

Friends of WLRN, Inc.

COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING PUBLIC RADIO AND TELEVISION



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LEWIS TO STEP DOWN AT FRIENDS OF WLRN INTERIM CEO NAMED

Rick Lewis, a veteran public broadcasting and nonprofit executive, will step down as CEO of Friends of WLRN, Inc. after nearly seven years, the company's board has announced. He will remain through the month of February. "Rick announced to the board that he felt he had completed most, if not all, of his goals with our organization, and decided that he wanted to explore new opportunities," said Charles M. Tatelbaum, board chair. The board has named CFO Jorge Perez-Alvarez as interim CEO.

During Lewis's tenure, Friends' annual revenue has grown some 60%. It has become known for dazzling events, both large and small, and established enduring connections throughout the community. The organization has built a reputation for transparency and for productivity and efficiency that benchmarks favorably with the best operations in the field.

"Rick's decision comes at a time when Friends of WLRN is poised at the threshold of even greater achievements," said Tatelbaum. "The corporation is financially strong, professionally staffed, and governed by a board of committed and deeply engaged community leaders. Our relationship with the school district licensee has been recently transformed, and Friends looks forward to further developing and expanding its working relationship with the Superintendent, as well as the members of the Miami-Dade School Board."

Tatelbaum said that in conjunction with designees to be appointed by Superintendent Carvalho, he would be naming a search committee to assist with finding the best possible CEO for the future.

"Although the decision to accept Rick's resignation has been bittersweet," he continued, "as an organization, Friends is the beneficiary of Rick's superb leadership. We will miss his professionalism, his vast knowledge of public media and his tireless efforts that have benefited our organization."



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