

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 11:38 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Constance Collins, Board member Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and Miami-Dade County Criminal Justice Council (conflict of interest) INQ 16-206

[INQ 16-206 Collins](#)

From: Turay, Radia (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 11:36 AM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <GDIAZGR@miamidade.gov>; Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE) <RODZAND@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>
Subject: FW: INQ 16-206 Constance Collins, Board member Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and Miami-Dade County Criminal Justice Council (conflict of interest)

From: Turay, Radia (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:10 PM
To: 'president@lotushouse.org' <president@lotushouse.org>; Centorino, Joseph (COE) <CENTORI@miamidade.gov>
Cc: 'anna@lotushouse.org' <anna@lotushouse.org>; 'XEAlban@miamigov.com' <XEAlban@miamigov.com>
Subject: INQ 16-206 Constance Collins, Board member Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and Miami-Dade County Criminal Justice Council (conflict of interest)

Dear Ms. Collins,

You have inquired whether a prohibited conflict of interest exists between your current volunteer advisory board positions with the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and the Miami-Dade County Criminal Justice Council, and your candidacy for the City of Miami Overtown Community Oversight Board (OCOB).

By way of background, OCOB's purpose is to encourage and support housing, job creation, economic and business development, educational opportunities, and historic and cultural preservation, and to provide written recommendations to the City of Miami Commission regarding activities, developments and improvements within, or substantially impacting, the residents of the Overtown Area.

The OCOB is comprised of 11 members, 5 of whom are elected and 6 of whom are appointed. You have submitted your qualification papers and have subscribed to a candidate's oath as required, to be eligible to become a candidate for one of the OCOB's 5 elected board positions. The election for the position you qualified for will be by a public vote of the local Overtown community.

Miami-Dade County Ordinance Sec. 2-11.38 states that "No member of any County board shall become a candidate for elective political office during his or her term. Should any member of a County board qualify as a candidate for elective political office, such qualification shall be deemed a tender of resignation from such board."

As we have already advised you, under Sec. 2-11.38, the fact that you have submitted your qualification papers and subscribed to a candidate's oath in order to be qualified as a candidate for the elected board member position on the OCOB is deemed a tender of resignation from your County Board positions.

You have since submitted a letter to this Commission stating that you are withdrawing your candidacy for the elected position on the OCOB, which resolves the conflict of interest issues that existed between your County board positions and the elected board member position you were seeking on the OCOB.

This opinion is limited to the facts as you presented to the Commission on Ethics regarding conflicts under the County Ethics Code only. Please do not hesitate to contact us, should you have any questions regarding the aforementioned.

Thanks,

RADIA TURAY

Staff Attorney

Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

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