

LET'S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Billionaire auto magnate Norman Braman has resorted to flooding the airwaves with misinformation. If we are going to have an open and honest debate about the economic engine of world-class events in Miami, it would be helpful for everyone to know the **FACTS**.

FICTION: When asked by Jimmy Cefalo whether he had ever taken any money from state or local governments, Braman said: **"Never for the Philadelphia Eagles."**

- South Florida's First News with Jimmy Cefalo (aired Wednesday, January 16, 2013)

FACT: Braman – as Eagles owner – was the beneficiary of a major public investment when the City of Philadelphia paid millions to build and renovate luxury skyboxes, which opened in 1987, two years after Braman acquired the franchise. And he tried to get more when he travelled to the state capitol in 1993 on lobbying expeditions. Braman told lawmakers **"that if the city provided him the land and similar financial aid, he would provide the rest of the financing for a new home for the Eagles."**

- The Philadelphia Inquirer, February 11, 2003; February 24, 1994

FICTION: When discussing the one-cent tourist tax referenced in the Dolphins plan, Braman said: **"the tourist dollars have other purposes. One of the things that we've desperately needed forever has been an extension of our convention facilities here. That's where those taxes should be spent."**

- Issues with Helen Ferre (aired Friday, January 18, 2013)

FACT: Under Florida law, the authorized one-cent tourist tax that would fund a minority share of the modernization project is **exclusively reserved** for professional sports facilities and to promote and advertise tourism. Unlike other tourist taxes, this tourist tax **cannot** be used for convention facilities.

- Florida House Bill 165 and Florida Senate Bill 306 (2013)

FICTION: Braman claims that NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said **"this stadium needs a roof because it rained during the 2009 game and that's important that we have this roof here."**

- Issues with Helen Ferre (aired Friday, January 18, 2013)

FACT: What Goodell said was that Miami is **"a great community"** and that **"the key thing is making sure this stadium is state of the art and that it can compete with the stadiums in some of these other communities...We'll be here once every several years, if the community is successful."**

- SunSentinel, December 7, 2009.

You are entitled to your own opinion, Mr. Braman, but not your own facts.