
From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 5:09 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ 15-116 Dolly MacIntyre, Secretary, Women's History Coalition of Miami-Dade County, inc. (Gifts)

Dolly MacIntyre, Secretary, Women's History Coalition of Miami-Dade County, Inc., a non-profit organization, inquired regarding the ethical propriety of her group's initiating an "Unsung Heroine" program to recognize women who make a significant contribution to the good of the community through unsung acts of heroism, generosity, kindness or other service. The award would involve the presentation of a framed certificate, a \$50 to \$100 gift card and recognition by the media. The honorees would be chosen by the Board of Directors of the Coalition from nominees made by the Board or by others, based on news stories, personal knowledge or recommendations from others.

I informed Ms. MacIntyre that, in view of the benevolent civic purpose of such awards, there would be no legal impediment in the Miami-Dade County Ethics Code for such awards to be presented to deserving individuals. In such cases where the honoree may be a public official or public employee subject to the Ethics Code, such awards would be permissible assuming they did not involve any quid pro quo. The awards might not even be subject to the disclosure requirement in Section 2-11.1(e)(4) of the Code if they were provided as awards for professional or civic achievement, which are specifically exempted from the definition of a gift under Section 2-11.1(e)(2)(c). In any event, the reporting issue would only be applicable to the recipient of the gift and would have no bearing on the organization making the presentation.

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
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Women's History Coalition
Of Miami-Dade County, Inc.

c/o 409 Viscaya Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-460-0157 / macbirch@aol.com

June 1, 2015

Inspector General Mary T. Cagle
19 West Flagler Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33130

Dear Ms. Cagle:

Our organization would like to create an awards program as outlined below and would like your opinion if it is permissible for us to give a monetary gift. There are no political ramifications.

The Women's History Coalition would like to begin a program called "Unsung Heroines" to recognize women who make a significant contribution to the good of the community through unsung acts of heroism, such as performed by a policewoman or firewoman, acts of generosity, such as sharing modest means with those in need, acts of kindness such as visiting hospitalized vets or nursing home patients and acts of love by reaching out to the unloved.

The presentation may take place at the honoree's workplace or place of service, with support from the woman's supervisor and in front of her peers or at another suitable location. She would receive a handsome framed certificate, a \$50 to \$100 gift card and recognition by the media. The honorees will be chosen by the Board of Directors of the Women's History Coalition from nominees made by the Board or others, based on news stories, personal knowledge or recommendations from others.

The Women's History Coalition has been organized since 1983 for the purpose of recording and celebrating the accomplishments of women in Miami-Dade County. The organization has published two books, *Julia's Daughters* and *Beyond Julia's Daughters*, and is presently beginning a third volume to tell women's stories. Annually, up to six women are chosen as Women of Impact because of outstanding contributions of time and talent to the community and Julia Tuttle, founder of Miami, is honored annually at a graveside commemorative service on March 1st to launch Women's History Month. The all-volunteer organization has a website: www.womenshistorycoalitionmiamidade.org and may be reached at Women's History Coalition, P. O. Box 565307, Miami, FL 33256.

Sincerely,

Dolly MacIntyre
Secretary

~~GP~~
File
with
INQ 15-116



Women's History Coalition
Of Miami-Dade County, Inc.

c/o 409 Viscaya Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-460-0157 / macbirch@aol.com

June 6, 2015

Joseph M. Centorino, Executive Director
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 West Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130

Dear Mr. Centorino:

Enclosed please find a letter which I sent to Inspector General Mary Cagle. She referred me to you for an answer. Please look at the enclosed and let me know if the proposed recognition presents any problems.

Sincerely,


Dolly MacIntyre
Secretary