



For Immediate Release: September 25, 2012  
Contact: Joseph Centorino, Executive Director  
(305) 350-0613 or [centori@miamidade.gov](mailto:centori@miamidade.gov)

### **Opa-Locka city employee settles ethics complaint**

An Opa-Locka code enforcement officer has pleaded no contest to charges he violated the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance for failing to file required “outside source of income” forms for more than three years. An investigation began when it was alleged that Randolph Aikens had been working nights providing security at a city-funded project (Sherbondy Village Community Center) and sleeping during the daytime shift of his public job. Aikens created a company called Executive Protection Security Enforcement LLC in early 2008, though he never sought permission for outside employment from his supervisor. One year ago, Aikens told Ethics Commission investigators that, because he was self-employed, he didn’t think he needed permission or had to file income statements, but he was advised to do so immediately. Similar information was distributed to all municipal employees by the Opa-Locka city clerk this past June, but Aikens still neglected to submit the forms. Today, the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (COE) accepted a settlement to the complaint (**C 12-28**) that requires Aikens to pay a \$500 fine and accept a Letter of Instruction.

Also today, COE members learned that The Children’s Trust has awarded the agency a grant of more than \$5,800 to help produce promotional material to recruit volunteers for **Ethical Governance Day on October 12, 2012**. Community leaders are being encouraged to speak to high schools seniors about educated civic engagement ahead of the November general election. Miami-Dade Public Schools, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, the cities of Doral and North Miami Beach, and Florida International University are among the entities endorsing and supporting Ethical Governance Day. The COE encourages other local governments, civic organizations and educational institutions to get involved. Details can be found at [www.miamidadeethics.com](http://www.miamidadeethics.com). Additionally, Ethics Commission Executive Director Joseph Centorino will discuss Ethical Governance Day as a guest on “Topical Currents,” on 91.3 WLRN-FM this Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

*The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of education, outreach and enforcement, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.*

###