

**PROPOSED**

ORDINANCE NO.

1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD  
2 COUNTY, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO PORT EVERGLADES BUSINESS PERMITS;  
3 AMENDING SECTIONS 22½-1 AND 22½-6D OF THE BROWARD COUNTY CODE OF  
4 ORDINANCES (“CODE”); AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE  
5 CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

6 (Sponsored by the Board of County Commissioners)

7

8 WHEREAS, Port Everglades (“Port”) is a secured, high-volume transportation  
9 facility that serves cruise passengers, cargo operations, commercial vehicles,  
10 pedestrians, terminal employees, and other Port users;

11 WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (“Commission”) has a substantial  
12 interest in protecting the safety of passengers, pedestrians, drivers, Port workers, Port  
13 facilities, and public property within the Port;

14 WHEREAS, motor carriers providing charter bus transportation share limited  
15 roadway, curbside, staging, terminal, and loading areas with other vehicles and  
16 pedestrians, creating a need for reasonable measures to verify insurance coverage and  
17 vehicle-safety compliance;

18 WHEREAS, federal law recognizes the importance of commercial motor vehicle  
19 safety and authorizes federal regulations establishing minimum safety standards for  
20 commercial motor vehicles, including charter buses, and these standards ensure that

21 such vehicles are maintained, equipped, and operated safely under Title 49 Part 396 of  
22 the Code of Federal Regulations;

23 WHEREAS, federal regulations require that covered commercial motor vehicles,  
24 including charter buses, pass a periodic inspection at least once every 12 months and  
25 require that motor carriers maintain parts and accessories in a safe and proper operating  
26 condition at all times;

27 WHEREAS, the Commission finds that confirming insurance and annual  
28 inspection compliance for charter buses accessing the Port is directly related to motor  
29 vehicle safety, passenger safety, pedestrian safety, as well as the safe operation of the  
30 Port's roadways, terminals, loading areas, and staging areas; and

31 WHEREAS, the Commission finds that the fees and penalties authorized by this  
32 Ordinance are directly related to motor vehicle safety because the fees are limited to  
33 recovering the County's reasonable costs of reviewing insurance and vehicle-safety  
34 inspection documentation and maintaining compliance records, and the penalties provide  
35 a necessary mechanism to enforce compliance with the insurance and inspection  
36 requirements established herein,

37 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
38 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

39 Section 1. Section 22½-1 of the Broward County Code of Ordinances is hereby  
40 amended to read as follows:

41 **Sec. 22½-1. Definitions.**

42 . . .

43            *Certificate* means any certificate of public convenience and necessity issued  
44 pursuant to this chapter, which authorizes the holder to engage in providing passenger  
45 transportation services to the public.

46            *Charter bus transportation* means transportation, using a vehicle with a seating  
47 capacity of more than fifteen (15) persons, of a group of persons who, pursuant to a  
48 common purpose, under a single contract, at a fixed charge for the motor vehicle, have  
49 acquired the exclusive use of the motor vehicle to travel together under an itinerary  
50 specified in advance or modified after departure from the place of origin.

51            *Chauffeur* means a person who holds a valid, active license or permit to operate a  
52 vehicle for hire, issued by the county or municipality in which the person is domiciled, and  
53 who has not had a license or permit to operate a vehicle for hire suspended or revoked  
54 within the immediately preceding five (5) years.

55            . . .

56            Section 2.    Section 22½-6D of the Broward County Code of Ordinances is  
57 hereby amended to read as follows:

58    **Sec. 22½-6D. Port Everglades—Business Permits.**

59            (a)    Except as otherwise provided herein, ~~No~~ motor carrier shall engage in  
60 business at Port Everglades on ~~or over Port Everglades~~ property owned or leased by the  
61 County without a contract, license, lease, or permit issued by Broward County ~~for~~  
62 ~~operations at the Port~~ authorizing such business. A Port Everglades Motor Carrier  
63 Business Permit (“Business Permit”) may be obtained from the Division. The Division may  
64 grant a Business Permit for ~~any period of time~~ a term of up to one (1) calendar year. Such

65 Business Permits shall be renewed by the Division each year upon payment of the fees  
66 and approval of its application.

