



For Immediate Release: May 11, 2016  
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### **Ethics Commission addresses outside employment issues**

The Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (COE) today approved a settlement to a complaint (**C 16-13**) against a Miami-Dade firefighter who has admitted to violating outside employment rules. In addition to working as a firefighter at Miami International Airport, Angel Luna accepted a job in 2010 as a Fleet Service Clerk with Envoy Air, Inc., without seeking permission for outside employment each year or filing an annual financial disclosure form, as required by the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. In addition to discipline from the Fire Department, Luna has agreed to pay the Ethics Commission a \$500 fine and accept a Letter of Instruction. He has since received approval to his Request for Outside Employment and has filed Outside Employment Statements for the past three years.

In another employment-related issue, the COE opined that a part-time security guard for Miami-Dade's Internal Services Department may continue working full-time with a County contractor, Security Alliance, LLC, as long as there is no conflict between the two positions. The response to **RQO 16-02** cautions the employee to avoid working at County facilities serviced by his outside employer and reminds him that he is prohibited from using County time or resources or sharing confidential information for Security Alliance, and may not represent the company in any matter before the County. He must also obtain permission for outside employment and file a financial statement every year he works both jobs.

Also today, the COE dismissed a complaint filed against Miami-Dade Transit workers for not answering a series of questions about a public record (**C 16-11**) as Not Legally Sufficient. There is no requirement under Florida's Public Records Law that an official or employee create documents not in existence or furnish answers to specific questions from a citizen.

A complaint alleging illegal lobbying (**C 16-14**) filed against the CEO of Uber was dismissed as Not Legally Sufficient because it exceeded the three-year statute of limitations. Christopher Davis accused Uber executive Travis Kalanick of lobbying Miami-Dade officials between July 26 and October 15, 2012, without registering to do so. Kalanick was certified as a lobbyist on October 25th of that year.

COE Executive Director Joseph Centorino announced that nearly 1,000 posters promoting adherence to the County's recently approved Honor Code have been distributed this past week among Miami-Dade departments and agencies. The message encourages public workers and citizens to report unethical or illegal conduct in local governments to the Ethics Commission. The posters are also being offered to all municipalities that have passed or are considering enacting their own versions of the Honor Code. Mr. Centorino has invited representatives of all Miami-Dade cities who may serve as liaisons to the Ethics Commission to a meeting next Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. to discuss that and other issues in hopes of improving communications between the COE and the entities over which it has jurisdiction.



Have you seen unethical or illegal conduct in your local government? Tell us about it.



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*The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of education, outreach and enforcement, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.*

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