FCRA/FCDS Combined Annual Conference
August 1-3, 2001 in Plantation, Florida
“Partners in Education”

The Florida Cancer Registrars Association and the Florida Cancer Data System united efforts this year to bring an outstanding program to the 136 people attending our first combined annual conference. Congratulations to the joint FCRA/FCDS Planning Committee on a job well done!

The conference logo showing two people united in support of a shared goal signified by a single lighted torch, beautifully illustrated the joint effort. The “Lamp of Knowledge” below the two forms also helped to convey the message of cooperative effort in pursuit of enlightenment through education.

We were thrilled to have so many people in attendance with registrations far exceeding any of our expectations. The joint conference was such a success that we are already working together to bring Florida a combined conference next year in Sarasota, Florida. The dates for next year’s conference are July 31, 2002 - August 2, 2002 so plan early, mark your calendar, and make all of the necessary arrangements so that you are able to attend next year’s conference.

The conference was opened with a welcome by both Donna Edwards, President of FCRA, and Jill MacKinnon, Administrative Director of FCDS.

The first presentations were “FCDS The Year in Review,” “FCDS Finishing up the Year 2000” and “FCDS Welcome to FCDS 2001.” These presentations summarized the 2000 reporting year and introduced the many changes taking place for 2001.

The second presenter was Dr. Mitchell K Rauch. His presentation on Bladder Cancer provided registrars with a thorough review of the classification, diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancers.

FCDS then followed with a review of the new reporting programs FCDS has introduced during the past year and an introduction to reporting programs planned for implementation during the next couple of years.

A wonderful luncheon followed the morning’s presentations. This luncheon also provided FCRA members with the Annual Business Meeting and installation of the 2002 FCRA President and other members of the FCRA Executive Committee. Congratulations

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Ambulatory Centers Cancer Reporting Program Update

Since the initiation of the Ambulatory Centers Cancer Reporting Program numerous questions, concerns and misinformation have circulated regarding how this program operates and whether or not certain ambulatory care centers are exempt or should be exempt from reporting cancer cases to the Florida Cancer Data System. Hopefully, this article will help to clear up many of these concerns.

Start of the Program:
On January 1, 2000, the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) officially kicked off the Ambulatory Centers Cancer Reporting Program (ACCRP). The program was initiated following an amendment to the Florida Statute requiring that all healthcare facilities report cancer cases to the Florida Cancer Data System. The amendment, which expanded reporting to include all ambulatory surgical centers and free-standing radiation oncology centers, was approved by vote effective July 1997. Thus, the official start date for cancer reporting began with July 1, 1997 patient encounters.

Duplication of Effort Concerns:
There was a great deal of concern at the time the amendment was passed that the surgical centers and radiation oncology centers would be duplicating the efforts of existing cancer case reporting because cancer case reporting was also required by both hospitals and pathology laboratories in Florida. This could not be further from the truth.

In order to avoid duplication of state cancer reporting efforts, FCDS 'clears' all of the AHCA data through the FCDS files before sending any information requests to you. Therefore, all of the cancer patients that have been treated in your facility that have already been reported from another source are not included in the FCDS request for information. FCDS is only requesting the Ambulatory Centers to provide information on cancer patients that have not been seen in any other facility in Florida.

Since the Ambulatory Centers Cancer Reporting Program began, the data from these Centers has contributed greatly to the State of Florida's cancer incidence. Based on the increased incidence data it has become increasingly clear that many of the new cases were being diagnosed and treated in free-standing ambulatory care centers. These cases were actually being overlooked in the general cancer statistics for our state and contributed to the growing problem of under-reporting of cancer cases diagnosed and treated in Florida.

Why Can't FCDS Use Pathology Reports and Leave the Ambulatory Centers Alone?
The answer to this is very simple. The data on a pathology report is not sufficient to provide a cancer registry with a complete abstract. The pathology report is an important piece of the abstract, but only a portion of it.

In fact, FCDS does obtain pathology report information from surgical pathology laboratories. The pathology report only provides FCDS with a cancer identification mechanism, that is all. Each of these pathology reports must be 'followed-back' to the reporting institution or physician for additional information in order to complete a case abstract. Therefore, our notification to the Ambulatory Centers of an unmatched cancer patient is the equivalent to this 'follow-back' notification. We are asking each of you for different parts of a single case.

ACCRP Case Identification Options:
Ambulatory Care Centers have two options for case identification.

