SECTION #5
EMERGENCY PURCHASES

5.1 BID NUMBER: E1715-PD
Title: Wireless Tracking System, StingRay/Amberjack
Description: To purchase a mobile wireless tracking system.
Department: MDPD
Allocation: $115,500.00
Term of Contract: Upon delivery
Review Committee Recommendation: No measure (insufficient availability and emergency).
Review Committee Date: November 12, 2003; Item #2-07
Living Wage: Not applicable, no services contemplated.
Vendor(s): Harris Corp.
Estimated Contract Usage: $115,500.00
Justification: Retroactive authorization to November 1, 2003 is necessary for the purchase of a wireless tracking system. In order to have the system delivered and field tested to provide the level of security commensurate with the (FTAA) Conference, it was necessary to enter into this emergency purchase.

The Miami-Dade Police Department was responsible for providing assistance and support during the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Conference held November 16-21, 2003.

Based on the history of these conferences, the department anticipated criminal activities directed at attendees and conference sites facilitated by the use of cellular phones. Wireless phone tracking systems utilized by law enforcement have proven to be an invaluable tool in both the prevention of these offenses and the apprehension of individuals attempting to carry out criminal activities.
MDPD already possessed wireless tracking capability via the Harris Corporation’s Triggerfish tracking system. That system was limited in that it provided access to only Cingular and AT&T Wireless carriers. The newly developed Sting Ray/Amberjack system by Harris Corp. provides PCS tracking capability, which includes Metro PCS, Sprint and Verizon carriers. The combination of these two tracking systems, Triggerfish and StingRay/Amberjack provided MDPD the ability to track approximately ninety percent of the wireless industry.

In the performance of market research, MDPD established that the StingRay/Amberjack system is the only transportable Code Division Multiple Access (cellular technology standard) system in the industry offering tracking and location and signal information collection features.