67 . . .

68 (n) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, motor carriers engaged in  
69 charter bus transportation shall not be required to obtain a Business Permit, vehicle-for-  
70 hire permit, certificate of public convenience and necessity, operating permit, or other  
71 County authorization to provide charter bus transportation services at Port Everglades,  
72 and vehicles engaged in charter bus transportation shall not be required to display a Port  
73 Everglades decal. Instead, a motor carrier engaged in charter bus transportation that  
74 seeks to access Port Everglades for commercial activity shall complete a Port Everglades  
75 Charter Bus Safety Compliance Registration (“Safety Compliance Registration”).

76 (1) Completion of the Safety Compliance Registration shall require submission  
77 of the following:

78 a. Proof of insurance or financial responsibility in the amounts required  
79 by Section (b)(3);

80 b. Proof that each charter bus utilized to access Port Everglades has  
81 passed an inspection in accordance with the terms of 49 C.F.R.  
82 § 396.17 in the preceding twelve (12) months, or an equivalent  
83 inspection recognized under 49 C.F.R. § 396.23; and

84 c. A registration fee, as established by resolution of the Commission  
85 and published in the Broward County Administrative Code, in an  
86 amount the Commission deems necessary to recover the County’s  
87 reasonable cost of reviewing insurance documentation, reviewing

- 88                   annual inspection documentation, and maintaining the registration  
89                   database.
- 90       (2)   Upon submission of the materials set forth herein, the County shall issue  
91           confirmation of the Safety Compliance Registration.
- 92       (3)   The Safety Compliance Registration requirement must be renewed  
93           annually by submitting current proof of insurance, current proof of annual  
94           vehicle inspection, and applicable registration fees.
- 95       (4)   Compliance with this Section (n) may be verified by methods including, but  
96           not limited to, license plate verification, vehicle identification number,  
97           USDOT number, electronic databases, invoices, account confirmation, or  
98           other documentation showing County confirmation of registration  
99           compliance. In lieu of other verification methods, the County may allow for  
100          a motor carrier engaged in charter bus transportation to purchase optional  
101          Port Everglades decals or electronic identifiers. An optional decal or  
102          electronic identifier shall not be required as a condition of access to Port  
103          Everglades, and failure to display or use such decal or identifier shall not  
104          result in denial of access, citation, penalty, surcharge, or other adverse  
105          treatment.
- 106       (5)   Penalties for failing to complete or maintain the Safety Compliance  
107           Registration shall be equivalent to the penalty set forth in  
108           Section 8½-16(t)(11). However, no penalty shall be imposed on a motor  
109           carrier engaged in charter bus transportation solely for failing to obtain a  
110           Business Permit, vehicle-for-hire permit, certificate of public convenience

111 and necessity, operating permit, or other County authorization to provide  
112 charter bus transportation.

113 Section 3. Severability.

114 If any portion of this Ordinance is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid  
115 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this  
116 Ordinance. If any court determines that this Ordinance, in whole or in part, cannot be  
117 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such  
118 determination will not affect the applicability of this Ordinance to any other individual,  
119 group, entity, property, or circumstance.

120 Section 4. Inclusion in the Broward County Code of Ordinances.

121 It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that the provisions of this  
122 Ordinance become part of the Broward County Code of Ordinances as of the effective  
123 date. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered and the word  
124 "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or such other appropriate word or  
125 phrase to the extent necessary to accomplish such intention.

126 Section 5. Effective Date.

127 This Ordinance is effective as of the date provided by law.

ENACTED

**PROPOSED**

FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EFFECTIVE

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:  
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: /s/ Scott Andron 05/13/2026  
Scott Andron (date)  
Senior Assistant County Attorney

By: /s/ Danielle W. French 05/13/2026  
Danielle W. French (date)  
Deputy County Attorney

SA/sw  
Charter Bus Transportation Ordinance  
05/13/2026  
#1230071.5

Coding: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions from existing text. Words underlined are additions to existing text.