Option One: An ambulatory care center may choose to report all cancer cases seen in that facility on an on-going basis. This option requires that the facility identify and report all cancer-related patient encounters according to the rules and guidelines outlined in the 2001 FCDS Data Acquisition Manual (DAM). This is done by reviewing every patient encounter coded with an ICD-9 cancer diagnosis (primary or secondary) as listed in the 2001 FCDS DAM on page 1-8. Please note that this listing may also be referenced via the FCDS website (http://www.fcds.med.miami.edu).

Option Two: A center may choose to report only the cancer cases identified by FCDS on the annual AHCA Patient Listing supplied by FCDS. This listing is usually distributed by FCDS to the ambulatory care centers in mid-summer, depending on when FCDS receives and processes the data from AHCA.

The listing is created by FCDS utilizing the AHCA patient encounter data for each ambulatory patient care facility. The AHCA files are matched to the FCDS files and any case that does not appear in the FCDS files is required to be reviewed and reported to FCDS by

Continued on page 3
the deadline indicated with the report listing. Note: Only cancer-related ICD-9 codes for the patient encounters are used in the matching process. These might include both primary and secondary diagnoses.

ACRP Case Abstracting Personnel - Options:
Once cases are identified, there are numerous options to consider when selecting personnel to perform the cancer reporting function for your facility. Please be sure to use someone trained in cancer registration to abstract and report cancer cases to FCDS. This will save you time and money in the long run.

One option to consider is using someone on your own staff to abstract and report cancer cases. FCDS offers a three-day training workshop for beginners, usually in the spring and fall of each year. The FCDS DAM contains additional information regarding selecting someone from your own staff, including qualifications for training in this position.

Contract abstractors are another viable and often the selected option for performing this function in ambulatory care centers. FCDS maintains a list of independent contractors and contracting companies operating in the state of Florida. Please feel free to contact FCDS for a current listing.

Finally, if the facility is in partnership with a larger healthcare cooperative effort, a shared/traveling abstractor may be used to fulfill this job. Again, this person should be trained and qualified to abstract cancer cases in Florida.

Case Reporting - Facilities with Fewer than 35 Cancer Cases Identified:
Any facility with fewer than 35 cancer cases identified (either at the time of initial AHCA case identification or following review of patient records from the AHCA Patient Listing) are only required to send FCDS copies of medical records for each patient noted.

FCDS requests that copies of any and all pertinent reports be included for each case. Pertinent reports may include: encounter face sheet, history & physical, summary, consultations, operative & pathology reports, laboratory reports, radiology reports and any other report which helps to document the diagnosis, treatment or follow-up related to a patient's cancer. Not all of these reports may be in the patient's medical record. If a report is not in the record, please note that it is not available.

Please be sure to include the standard FCDS Batch Transmittal Form with any copies of medical records sent to FCDS. This form can be found in Section I, page 1-2 of the 2001 FCDS Data Acquisition Manual or can be downloaded from the FCDS website.

NOTE: If the facility does not have a copy of one or more of the reports requested, then simply make a note that copies of the pertinent report(s) are not available. We realize that you cannot send us what you do not have. Just let us know which reports are not available in the record.

Case Reporting - Facilities with 35 or More Cancer Cases Identified:
Any facility with 35 or more cancer cases identified either at the time of initial AHCA case identification or following review of patient records from the AHCA Patient Listing are required to send FCDS fully abstracted cancer cases. These cases must be abstracted in accordance with all of the guidelines and rules as outlined in the 2001 FCDS Data Acquisition Manual. This manual can be requested through FCDS at 1-800-906-3034 or can be downloaded from the FCDS website at http://www.fcds.med.miami.edu.

Data Submission
As of July 1, 2001, all cancer cases submitted to FCDS must be submitted through the FCDS IDEA which is found on the FCDS website or vendor software. Information regarding case submission using the FCDS IDEA can be obtained either through FCDS at 1-800-906-3034, by reviewing past FCDS Monthly Memos and the quarterly FCDS Register or by visiting the FCDS website at http://www.fcds.med.miami.edu and clicking on FCDS DATA, FAQ's.

Where to Find More Information:
All of this information is included in Section I of the 2001 Florida Cancer Data System Data Acquisition Manual. This section includes the state legislation establishing and maintaining FCDS, the requirements for reporting including the types of cancers that must be reported, the information required to be reported and the options for reporting.

