

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 11:47 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Thomas Davis, BCC Director of Policy and Legislation, Office of the Commission Auditor, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners (Conflicting Employment, Prohibited Appearances) INQ 17-178

INQ 17-178 Davis

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Davis, Thomas (OCA) <Thomas.Davis@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>; Sanchez, Gerald (CAO) <Gerald.Sanchez@miamidade.gov>; Kirtley, Eddie (CAO) <Eddie.Kirtley@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 17-178 Thomas Davis, BCC Director of Policy and Legislation, Office of the Commission Auditor, Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners (Conflicting Employment, Prohibited Appearances)

Mr. Davis,

You have inquired concerning whether any conflict is or would be created by your simultaneously holding the positions of BCC Director of Policy and Legislation for the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, and member of the Board of Directors for the Chapman Partnership. The Chapman Partnership is a duly created 501(c)(3) charitable organization, which serves as a major service provider for and receives funding from, the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust in connection with its operation of facilities for the homeless. You serve as a member of its Board of Directors without compensation or other remuneration and have no financial interest in its operations. You have indicated that in your full-time position with the County, you do not generally review any items that have to do with the Chapman Partnership or the Homeless Trust, but that in the unlikely event that such a circumstances should occur, you would have such a matter handled by another staff member.

Inasmuch as the Chapman Partnership is a private charitable venture that performs services consistent with established County goals and purposes, and that you have no financial interest in its operations, I think it is unlikely that you would be facing a conflict of interest issue under the conflict of interest provisions of Section 2-11.1 of the Miami-Dade County Code, provided that you avoid any activity in your full-time position in the County that would have a foreseeable effect on the organization of which you are a director. I think it would be advisable for you to avoid dealing in your County position with any item involving the Chapman Partnership, either directly or indirectly through its connection with the Homeless Trust. You also should refrain from representing the Chapman Partnership before the Homeless Trust or any other County Board to avoid a possible violation of Section 2-11.1 (m) regarding prohibited appearances before County boards or agencies.

In the event that you do confront an issue in the future which causes concern for you regarding a possible conflict of interest, you may consult with us for further advice.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino
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
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From: Davis, Thomas (OCA)
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:56 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>
Subject: RE: Ethics consideration of board membership

I do not have that responsibility. My office reviews various items brought before the BCC for legislative and policy sufficiency. As an added measure I can direct any of those regarding Chapman to the other members of the directorate. That would be a very very rare occurrence.

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:49 PM
To: Davis, Thomas (OCA) <Thomas.Davis@miamidade.gov>
Subject: RE: Ethics consideration of board membership

Mr. Davis:

I will be providing you with an advisory opinion shortly. It is my understanding that Chapman Partnership is a County service provider through the Homeless Trust, and that it is a bona fide charitable 501(c)(3) organization. Do you, in your County position, have anything to do with the oversight of Chapman's contract with the County, or with the Homeless Trust's relationship with Chapman?

Joseph M. Centorino
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From: Davis, Thomas (OCA)
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 12:28 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>
Subject: RE: Ethics consideration of board membership

Good Afternoon,

I'm just following through with this request for review. Do you have any further guidance?

Many thanks,

Tom Davis

From: Davis, Thomas (OCA)
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 11:34 AM
To: 'centori@miamidade.gov' <centori@miamidade.gov>
Subject: Ethics consideration of board membership

Good Morning Mr. Centori,

I'm writing you today for a short ethics view on my board membership at Chapman Partnership. I am a very new county employee of less than one month. I am also a member of the Board of Directors for Chapman Partnership here in Miami. I've been a board member for about 10 years. I would like to remain a board member if possible but want to make sure this is compatible with your office. All my service with them is during non-duty hours and in no way interpreted as an endorsement. I had no ethics issues at my last position at Homestead Air Reserve Base.

In my current position, in a non-partisan manner, I review, summarize and make analysis of resolutions and ordinances pending before the commission and its various committees. I am not the decision maker for approval/non-approval and I am not in the decision cycle for any funding streams that may reach to Chapman.

May I have your guidance in this matter?

With Many Thanks in Advance,

Thomas B. Davis, Esq.

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