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**For Immediate Release**

## INTERIM CHIEF LEONARD BURGESS APPOINTED AS CHIEF OF NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

North Miami, FL – June 4, 2014 –Leonard Burgess has been selected to fill the position of Chief of Police of the North Miami Police Department. North Miami City Manager Aleem A. Ghany made the decision to appoint Burgess as Chief effective Sunday, June 8, 2014. Burgess was appointed Interim Chief of Police by former City Manager Stephen Johnson on February 11, 2014.

Chief Burgess has dedicated 29 years of service in law enforcement, which has allowed him to gain expertise in fiscal management, as well as strategic planning and implementation skills, in the various roles he has held within the field. He joined the North Miami Police Department (NMPD) in October 2010, as a Police Major, and was subsequently appointed to Assistant Chief of the Field Operations Division in December 2011.

Prior to joining the North Miami Police Department, Burgess served as the Deputy Director for the Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department (MDCRD) for two years, which is the sixth largest jail system in the United States, with over 2,500 employees. Additionally, he dedicated twenty years of service to the largest law enforcement agency in the Southeastern United States, the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD), from November 1988 until October 2008, where he last held the rank of Division Chief of the Special Investigations Division. Interim Chief Burgess holds a Bachelor's Degree in Behavioral Sciences from Barry University and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Florida International University. He has honorably served in the United States Marine Corps, and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute Command Officers Course at the University of Louisville, and of the Senior Management Institute for Police Executives at Harvard's Kennedy School. He currently serves as President of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) South Florida Chapter.

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