

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:45 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: David Williams, City Councilman, City of Miami Gardens (Voting Conflict) : INQ 16-238

INQ 16-238 Joseph

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 5:29 PM
To: Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 16-238 David Williams, City Councilman, City of Miami Gardens (Voting Conflict)

Dr. Glenn Joseph inquired on behalf of City of Miami Gardens Councilman David Williams, who is a candidate for re-election to the Miami Gardens City Council, regarding whether Councilman Williams's acceptance of a \$250 campaign contribution from an entity that is taking over a building in Miami Gardens to provide a program there, would create a voting conflict of interest under Section 2-11.1(d) of the Ethics Code. If it would, then Councilman Williams would return the contribution. I advised that acceptance of a campaign contribution, by itself and assuming no quid pro quo involving any action to be taken by the Councilman, would not create a prohibited conflict of interest on a later vote taken by the Councilman on a matter affecting the entity that made the contribution. It does not create a prohibited relationship and there is no basis to conclude that the later vote would profit or enhance the official in a way that would violate the ordinance. However, I also advised that any elected official should use his or her judgement in deciding whether to accept or reject a contribution from a person or entity having an interest in business before the official's board, if he or she felt it would create an appearance of impropriety.

Joseph M. Centorino

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