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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:37 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** Alex Diaz, Member, Community Council #11 (Jennings Rule) INQ 15-213

INQ 15-213 Diaz

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:25 PM  
**To:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)  
**Subject:** INQ 15-213 Alex Diaz, Member, Community Council #11 (Jennings Rule)

Alex Diaz, a member of Community Council #11 inquired concerning whether he should participate in a meeting requested by a law firm representing a private party on an upcoming zoning issue. Mr. Diaz anticipates that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the pending zoning issue. I informed Mr. Diaz that the County adheres to the original rule in *Jennings v. Dade County*, 589 So. 2d 1337 (Fla. 3d DCA 1991), *review denied*, 598 So. 2d 75 (Fla. 1992), which prohibits public board members sitting in quasi-judicial proceedings from engaging in private discussions regarding a pending issue outside of the public hearing on the matter, and that violations of the rule create a presumption of prejudice that could lead to an overturning of a decision made in the wake of a *Jennings* violation. Consequently, I advised Mr. Diaz not to participate in the requested meeting.

### *Joseph M. Centorino*

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