

MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS MEETING SUMMARY
MARCH 16, 2005
CONTACT PERSON: ROBERT MEYERS (305) 350-0613

Complaints

04-53: The Commission on Ethics granted the Respondent's Request for Continuance.

05-03: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint against Surfside Mayor Tim Will, who was alleged to have violated the Truth in Government provision of the Citizens' Bill of Rights.

05-06: The Commission Advocate informed the Ethics Commission that Respondent Derrick Summers, a County Water and Sewer Department employee, made his payment in full as part of his settlement agreement. The other terms of the settlement agreement included the Ethics Commission dismissing Count I of the complaint and accepting Respondent's stipulation to Count II based on Respondent's failure to disclose his income from his outside employment activities.

Ethics Opinions

05-19: The Commission on Ethics opined that employees of the County's Office of Community and Economic Development may serve as officers of non-profit agencies that receive Community Development Block Grant funding as long as these employees do not disclose any confidential information acquired as the result of county employment to their non-profit agencies, they do not use their official positions in the county to give advantages to their non-profit agencies and they are restricted from appearing before the County on behalf of their non-profit agencies.

05-27: The Commission on Ethics opined that the process initiated by the County's Office of Capital Improvements Coordination that mandates prime contractors and subcontractors to submit project reference/experience forms does not create a conflict of interest for an employee to complete these forms and then sit on a competitive selection committee that may require the review of the reference's bid. The Ethics Commission further stated that it would be a conflict of interest if the reference was given to the firm competing for the new project after the competitive selection committee had convened.

05-28: The Ethics Commission opined that a county employee serving as the Tax Increment Financing Coordinator for the Office of Strategic Business may assume outside employment as a real estate broker as long as his clients do not seek analysis or assistance regarding any projects located in the Community Redevelopment districts or areas being considered for CRA designation.

05-30: The Ethics Commission opined that the current mayor of North Bay Village was barred from participating in and voting on a proposed ordinance in which his former client, Clear Channel Communications, has an interest on account of the fact that the firm has an outstanding debt for legal services rendered by the Mayor.

Lobbyist Appeal

The Ethics Commission waived the fine against Gordon Loader, a registered lobbyist in the City of Miami Beach.