

# Man is shot and killed in South Miami-Dade, police say

A man was shot to death in South Miami-Dade early Tuesday morning, police said. Around 2 a.m., investigators responded to the 22300 block of Southwest 119th Avenue

in Goulds after receiving an alert about a possible shooting. There, they found a man, 29-year-old James Darnell Jerome Dukes, with several gunshot wounds. Miami-Dade Fire Res-

cue rushed Dukes to Jackson South Medical Center, where he died. Anyone with information about the killing should contact Detective D. McGahee at 305-471-2400 or Miami-Dade

Crime Stoppers at 305-471-8477 or online at CrimeStoppers305.com. *Grethel Aguila: @GrethelAguila*

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resign." It also said the university would continue to provide medical insurance benefits, "including the separate health letter for your wife, which will remain in effect."

In a letter sent to Sasse on April 24 — the day pro-Palestinian protests broke out at UF, Sasse's handling of which drew praise from Gov. Ron DeSantis — Hosseini said "should (Sasse) leave UF for any reason (with or without cause)," the university would ensure continued healthcare coverage for him, his wife and dependent children. "We want to assure you and your family are provided continuity of healthcare, even if you were to depart the university after your presidency," Hosseini wrote.

The letter said the university would provide such coverage "until such a time as you establish new employment where-in comparable health care coverage is provided." Hosseini also told Sasse in the letter that he

looked forward to discussing Sasse's long- and short-term performance goals and the progress of the university's strategic plans related to those goals. Former UF President

Kent Fuchs was announced as interim president on July 23 but said in a recent interview he was tapped for that role days before Sasse's resignation was announced. An undated employment contract crafted in the month before the Independent Alligator's report states he will receive a base salary of \$1 million for his one-year appointment, with the possibility of a 15% performance bonus.

The contract also states that "all presidential expenses shall be reviewed semi-annually" and presented to the Board of Trustees.

Fuchs said the university was complying with the governor's office on an audit of expenses, but he didn't expect anything unusual to be found.

# Police and FBI raid home in Southwest Miami-Dade

FBI agents and county officers raided a gated property next to a high school near Homestead early Tuesday morning, Miami-Dade police said.

Officers and agents served a search warrant at 5:30 a.m. at the house, located in the 24000 block of SW 124th Street, next to Somerset Silver Palms Academy High School, said Detective Argemis Colome, a Miami-Dade County police spokesman.

Miami-Dade officers were assisting the FBI agents, Colome said. He did not provide details about what law enforcement was looking for.

The FBI did not immediately respond to questions about the raid.

Officers and agents served the warrant about an hour before buses and parents began dropping off their children at the high school. By the beginning of classes, around 7:30 a.m., law enforcement had the south end of 124th Avenue, at the corner of SW 248th Street, taped off and officers and agents were going in and out of the property.

A neighbor who declined to provide her name said Tuesday was the second time officers had descended on the property in recent years.



DAVID GOODHUE dgoodhue@miamiherald.com  
Miami-Dade police officers and federal agents stand outside a gated home near Homestead on Tuesday.

She said there is some sort of business operating out of the home. "There are trucks coming in here all the time,"

the neighbor said. *David Goodhue: 305-923-9728, @DavidGoodhue*

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# ANTWAN

with police, Simmons said no one had visited the apartment that weekend. She also stated they had only stepped out twice: to go to a library and a park.

The night before, the document states, Simmons said she fed Antwan fettuccine Alfredo, bathed him and played him a movie in bed. She also added that her son hadn't been sick and was behaving normally.

But when detectives asked her what happened after, she said: "I'm not

going to talk about that."

Instead, Simmons divulged details about her personal life. She said she was facing eviction after recently losing her job — and hadn't informed the case worker when they brought Antwan to the apartment, according to the affidavit.

"Due to these occurrences, Destene was not in compliance with her DCF case plan and was in jeopardy of having [her son] removed from her custody permanently," the docu-

ment states.

### WHY NOW?

The circumstances related to Simmons' arrest on Friday were murky for more than a decade. Few answers concerning Antwan's death followed — until the affidavit was released on Monday.

