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MIAMI-DADE AND MONROE COUNTIES' UNEMPLOYMENT EVENS OUT AT 13.0

(MIAMI, January 21, 2011) — The Miami Dade and Monroe counties' unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, for December 2010 remains at 13.0. This signifies 1,344,699 out of labor force and 174,679 unemployed residents in the region.

The Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metro area gained more jobs in trade, transportation, and utilities and education and health services than any other metro area in the state from December 2009 to December 2010. The over-the-year growth rate was (+2.4 percent) in these areas, faring better than the statewide growth rate of (+0.6 percent).

"As we embrace another hopeful sign that the job market is stabilizing, South Florida Workforce is encouraged by the steady increase of available jobs emerging in our region." said Rick Beasley, executive director for South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

The total nonagricultural employment increased by 3,200 jobs over the year in the metro area. Trade, transportation and utilities (+5,800) gained the most jobs, followed by education and health services (+5,000 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+1,100 jobs); and other services (300 jobs).

Industries losing jobs over the year included mining, logging, and construction (-3,300 jobs); manufacturing (-1,500 jobs); financial activities (-1,300 jobs); professional and business services and government both (-1,000 jobs); and information (-900 jobs).

Green Technology Training for Businesses

Through the Green Technology Training Institute, South Florida Workforce and Miami Dade College is offering a unique opportunity for businesses to become LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified. LEED is an ecological-based building certification program designed to provide knowledge in Green Design, construction, and operations. The cost for the course, books, materials and exam may be covered for businesses, who meet the eligibility requirements. For more information, contact the Business Services Unit at 305-594-7615 ext. 407.

For more information on the Miami-Dade and Monroe counties' unemployment outlook, please contact South Florida Workforce at 305-594-7615 or visit www.southfloridaworkforce.com.

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