INQ 16-80 Digiacomo

From: Ethics (COE)
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 3:06 PM
To: 'Griselia Digiacomo' <gdigiacomo@townofmedley.com>
Cc: Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <GDIAZGR@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 16-80 Griselia Digiacomo, Councilperson, Town of Medley (Exploitation)

Councilwoman Digiacomo:

You have inquired regarding whether you may use a picture of yourself as Town Councilperson that is on the Town of Medley website in political campaign materials in your upcoming campaign. Generally speaking when something is in the public record, it is available for use by any person for any lawful purpose. Therefore, you may utilize the photograph under these circumstances in your political literature. You should be advised, however, that any use of Town resources in a political campaign could constitute an Exploitation of Official Position under Section 2-11.1(g) of the County Ethics Code. Therefore, if there is any cost or expense attributable to the Town for you to obtain the photograph, then you should compensate the Town accordingly. For your guidance I have attached INQ 15-270, which involved a similar issue to yours. Please advise should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Centorino

Joseph M. Centoríno

Executive Director and General Counsel Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust 19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820 Miami, FL 33130 Tel: (305) 579-2594 Fax: (305) 579-0273 ethics.miamidade.gov



To: Ethics (COE) <<u>ethics@miamidade.gov</u>> Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <<u>CENTORI@miamidade.gov</u>>; <u>griseliadigiacomo@gmail.com</u> Subject: Legal Opinion

To whom it may concern,

I have been a Councilperson for the Town of Medley since 2007. I will be running for re-election on November of 2016 and my question is as follow:

Can I use on my campaign the same picture of me that is on the Town's website on my capacity of Councilperson? In the past I have always taken new pictures when it comes to re-election time, but the picture of me we are using now on our website it is relatively new and I would like to use the same. I thank you in advance for your help on this matter and hope to hear from you as soon as possible.

Thank you,



Griselia Digiacomo, Councilperson Town of Medley 7777 NW 72nd **Ave** Medley, FL 33166 305.887.9541 Ext 105

THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT

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