottish, Polish, and Native American soldiers.

The siege began on September 16, 1779, when French Admiral Charles Hector, Comte d'Estaing, moved his troops into position south of the city. His army included both white soldiers from France and 800 men from Saint-Domingue (Haiti) and other French Caribbean colonies, including Guadeloupe and Martinique. The 800 men were organized into a regiment called [Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue](#). They were free men of color, "*des gens de couleurs libres*", who voluntarily joined the French colonial forces. The future king of Haiti, 12-year-old Henri Christophe, was a drummer for d'Estaing's troops.

Instead of launching an immediate attack, the allied forces began a siege. Using heavy cannons brought ashore from the French warships anchored off the coast, a massive bombardment of Savannah took place from October 3 – 8. Although there was widespread damage, the British were able to hold the heavily fortified city. After the bombardment failed, the allies decided to launch a frontal attack. Due to heavy fog in the predawn hours of October 9, many troops became lost in the nearby swamp and did not reach their assigned positions on time. When the troops charged, the Chasseurs-Volontaires were the most efficient fighters and fought the British with obstinacy and boldness, but the allied troops were still driven back by British militia and Scottish regulars.

The battle was a disaster for the Continentals and their allies. On October 17, 1779, the Siege of Savannah was abandoned, and the American and French forces withdrew. Allied casualties were high, and many Chasseurs-Volontaires were among the 244 killed, nearly 600 wounded and 120 taken prisoner.

On October 8, 2007, the Haitian Monument, in Savannah's [Franklin Square](#), was erected to recognize the contribution of the all-Black Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue to the fight for American independence.

More Honors for Miami International Airport



On September 23, 2021 [MIA was ranked as the best mega airport for passenger satisfaction](#) in the eastern U.S. and Florida by the J.D Power 2020 North America Airport Satisfaction Study SM. Riding on the heels of that award, MIA received another accolade on October 14, 2021, named the overall winner of the [2021 Airport Accessibility Award](#) during the 6th Annual Airport PRM (Passengers with Reduced Mobility) Leadership Conference, after earning 50 percent of the votes from the virtual conference's 159 attendees from 42 countries.

The [Airport PRM Leadership Conference](#), organized by PRM software developer Ozion Airport Software, is an annual one-day event where accessibility community stakeholders from airlines, airports, service providers and airport authorities present and discuss key operational and strategic thoughts related to improving accessibility for people with disabilities. Other finalists for the 2021 Accessibility Award were Seattle International Airport and India's GMR Hyderabad International Airport, who together received the remaining 50 percent of the votes. Last year's winner was Italy's Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport.

MIA was recognized for its [myMIAccess program](#), which was launched in 2020 to further integrate and promote accessibility into the airport's culture. Most recently, in May 2021, MIA became the first airport in the U.S. to install wheelchair charging stations airport-wide. The charging stations offer people with electric mobility devices the opportunity to enjoy travel without the stress of low batteries. In November 2020, MIA opened its second multi-sensory room for passengers with cognitive and developmental disabilities to enjoy a calm environment while traveling, and it also became one of 10 U.S. airports and 60 worldwide to provide sunflower lanyards free of charge to passengers with hidden disabilities. The lanyards are a discrete way to communicate to airport staff that those passengers may need more time or have additional questions while traveling.

CONSULAR & DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

COP26 Explained



COP stands for *Conference of the Parties*. The Conference will be attended by countries that signed the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) - a treaty agreed in 1994. The 2021 summit will be the 26th meeting, which is why it's called COP26. The COP26 event is a global United Nations summit about [climate change](#) and how countries are planning to tackle it.

It was due to take place in Glasgow in Scotland in November 2020 with more than 200 world leaders due to attend, but it was delayed for a year because of the coronavirus pandemic. COP26 is now taking place in Glasgow from November 1 to 12, 2021, and decisions made could lead to big changes to our everyday lives.

The World's Most Powerful Passports - 2021



Your nationality or the passport you carry determines how many destinations you can visit without requiring an entry visa. The Henley Passport Index is the original, authoritative ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. The index is based on exclusive data from the [International Air Transport Association \(IATA\)](#) – the largest, most accurate travel information database – and enhanced by Henley & Partners' research team. To check your national passport's global acceptability, click on the following link - [Global Mobility Report 2021 Q4](#).

The World's Busiest Airports and World's Busiest Airline Routes



According to the [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#), a United Nations Specialized Agency, the total number of global passengers carried on scheduled services rose to 4.5 billion in 2019, which was 3.6 per cent higher than the previous year, while the number of departures reached 38.3 million in 2019, a 1.7 per cent increase. The [Official Airline Guide \(OAG\)](#) estimates that by 2037, there will be 8.2 billion global air passengers. You can view the [World's Busiest Airports](#), and the [World's Busiest International and Domestic Routes](#), provided by OAG. OAG is a global travel data provider with headquarters in the UK. The company was founded in 1929 and operates in the U.S.A., Singapore, Japan, Lithuania, and China. It has the world's largest network of schedules and travel status data.

