

## Media Contact

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### **Luis G. Montaldo, Miami-Dade Clerk Ad Interim, takes action to strengthen the Clerk's cybersecurity as it shifts to a .gov domain name**

**MIAMI-DADE (May 5, 2023)** – Miami-Dade Clerk of Courts took immediate action to improve the Clerk's cybersecurity as it shifted to a .gov domain name. As of February 24, 2023, the Clerk's website is now hosted at [miamidadeclerk.gov](http://miamidadeclerk.gov), though the public can still access the website by going to [miami-dadeclerk.com](http://miami-dadeclerk.com), which will seamlessly redirect the user to the new site.

The change to a .gov site improves security to avoid fraudulent activity; it ensures that users are on the official Miami-Dade Clerk of Courts government website and creates a more secure connection. Unfortunately, anyone can purchase a .com domain name and/or impersonate .com websites, (typically referred to as "cybersquatting"). However, .gov domains are available only to U.S.-based government institutions and publicly controlled entities. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, an agency under the *U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, sponsors the .gov domain.

Clerk Montaldo and his Executive Team identified this risk and took the necessary steps to strengthen our cyber presence by capitalizing on these .gov domains which are now available at no cost to the public for qualifying institutions.

Over the years, as technology has improved and increased in our daily use, people looking to commit online fraud have become more sophisticated. Governments at all levels understand the importance of keeping their systems and information safe.

**About the Miami-Dade Clerk of the Courts:** The Miami-Dade Clerk of the Courts manages the largest and highest volume of court filings and official records in the State of Florida and the fourth largest judicial circuit in America. Led by Luis G. Montaldo, Clerk Ad Interim, the Clerk of the Courts organization continues to strive to improve services, accessibility, and leverage technology where appropriate to serve the citizens of Miami-Dade County. The Clerk of the Courts serves the 2.7 million citizens of Miami-Dade County and supports the operations of the 11th Judicial Circuit and County Courts in addition to providing professional services to the public, the judiciary, the legal community, and the Miami-Dade County Commission. In 2022, the Clerk's office managed over 4.5 million electronic filings, and processed over \$1.4 billion annually.