



March 19, 2002

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT • 275 NW 2ND STREET • MIAMI FLORIDA 33128

Mr. Richard Mason
South Florida Free Beaches/Florida National Association
P.O. Box 530306
Miami Shores, Florida 33153

Dear Mr. Mason:

Approximately ten years ago the South Florida Free Beaches Association began using the north part of Haulover Beach Park as a clothing optional beach. This element and park function was recently approved by Miami Dade County Board of County Commission as part of Haulover Park's Master Plan.

Haulover Park has approximately 645,000 visitors a year, we estimate 425,000 of those visit the clothing optional beach. Our Department currently has a \$4.00 per car charge at its beachfront park. Haulover Park generates approximately \$900,000 a year in revenue to offset park operations, 2/3's of that income is generated from the parking lots that are in close proximity to the clothing optional beach.

Security patrols in the parking lots that buffer the clothing optional area, observe numerous rental vehicles and out of state license plates. Local area hotels and motels have used the clothing optional beach in their promotional advertising and brochures. Beach Safety and Park Managers observe many visitors from throughout the United States and from other Countries around the world.

The majority of visitors to this area of the park are good park patrons and conscious of our sensitive ecosystem. The South Florida Free Beaches Naturist Association has always worked cooperatively with park officials for the overall betterment of the entire park. The group, developed from the Beach Ambassador's Program, helps educate visitors with flyers stating park rules and beach etiquette. They also help to monitor and report any inappropriate or illegal activity to the appropriate authority.

If additional information is required, please contact my office at (305) 755-7903.

Sincerely,

Vivian Donnell Rodriguez, Director
Park and Recreation Department

Cc: Jack Kardys, Jim Hoover