Polish American Heritage Month

October is Polish American Heritage Month in commemoration of Polish culture, heritage and their contributions to the United States. Congress first declared August as Polish American Heritage Month in 1981. Later, it moved to October to commemorate the first Polish settlers — as well as the deaths of General Kazimierz Pułaski and Tadeusz Kościuszko (military leaders who fought in the American Revolution). The switch also enabled schools to participate in celebrations. Whether you're Polish American or not, it's important to mark the culture of a people who helped shape this country.

German-American Heritage Month

October is also German-American Heritage Month in celebration our nation's German heritage and in recognition of the contributions, both past and present, of German-Americans across our country. Click on the following link to view [President Biden's Presidential Proclamation on German-American Day, 2021](#).

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Awareness Month

October is ADHD Awareness Month. ADHD, a neurodevelopmental disorder, affects both children and adults around the globe. To learn more about ADHD, visit [Attention Deficit Disorder Association \(ADDA\)](#) website. ADDA's mission is to empower adults with ADHD to discover and reach their potential. You can also join the [2021 Virtual International Conference on ADHD](#) from November 4th – 6th.



INDEPENDENCE / NATIONAL DAY (OCTOBER)

Countries Celebrating Independence and/or National Day in October

October 1, 1949 – China: The People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949.

October 1, 1960 – Cyprus: Based on the London-Zürich Agreements, Cyprus was proclaimed an independent state and gained independence from the U.K. on August 16, 1960. The holiday was moved to October 1 to avoid the summer heat and tourist season.

October 1, 1960 – Nigeria: On this date, Nigeria gained independence from the United Kingdom.

October 1, 1978 – Tuvalu: In 1819, Tuvalu was renamed the Ellice Islands. In 1892, the United Kingdom declared a protectorate over the Ellice, as well as the Micronesian Gilbert Islands, and this Protectorate became a colony in 1916. In 1974, Tuvaluans voted to secede from the colony, and on October 1, 1978, Tuvalu regained their independence from the United Kingdom.

October 2, 1958 – Guinea: After being a French colony since 1893, Guinea declared its independence on October 2, 1958. It was the only French West African colony to opt for complete independence, rather than membership in the French Community.

October 3, 1990 – Germany: Day of German Unity. This date commemorates the reunification of the two Germanys on Oct. 3, 1990.

October 3, 1932 – Iraq: During World War I, Iraq was occupied by the United Kingdom and, in 1920, was declared a League of Nations mandate under U.K. administration. On October 3, 1932, the Kingdom of Iraq was granted independence from the League of Nations mandate.

October 4, 1966 – Lesotho: In 1868 Basutoland became a British protectorate, and after 1884, a crown colony. On October 4, 1966, the country achieved independence and was renamed the Kingdom of Lesotho.

October 8, 1991 – Croatia: On this date, the Croatian parliament severed constitutional relations with Yugoslavia. Since 2002, October 8 is celebrated as Croatia's Independence Day, while June 25, the day parliament voted for independence, is recognized as Statehood Day.

October 9, 1962 – Uganda: Uganda was a British Protectorate from 1894 until it achieved independence on October 9, 1962.

October 10, 1970 – Fiji: After being a British Crown Colony since October 10, 1874, Fiji gained its independence on Oct. 10, 1970.

October 10, 1911 – Taiwan: Republic Day, Taiwan's National Day, also known as "Double Ten Day," commemorates the 1911 Wuchang Uprising, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and the birth of the Republic of China.

October 12, 1968 – Equatorial Guinea: On this day, Equatorial Guinea achieved independence after 190 years of Spanish rule.

October 12, 1987 – Spain: Spain's National Day, also known as Día de la Hispanidad, commemorates Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492. The 1987 law which decreed October 12 as the Fiesta Nacional stated that the day commemorates "the linguistic and cultural projection of Spain outside of its European limits."

October 22, 1953 – Laos: Even though Laos gained independence from France on July 19, 1949, full independence was not recognized until the Franco-Lao Treaty of Amity and Association was signed on October 22, 1953.

October 23, 1956 – Hungary: The day commemorates the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, a nationwide revolt against the Stalinist government of the People's Republic of Hungary and its Soviet-imposed policies.

October 26, 1955 – Austria: On this day in 1955, the law of permanent neutrality was adopted by the National Council. In 1965, October 26 was declared Austria's National Holiday.

October 27, 1979 – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: On October 27, 1979, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines gained independence from Great Britain.

October 27, 1991 – Turkmenistan: On this date, Turkmenistan gained independence from the Soviet Union.

October 28, 1918 – Czech Republic: Although the Czech Republic came into being on January 1, 1993, Czechs commemorate October 28 as their Independence Day. On this day in 1918, the former Czechoslovakia declared its independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

October 29, 1923 – Turkey: Republic Day commemorates the proclamation of the Turkish Republic on October 29, 1923. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk became Turkey's first president on the same day.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is - *To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.*

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For comments, suggestions, announcements, or to opt-out, please send us an email.

