
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 4:08 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Alex Ferro, Chief of Staff, Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor (Actions Prohibited When Financial Interests Involved) INQ 15-207
Attachments: CIAO Memo 9-4-15.pdf

FW: INQ 15-207 Ferro

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 5:34 PM
To: Ferro, Alex (Office of the Mayor) <aferro@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 15-207 Alex Ferro, Chief of Staff, Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor (Actions Prohibited When Financial Interests Involved)

Alex,

This will confirm our conversation, referenced in your email below, regarding your inquiry concerning a possible conflict in connection with your wife's lobbying Miami-Dade County on behalf of Miami Children's Health System, a nonprofit hospital, and the involvement of the Department of Community Information and Outreach (CIAO) in fundraising for pediatric cancer research on behalf of three local hospitals, which include Miami Children's. Your concern emanates from the fact that the director of CIAO reports directly to you in your official capacity. I indicated to you that I did not see a direct conflict under Section 2-11.1(n) of the County Code of Ethics where your wife is a salaried employee of the hospital and neither you nor she has a financial interest in any anticipated decision by the County regarding the hospital. I Nonetheless, due to the sensitivity of your position in the County and the possibility of an appearance of impropriety being created by the County's actions benefiting the hospital, you have agreed to remove yourself from oversight of any issue concerning the Hospital and to have the Director of CIAO report directly to the Mayor.

Sincerely,

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

From: Ferro, Alex (Office of the Mayor)
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 11:55 AM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <CENTORI@miamidade.gov>
Subject: Follow up to our telephone conversation this week

Mr. Centorino:

My wife, Lani Ferro, is a salaried employee of Miami Children's Health System. She is the Director of Governmental Affairs and is registered to lobby Miami-Dade County on behalf of the nonprofit hospital.

The Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution directing the administration to promote Pediatric Cancer Awareness and to assist in fundraising for three local hospitals with pediatric cancer research units which include University of Miami, Jackson Memorial Health and Miami Children's Health System. The Department of Community Information and Outreach was assigned this directive and is working on an awareness campaign and a webpage that will

allow interested individuals to learn more about pediatric cancer and give them the option to contribute to a fund that will be split between the 3 hospitals.

The Department of Community Information and Outreach reports directly to Mike Hernandez, Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez's Director of Communications. Mr. Hernandez reports to me in my position as Chief of Staff and I report directly to Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez. Mr. Hernandez oversees the department and signs off on all the paperwork which is transmitted directly to Mayor Gimenez. I do not sign off on departmental paperwork.

In our telephone call this week you advised me that you didn't see a conflict but we both agreed that in order to remove any appearance of a conflict, I should have Mr. Hernandez report directly to the Mayor or a Deputy Mayor on this initiative. I sent Mr. Hernandez a memo directing him to report directly to Mayor Gimenez on all things related to Miami Children's Health System and this directive. I have attached a copy of the memo to this email for your records. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Alex Ferro
Chief of Staff

Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez

Phone: 305-375-1206

E-mail: aferro@miamidade.gov

111 N.W. First Street, 29th Floor
Miami, Florida 33128

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure. All E-mail sent and received is captured by our servers and kept as a public record.



Memorandum



Date: September 4, 2015

To: Michael Hernandez
Director of Communications, Office of the Mayor

From: Alex Ferro
Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor

Subject: Miami Children's Hospital Health System

This memorandum serves as notice that effective immediately, Michael Hernandez, Director of Communications for the Office of the Mayor, will report directly to Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez on all matters pertaining to Miami Children's Hospital Health System.

Should you need additional information, please contact me directly.

c: Deputy Mayor, Office of the Mayor