The manual can be ordered through FCDS at 1-800-906-3034 or can be downloaded from the FCDS website at http://www.fcds.med.miami.edu (downloads page).
Continued from page 1: FCRA/FCDS Conf.
to all of the incoming FCRA officers and
best wishes on a productive year.

The first afternoon was very
informative with Dr. Parvin Ganji-Azar
and Dr. Pasquale W. Benedetto
providing attendees with an interesting
presentation on the “Pathology of
Neuroendocrine Neoplasia” and an
“Overview of Carcinoid Tumors from a
Clinical Perspective.” These
presentations combined to give
registrants a solid understanding on all
points from diagnosis to treatment to
follow-up of these important tumors.

The first day was wrapped up with Dr.
Lora E Fleming and Dr. Jay Wilkinson
providing the audience with a variety of
study updates as well as some new
studies and reports involving “Using
FCDS Data in Research Applications.”

Day 2 began with a Welcome by
American Cancer Society representative
Ellen Graves and Florida Department of
Health representative Anne Mulbach.
Dr. Edward Trapido, FCDS Project
Director, was introduced and provided
conference attendees with an
interesting update on “Disparities in
Cancer Among Floridians.” Jill
MacKinnon followed with an eye-
opening presentation on the “Effects of
out of State Data and Death Certificate
Only Cases on Cancer Rates.”

Dr. Michael E Kasper continued the
morning session with his presentation
on “Intensity Modulated
Radiotherapy.”

Our annual conferences would not be
complete without a presentation by
FCDS on Policies and Procedures. This
has been a challenging year of change
for all registrars in Florida and this
thorough review of the changes in
FCDS Policies and Procedures was right
on target.

Lydia Voti, Joy Houlahan and Mary
O’Leary also reviewed the FCDS
Quality Control efforts for the year and
provided listeners with tips and
pointers on things to look for while
abstracting cases. The quality control
staff continually provide direction to
both FCDS and all Florida abstractors
with regard to improving abstracting
skills utilizing computerized and visual
editing as well as ad-hoc and on-site
quality control studies.

Thursday afternoon provided the
professional registrar with up-to-date
information on “Collaborative Staging”
and “Abstracting of Hematopoietic
Cases” by April Fritz. April is always a
welcome presenter and provides our
state with the latest on what is going on
across the nation in our chosen field.
Thanks April!!!

April’s talks were separated by a
presentation by Dr. Alan Pierce on
“Myelodysplasia & Myeloproliferative
Diseases and Disorders.” This
presentation was one of the most well
received of all during the three day
conference.

Finally, FCDS concluded the second
day with a much anticipated
presentation on “FCDS New
Technologies and Internet
Abstracting.” Mark Rudolph and
Steven Peace provided the audience
with many of the answers to burning
questions on why, how and when the
new Internet abstracting and batch
uploading procedures will be available
and how they work. A brief overview of
the FCDS was also provided.

Electronic Registry Systems hosted an
outstanding reception Thursday
evening, complete with food,
entertainment and plenty of “Florida-
style networking.”

Day 3 was all about “Advanced
Abstracting, Staging and Coding.”
Steven Roffers, PA, CTR from Emory
University was the presenter for this
day-long extravaganza. THANKS
Steven and we hope to have you back
again soon for more.

All-in-all, this year’s collaboration
between FCRA and FCDS was an
outstanding success. Thanks to our
colleagues at FCRA, April Fritz, Steven
Roffers, the FCRA/FCDS Planning
Committee, the many FCDS presenters
and of course the physicians who each
took time out of their busy schedules to
bring us an interesting and powerful
program. CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL ON A JOB EXTREMELY WELL
DONE!!! ۞

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The following individuals passed the March, 2001 CTR Exam in Florida:

- Natalie Anderson - Lauderhill, FL
- Keva Badaloo - Lauderhill, FL
- Rita Chmela - St. Petersburg, FL
- Maria Diaz-Pagan - Plantation, FL
- Marianne Dodds - Sarasota, FL
- Amapara Gerena - Orlando, FL
- Jan Goetsche - Trenton, FL
- Eric Grosnaire - St. Petersburg, FL
- Maggie Herrera - Leesburg, FL
- Cindy Julius - Venice, FL
- Stacey Mathis - Orlando, FL
- Sharon Preston - St. Petersburg, FL
- Jeannine Pringle-Cortez, FL
- Laura Salsbury - Tarpon Spring, FL
- Hortense Shumhue - Wellington, FL

