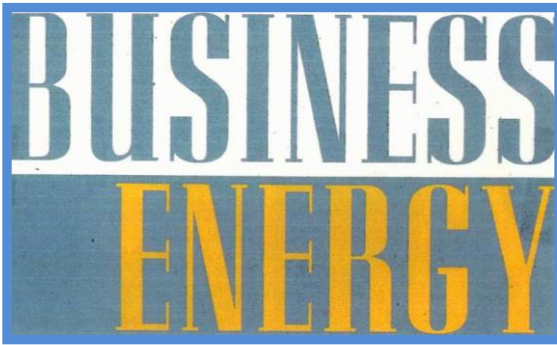


# Metro Dade Courthouse Center

Miami, FL

(FPL Case Study)

## SUCCESS STORY



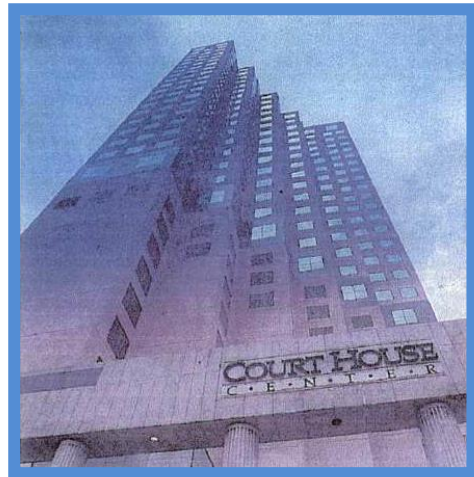
Window film installed to defend the Metro-Dade County Court House Center against high energy bills is proving its case as protection from shattering glass and other windstorm-related damages.

That's what happened when Metro-Dade County officials installed 40,000 square feet of window film to the Metro-Dade County Court House Center.

The reflective film, installed as part of a \$20 million, two-year renovation of the 30-story building in downtown Miami, was chosen for its ability to reduce the amount of heat entering the building. But the 4 mil, 27-layer polyester film utilizing a "wet glazed" anchoring system is so strong that when a platform used by window washers accidentally shattered a 25th floor window during a storm last June, not a single shard entered the building.

"The shattered glass stuck to the film and stayed in place, so nothing got wet or damaged," said Rafael Fernandez, president of Confianza Window Tinting Inc., the company that replaced the building's deteriorating film with the high-grade security/solar film. "When the installers came to replace the window, they had to break up the old one with a sledge hammer. That's how strong this film is!"

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It also has a shading coefficient of 0.26, reduces heat gain by 72 percent and decreases monthly demand at the Court House Center by 37.25 kilowatts (kw). As a result of the window film installation, annual savings of nearly \$6,000 are expected on electricity bills.

Metro-Dade's General Services Administration, which is overseeing the Court House Center's renovation, also earned a \$5,306 incentive from FPL for participating in its Commercial/Industrial Building Envelope (CIBE) program. FPL's program offers incentives to businesses that install qualifying window film, solar screens, awnings, shutters and other high-efficiency window upgrades on west-facing glass.

"We were looking for energy savings but found a product that offered some means of security without adding much expense," said Steve Haber, Metro-Dade General Services Administration project manager for the Court House Center's renovation. "We also liked the fact that it doesn't tear like many window films, which keeps shattered glass in place."

Because it is a high-profile building, visible from much of downtown Miami, aesthetics also were a consideration in the building's renovation.

"The film gives the Court House Center an attractive, standardized look," said Al Mizrahi, south area CIBE program sales manager. "And the people who work there no longer have to deal with glare or worry about furniture and carpets fading."

As for occupants' reaction to the new window film, Building Manager Bonnie Hargett reported that, "the number of hot and cold calls have been reduced since the installation of the window film."

**To learn more about FPL's incentive program for installing energy-saving window film or treatments, contact your account manager or area office listed on page 4.**