
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:36 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Pete Betancourt, Senior Procurement Contracting Officer, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (Conflict of Interest, Outside Employment) INQ 15-203

INQ 15-203 Betancourt

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Betancourt, Pete J. (Aviation)
Cc: Clark-Vincent, Marie (Aviation); Murray, David M. (Aviation); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ 15-203, INQ 15-204, INQ 15-205 Pete Betancourt, Senior Procurement Contracting Officer, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (Conflict of Interest, Outside Employment)

Mr. Betancourt:

In response to the three issues raised in your email, please be advised as follows:

- 1) You have inquired regarding whether Aida Bao-Garciga, MDAD Chief, Contracts & Construction, may provide references on behalf of Respondents before an Evaluation/Selection Committee of which she is a member. As a member of a county advisory committee, it is important that she not be involved in any employment that would impair her independence of judgment, under Section 2-11.1(j) of the County Ethics Code. If Ms. Bao-Garciga is unable to exercise her judgment independently of her experience with the Respondents in her County position, she should not serve on the board. However, assuming that Ms. Bao-Garciga is in a position to be fair and independent (which is likely the case), then there is no legal prohibition under the Code concerning her providing a reference. However, under the circumstances of her participation on the board, I would find it highly inadvisable for her to be providing a favorable reference or recommendation on behalf of one of the competing Respondents. That would reflect negatively on the objectivity of the board. I strongly suggest that she not do so, and that the Respondent be asked to provide a reference from a person unconnected with the selection process.

Sincerely,

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

From: Betancourt, Pete J. (Aviation) [<mailto:PJBETANCOURT@miami-airport.com>]
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <CENTORI@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Clark-Vincent, Marie (Aviation) <MClark@miami-airport.com>; Murray, David M. (Aviation) <dmmurray@miami-airport.com>

Subject: FW: Opinions - Evaluation/Selection Committee Member and Former County Employees

Importance: High

Good morning Mr. Centorino.

The Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) seeks the following opinions from your office:

Opinion

1

Respondents (Vendors) have listed Ms. Aida Bao-Garciga, MDAD Chief Contracts & Construction, as contract reference. Ms. Bao-Garciga has been appointed to the Evaluation/Selection Committee (Committee).

MDAD is in the process of conducting reference checks (project questionnaires) and would like to know if Ms. Bao-Garciga can provide the required references and feedback.

Opinion

2

Respondent listed in its submittal Mr. Jose Abreu, former Aviation Director as contract reference and Mr. Juan Carlos Arteaga, former WASD, Deputy Director for Regulatory Compliance & Capital Improvements.

Can MDAD requests contract references from the two (2) former Miami-Dade County employees (Mr. Abreu and Mr. Arteaga)?

Opinion

3

The Aviation Department often utilizes external (non-County) candidates to serve on evaluation selection committees. Mr. Robert Binish, Vice President of AvairPros, has also been appointed to the Committee for the same solicitation. One of the Respondents has listed Mr. Jeff Woosman, Project Manager, with AvairPros as a contract reference.

Mr. Brian S. Miller, Regional Director, Delta Airlines, is also on the Committee. Respondents have listed the following Delta Airlines employees as contract references:

Brian Ruppert, General Manager, Delta Airlines at La Guardia International Airport

John Head, Delta Airlines at Ft. Lauderdale International Airport

Doyle Steele, PMT Director, Delta Airlines at Los Angeles International Airport

James Tiefenthaler, Delta Airlines at La Guardia International Airport

Ryan Marzullo, Delta Airlines at JFK International Airport

Can MDAD request contract references from individuals employed with the same entity employing a Committee Member?

Your assistance is greatly appreciated and please let me know if you require additional information.

Regards,

Pedro J. Betancourt, PMP, CPPO, LEED® AP O+M

Aviation Sr. Proc. Contract Officer

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