Back in 2013, an autopsy didn't conclude a cause of death despite forensic medical experts finding "soft evidence" suggesting that Antwan was suffocated, according to the document.

Medical investigators stated that a cause of death couldn't be determined "with any medical

## FEW ANSWERS CONCERNING ANTWAN'S DEATH WERE REVEALED — UNTIL AN AFFIDAVIT WAS RELEASED ON MONDAY.

certainty," though they also noted that there was evidence, including blood on the boy's lips, consistent with trauma.

A year later, Antwan's father, Antwan Hope, sued ChildNet and requested another evaluation of his son's cause of death. A second medical expert concluded that the boy had been killed, likely by suffocation. That lawsuit was settled in 2016, and several documents remain under seal.

Per the affidavit, Broward Circuit Court Judge Marc Gold barred Simmons from receiving damages after evidence pointed that she was liable for Antwan's death.

The Broward Medical Examiner's Office revisited the case in 2022 due to the conflicting opinion of the two forensic experts. By November 2023, the office agreed that the boy's cause of death was homicide by suffocation. In June, police began

tracking down Simmons and found her in Port St. Lucie, a city on Florida's Treasure Coast.

Simmons' descent into mental-health issues was documented in calls to law enforcement, starting in the spring of 2011, the Herald previously reported.

At one point, Simmons' mother said she had been "acting irrational" and she didn't know what had happened. Her daughter, she said, "turned into a different person and does not let anyone get near Antwan."

*Grethel Aguila: @GrethelAguila*



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL MEETING** on **September 11, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM** to consider site plan approval. The meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166.**

The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Resolution:  
**RESOLUTION No. 24-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE SITE PLAN FOR MIA 102 AVE HOSPITALITY, LLC FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10234 NW 19 STREET, DORAL, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 53-184(F) OF THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

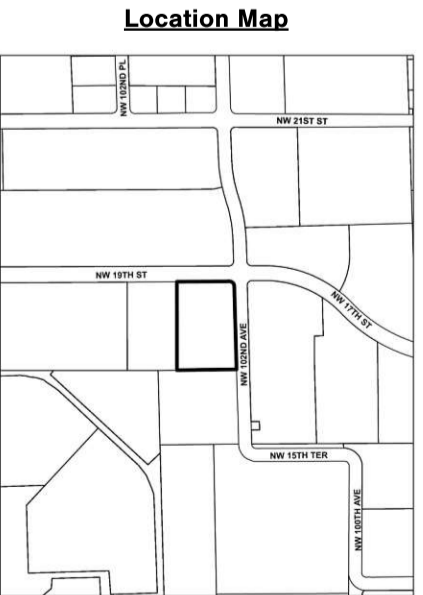
**HEARING NO.:** 24-09-DOR-05  
**APPLICANT:** MIA 102nd Ave Hospitality, LLC (the "Applicant")  
**PROJECT NAME:** Hyatt House  
**PROPERTY OWNER:** EWE Hotel LLC c/o The Easton Group  
**LOCATION:** 10234 NW 19 Street, Doral, FL  
**FOLIO NUMBER:** Portion of 35-3032-034-0020  
**SIZE OF PROPERTY:** ±1.30 acres  
**FUTURE LAND USE MAP CATEGORY:** Industrial  
**ZONING DISTRICT:** Industrial (I)  
**REQUEST:** The Applicant is proposing a 6-story Hyatt House hotel consisting of 124 hotel rooms including amenities and retail space with a restaurant and pub.

Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL. The application file may be examined at the City of Doral Planning and Zoning Department located at 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, FL 33166.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Doral



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024** the City of Doral will hold a **Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m.** The Meeting will take place at the **City of Doral Government Center Council Chambers, located at 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, Florida 33166.**

The following Ordinance(s) will be considered for **FINAL ADOPTION** on **SECOND READING:**

**Ordinance #2024-25  
"Parking on Private Property"**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING/DENYING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF DORAL CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 44, ARTICLE V TITLED "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES", BY CREATING DIVISION 9, TITLED "PARKING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY"; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION AND INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in this public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk at 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, Florida; telephone number (305) 593-6730, no later than three (3) business days prior to such proceedings.

**Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk, City of Doral**