Congratulations!
2001 JEAN BYERS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CANCER REGISTRY

Once again, FCDS is honored to present the Jean Byers Memorial Award for Excellence in Cancer Registry. Recipients will be receiving their plaques/plates in the near future. Seventy-four facilities were found to be eligible to receive the award based on the following criteria:

✓ All deadlines met from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 including the 1998 Death Certificate Notification, the 1999 Death Certificate Notification, and the submission of all 2000 cancer cases admissions by the June 30, 2001 deadline.
✓ No more than 5% (or 35 cases whichever is greater) of the 2000 cancer case admissions reported to FCDS within 2 months following the June 30, 2001 deadline.
✓ No more than 10% of the 1999 cancer case admissions reported to FCDS within 12 months following the June 30, 2000 reporting deadline.
✓ Submission of signed Jean Byers Award Application Form by August 15, 2001.

FCDS is proud to present the 2001 Jean Byers Memorial Award for Excellence in Cancer Registry to the following facilities:

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<td>H Lee Moffitt Cancer Center</td>
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<td>4605</td>
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<td>Atlantic Medical Center- Peninsula</td>
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<td>Memorial Hospital Ormond Beach</td>
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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AND
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN CANCER REGISTRATION!
Calendar of Events

FCDS Teleconference Series (#5)
Cancer Registry References Review -
Part I of II
October 17, 2001
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Dial-in Number: 877-807-5706
Call-in Code: 946717

CoC - Basic Registry Data
Collection Workshop
October 22-26, 2001
Headquarters of the ACOS - Chicago, IL
Registration Fee: $500.00
312-202-5085
http://www.facs.org/dept/cancer/cof/regtrain.html

FCDS Incidence Training Workshop
October 24-26, 2001
Double Tree Hotel - Coconut Grove, FL
Registration Fee: $100.00
305-243-4600
15 CEUs awarded from AHIMA

FCDS Teleconference Series (#6)
Cancer Registry References Review -
Part II of II
November 14, 2001
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Dial-in Number: 888-232-0361
Call-in Code: 746717

The approved programs listed below may be used toward the eligibility requirements of the CTR examination. Please visit the NBCR web site: www.abcr.org/eligibility.html for more information.

NCRA Approved Formal Education Programs

The following colleges and universities offer Certificate courses:

Burlington County College
Van Nguyen, RHIA, Academic Program Director
Health Information Technology, Cancer Registry Program
County Route 530, Pemberton, NJ 08068
609/894-0311, Ext. 7339
vanguyen@bcc.edu, College web site: http://www.bcc.edu

College Ahuntsic
Manuela Das Neves, CHRA(c), CTR
Royal Victoria Hospital
687 Pine Ave. W., Rm. E3 40
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1A1
514/842-1231 Ext. 4230, mneves@is.muhc.mcgill.ca

Lehman College
Miriam Cooney, MPS, RRA, Director Cancer Registry Program, Office of Continuing Education
250 Bedford Park Boulevard West
Bronx, NY 10468-1589
718/993-8825, FAX: 516/593-7266

Molloy College
Cheryl M. Frank, CTR, Program Coordinator
Division of Continuing Education
1000 Hempstead Ave., P. O. Box 5002
Rockville, Centre, NY 11571-5002
516/678-5000 Ext. 6206 Molloy College Web Site
http://www.molloy.edu

Northeastern University
Annalee Collins, RRA, Director of HiA
360 Huntington Ave., 266 Ryder Hall
Boston, MA 02115: 617/373-2525, a.collins@nunet.neu.edu

St. Petersburg Junior College
Valerie Polansky, M.Ed., Interim Program Director
Health Information Management Program
P.O. Box 13489; St. Petersburg, FL 33733
email: picard@spjc.edu, website: http://www.spjc.edu

Santa Barbara City College
Cancer Information Management (CIM) Online Program
Sue Watkins, RHIA, CTR, Program Coordinator
721 Cliff Drive; Santa Barbara, California 93109-2994
Information: watkins@sbccc.net PROGRAMS:
Associate of Science Degree in CIM - Fall 2000
Certificate in CIM - Fall 2001 CIM Program Information:
http://www.sbcc.net/academic/cmi/index.html Santa Barbara
City College (SBCC) Online Web Site: http://online.sbcc.net

