## RESOLUTION No. 21-284

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, URGING THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO REVERT DELISTING THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA (FARC) FROM THE TERRORIST LIST; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the United States Department of State recently notified the United States Congress and the government of Colombia on of its planned delisting of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebel group from its list of "foreign terrorist organizations", which became official on November 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, for decades the FARC propelled an era of devastating violence in Colombia, carrying out bombings, assassinations, kidnappings, and deadly attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, despite signing a peace agreement in 2016, FARC dissidents still hold weapons, conduct drug trafficking, operate illegal gold mines, and continue violent and terrorist activities; and

WHEREAS, removing the group from the U.S. terror list would allow FARC members to open bank accounts in the United States, be able to work with American officials, and even allow the U.S. Agency for International Development to work in areas where the FARC are allegedly demobilized; and

WHEREAS, last month, the United Nations warned that the deteriorating security situation represented a "considerable challenge" to the country's 2016 peace accords; and

WHEREAS, South Florida and the City of Doral is home to thousands of Colombian expatriates who today enrich the fabric of our community, and who were forced to flee their homeland being victims of the FARC; and

WHEREAS, the City of Doral calls upon the White House and State Department to revert this decision, that fuels extremism and communism in Colombia, the hemisphere, and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Doral stands resolute with the people of Colombia to advance human rights as well as the principles of freedom, justice, and democracy – in order to build more free and prosperous nations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1. Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are confirmed, adopted and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Recommended Position. The White House and the U.S. Department of State are hereby strongly urged to revert delisting FARC from the terrorist list.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Transmittal.</u> The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit this Resolution to the White House and the U.S. Department of State to ensure that the City's position with this regard is clearly received and understood.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Mariaca who moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Cabral and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez	Yes
Vice Mayor Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilman Pete Cabrera	Yes
Councilwoman Claudia Mariaca	Yes
Councilman Oscar Puig-Corve	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8 day of December, 2021.

JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CONNIE DIAZ, MMC

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

LUIS FIGUEREDO, ESQ.

CITY ATTORNEY