

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Members

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager

DATE: May 14, 2025

TITLE: DISCUSS POTENTIALLY PURCHASING PORTABLE TICKET PRINTERS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CITATIONS (UTC).

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration considers the 400 issued portable Uniform Traffic Citation printers are currently sufficient to effectively carry out the Miami Beach Police Department's enforcement functions and no additional acquisition is necessary at this time.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the November 20, 2024, City Commission Meeting, at the request of Mayor Steven Meiner, the Mayor and City Commission approved a referral (C4 C) to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee ("PSNQLC") to discuss potentially purchasing portable ticket printers for the issuance of Uniform Traffic Citations (UTC).

ANALYSIS

The Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) implemented an electronic citation program in 2012 (the first police agency in Miami-Dade County) as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and convenience in the enforcement of traffic laws. This innovative system has significantly streamlined the process of issuing and managing Uniform Traffic Citations (UTCs).

All members of the MBPD authorized to issue UTCs have been equipped with portable thermal printers manufactured by Brother and Zebra Technologies. Presently, the Department has over 400 issued printers and substantial reserves for new hires who successfully complete their academy training.

These devices are designed to work seamlessly with Department-issued laptops and City-provided cell phones, enabling officers to generate citations quickly and accurately in the field. The portability of the thermal printers offers unparalleled flexibility, allowing personnel to perform their duties efficiently in various environments.

Key Benefits

Enhanced Mobility: The compact and lightweight design of the thermal printers ensures that officers assigned to walking beats, ATVs, Marine Patrol, and the Motor Unit can issue citations with ease, regardless of their location.

Improved Efficiency: By integrating portable printers with electronic systems, officers can minimize manual paperwork and reduce the risk of errors associated with handwritten citations. The electronic citation program exemplifies MBPD's commitment to adopting technology that enhances public safety operations and improves the quality of life for our residents and visitors.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

No impact has been identified at this time.

CONCLUSION

The Miami Beach Police Department's current level of portable Uniform Traffic Citation printers is adequate and provided to sworn and newly hired personnel. At this time, the Administration does not consider any additional purchases necessary to effectively carry out the Department's traffic enforcement efforts.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Police

Sponsor(s)

Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

Purchasing Portable Ticket Printers