The following university offers an integrated Health Information Management and Cancer Registry program

University of Pittsburgh
Pat Grof, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Department of Health Information Management
6051 Forbes Tower; Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412/647-1900, FAX: 412/647-1199
University of Pittsburg Web Site www.him.upmc.edu
# FCRA/FCDS Annual Conference Evaluation Summary 2001

**Rating:**
- 0 - Did not attend the session
- 1 - Poor, did not meet my expectations
- 2 - Fair, barely met my expectations
- 3 - Good, met my expectations
- 4 - Excellent, exceeded my expectations

## Wednesday

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<tr>
<td>8:15 AM</td>
<td><strong>PRESENTATION</strong>&lt;br&gt;FCDS Issues &amp; Updates - Jill Mackinnon, CTR; Meg Cuadra, BA, CTR;&lt;br&gt;Steven Peace, BS, CTR</td>
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<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Bladder Cancer - Mitchell Rauch, MD</td>
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<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>PRESENTATION</strong>&lt;br&gt;FCDS New Reporting Programs - Mayra Alvarez, RHIT, CTR; Meg Cuadra, BA, CTR;&lt;br&gt;Steven Peace, BS, CTR</td>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Pathology of Neuroendocrine Neoplasia - Parvin Ganjei-Azar, MD</td>
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<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Overview of Carcinoid Tumors from a Clinical Perspective - Pasquale W. Benedetto, MD</td>
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<td>3:35 PM</td>
<td>Using FCDS Data In Research App. - Lora E. Fleming, MD, PhD;&lt;br&gt;Jay Wilkinson, MD, MPH</td>
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## Thursday

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<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>PRESENTATION</strong>&lt;br&gt;DOH - Florida Cancer Surveillance &amp; Control Activities - Anne Mulbach;&lt;br&gt;Joe Pearson; Edward J. Trapido Sc.D; Jill Mackinnon, CTR</td>
<td>7 2 6 31 11 7 1 3 30 16 20 20</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy - Michael E. Kasper, MD</td>
<td>4 0 1 2 1 33 4 0 1 20 34 20</td>
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<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td><strong>PRESENTATION</strong>&lt;br&gt;FCDS Policies &amp; Procedures 2001 - Meg Cuadra, BA, CTR;&lt;br&gt;Steven Peace, BS, CTR;&lt;br&gt;Lydia Voti, MS &amp; Joy Houlahan, CTR</td>
<td>4 1 2 32 20 4 1 3 29 22 20 20</td>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Collaborative Staging - April G. Fritz, RHIT, CTR</td>
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<td>2:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>PRESENTATION</strong>&lt;br&gt;Myelodysplasia &amp; Myeloproliferative Diseases &amp; Disorders - Alan Pierce, MD</td>
<td>2 0 0 9 48 2 0 0 6 51 20 20</td>
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<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>Abstracting of Hematopoietic Cases - April G. Fritz, RHIT, CTR</td>
<td>1 0 1 1 43 1 0 1 13 44 20 20</td>
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<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>FCDS New Technologies &amp; Internet Abstracting - Mark Rudolph &quot;FCDS IDEA&quot;;&lt;br&gt;Steven Peace, BS, CTR</td>
<td>2 3 8 30 16 2 2 9 27 18 20 20</td>
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## Friday

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Advanced Abstracting, Staging and Coding - Steven D. Roffers, PA, CTR</td>
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## Rating of Hotel

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## Rating on FCRA/FCDS Combined Conference

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<th>PLANNING</th>
<th>ENTERTAINMENT</th>
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<td>0 0 0 1 7 39</td>
<td>0 0 0 2 11 19</td>
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61 EVALUATION FORMS RECEIVED

**NOTICE:** NUMBERS MAY NOT MATCH DUE TO INCOMPLETE EVALUATIONS **
SAVE THE DATE!

FCRA/FCDS 2002 COMBINED CONFERENCE

JULY 31 - AUGUST 2, 2002
SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Reminder!

US Postal Service mail including Express mail, Priority mail and Certified mail must be sent to FCDS via the PO Box address:
P.O. Box 016960 (D4-11);
Miami, FL 33101

FCDS street address should only be used for Courier packages (Federal Express, UPS, AirBorne Express)

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Florida Cancer Data System
University of Miami School of Medicine
P.O. Box 016960 (D4-11)
Miami, FL 33101