
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 8:42 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Ken Pyatt, Deputy Director, Miami-Dade County Aviation Department (MDAD) (Prohibited Travel Expenses) INQ 15-182

INQ 15-182 Murray

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 5:06 PM
To: Murray, David M. (Aviation)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ 15-182 Ken Pyatt, Deputy Director, Miami-Dade County Aviation Department (MDAD) (Prohibited Travel Expenses)

Mr. Murray:

You have inquired on behalf of Ken Pyatt, Deputy Director of the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) regarding whether it would be prohibited under the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance for Mr. Pyatt to have his lodging at an upcoming conference paid for by RIB/US COST, a County contractor doing business at the airport. The conference is the iTWO World Conference being held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Hong Kong on November 18-19, 2015. Mr. Pyatt has been invited by RIB to be a speaker at the conference and its coverage of expenses would be limited to lodging at the conference. The County will be paying for his travel and other incidental expenses.

The issue is whether the payment of the lodging expenses by a County contractor under these circumstances is prohibited by Section 2-11.1(w) of the County Ethics Code. That section prohibits acceptance by County officials or employees of "any travel expenses, including, but not limited to, transportation, **lodging**, meals, registration fees and incidentals from any County contractor, vendor, service provider, bidder or proposer." (Emphasis added) There is no exception under that subsection where the individual involved happens to be making a speech at the event. The only waiver provision in that subsection would require that the County Commission waive the requirements of the subsection by majority vote. Unless that were to happen, Mr. Pyatt could not accept the complimentary lodging from a County vendor. It would not, however, be inappropriate for the County to pay for the lodging, assuming Mr. Pyatt is appearing at the event in his official capacity, or for Mr. Pyatt himself to pay for his own lodging, provided that he accept no other payment of travel or travel-related expenses from RIB.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino
Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

From: Murray, David M. (Aviation) [<mailto:dmmurray@miami-airport.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 4:45 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: RE: Inquiries

Ken Pyatt, deputy director at MDAD, was invited to speak at iTWO World in Hong Kong. Information on the conference is here:

<http://www.ribmc2.com/events/itwo-world/>

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE) [<mailto:CENTORI@miamidade.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 3:28 PM

To: Murray, David M. (Aviation)

Subject: Inquiries

Hi Dave,

I am in the process of replying to the two inquiries I received yesterday from the Airport. Can you give me the name and title of the person who was invited to speak at the RIB/USA COST conference in Hong Kong?

Joe

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel

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