

## INQ Summary 2011-2016

### Miami-Dade Code 2-11.1(s)-Lobbying

INQ #	County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 + Precedent, or other as noted	Requester	Holding
11-03	(s)(6)	Paul Hernandez, lobbyist, Lasarte Law Firm	A lobbyist expenditure is reportable only if expended in connection with official or legislative business.
11-94	(s) RQO 06-63	Guy Malone, ShredQuick, potential JMH vendor	Sales rep seeking to do business with JMH must register as a Co. vendor, even though contracting with the rep's company is likely to save JMH money.
11-97	(s) RQO 06-63	Steve Gappa, Mirador Biomedical, potential JMH vendor	Sales rep who was asked at a medical convention to send samples to a JMH physician does not need to register as a lobbyist unless the rep appears at JMH to request a sale.
11-100	(s) RQO 03-62	Elizabeth Hernandez, attorney, Akerman Senterfitt	A private attorney hired by the city of Coral Gables to represent the city's interests before the BCC is exempt from registering as a lobbyist because she is appearing in an official capacity on behalf of a public officer.
11-113	(s) RQO 10-09	Rafael Suarez-Rivas, Assistant City Attorney, City of Miami	City of Miami principals registered as lobbyists do not pay registration fees but must file annual expenditure statements to comport with Co. law.
11-148	(q),(s) + Miami Code § 2-612 RQO 00-12	Larry Spring, former Miami City CFO	A former city employee may not lobby (or do business with) his city for 2 yrs. following city employment and must limit interactions with CRA directors who are also city commissioners.
11-164	(s) RQO 10-09	Carlos A Gimenez, Co. Mayor	Individuals who wish to propose an affordable housing project to the Mayor should register as lobbyists.
11-181	(s) RQO 06-04 RQO 06-34 RQO 06-63 RQO 06-65	Sheryl Pool, Associate, W. L. Gore (medical device provider to JMH)	Sales representatives who sell medical devices to JMH must register as Co. lobbyists.
11-184	(s) Miami Code at 2-651 et seq RQO 10-09	Nicole Ewen, Records System Coordinator, City of Miami	A "principal" of a nonprofit organization is a "lobbyist" who must register as a lobbyist and file expenditure reports but is exempt from paying the lobbyist registration fee.
12-30	(s) RQO 10-13	Felix Lasarte, Lobbyist, Miami-Dade County	Individuals who wish to speak on their own behalf before the BCC and are not compensated for their appearance are not required to register as lobbyists.
12-39	(s) RQO 08-22	Bob Welsh, South Miami City Commissioner	A recently elected City Commissioner may not speak with a neighbor about a proposed city swimming pool unless the neighbor registers as a lobbyist. The neighbor is attempting to influence the city to build the pool & to hire her as a swimming coach.
12-47	(s) RQO 06-04 RQO 06-63 RQO 06-65	Sheryl Pool, on behalf of lobbyists for Gore medical devices	Sales reps at JMH must register as lobbyists and comport with all other lobbyist requirements.

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12-66	(s) RQO 10-13	Neil Kalin, District Manager, Special District Services, Inc.	A private consultant to Community Development Districts (CDDs) who does not persuade the County on the merits or benefits of a particular CDD petition but merely attends meetings as a source of information is not a lobbyist.
12-75	(s) RQO 06-04	Carlos Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County	Executives from Cisco Systems are not lobbying when they meet with the Mayor for a “meet & greet” to discuss their activities in foreign cities as long as no similar activities are foreseeably pending in the County.
12-84	(s) RQO 08-22	Derrick Waller, Potential County Lobbyist	A grassroots organization that does not meet with County officers and staff but encourages citizens to contact their elected officials to support certain issues
12-122	(s) RQO 08-28	Murray Greenberg, Esq., County lobbyist	A private attorney who meets with members of the County Attorney’s Office to discuss, on behalf of a client, changes to the County Charter must register as a lobbyist.
12-129	(q), (s)(1)(b) RQO 11-26	Peter S. Tell, Esq., former Assistant County Attorney	A former Assistant County Attorney may represent private-entity clients in quasi-judicial hearings, but he may not lobby for 2 years following his retirement. No 2-year restriction applies to lobbying on behalf of governmental entities.
12-132	(s) RQO 06-34 and Miami Beach Code at § 2-485.3	Rafael Andrade, Esq., Lobbyist Miami Beach	The prohibition on lobbyist contingency fees does not restrain a lobbyist from receiving investment income and sales income related to a company that he represents as a lobbyist as long as the lobbyist has a separate agreement that defines the amount of compensation he will receive as a lobbyist.
12-152	(s) RQO 10-13	Richard Perez, Esq., Lobbyist, Holland & Knight	An attorney who challenges the disadvantaged business certification of a bidder is not a lobbyist because decertification is not reviewed by the BCC or any other County board, agency or committee.
12-166	(s)(5) RQO 08-22	Jose Villalobos, County lobbyist	Members of a technical team making a presentation to the County need not register as lobbyists if they do not otherwise lobby, but they must be listed on an affidavit filed with the Clerk of the Board.
12-183	(s)(4) RQO 04-07	Eileen Ball Mehta, Board Member, nonprofit organization	A board member of a nonprofit organization who registers as a lobbyist to represent the nonprofit entity on issues beyond the mere request for a grant must take the County ethics training course for lobbyists and pay the \$100 fee for the training course
12-199	(s)(7) RQO 06-34	Steve Alexander, Lobbyist, Miami-Dade County	Sales representatives who fall within the definition of “lobbyist” do not violate the lobbyist contingency fee ban when they receive commissions for sales.
12-230	(s)(7) RQO 06-34	Teresa Dozier, Sales Rep, Advanced Bionics	The County’s ban on contingency fees for lobbying does not apply to medical device sales representatives whose customary compensation includes commissions based on sales.
12-231	(s)(7) RQO 06-34	Dan Reiss, Sales Manager, Business Development, NTELX	The County’s ban on contingency fees for lobbying does not apply to IT sales representatives whose customary compensation includes commissions based on sales.
13-84	(s) RQO 08-22	Barry Miller, Architect, Savino & Miller Design Studio	The lobbyist ordinance applies to architects who attempt to influence official County decisions outside of quasi-judicial proceedings.
13-166	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Fred Menachem, FJM Consulting Group, County lobbyist	A person who registers as a County lobbyist must take the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering, even if he has not yet lobbied in the County.

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13-167	(s)(2)(d) & (s)(4) RQO 04-07	Constance Collins, Director, Lotus House, a 501(c)(3)	A person who lobbies the County as an unpaid volunteer on behalf of a nonprofit organization must register to lobby but is not required to pay the lobbyist registration fee. Notwithstanding this exemption, the person must take the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering and pay the \$100 fee for the course.
13-171	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Ira Smelkinson, Skadde, Arps, Slate et al, County Lobbyist	A lobbyists who registers with the County but withdraws before appearing before the County is not required to take the lobbyist ethics course.
13-174	(s)(1)(b) & (s)(2) RQO 04-07	Thomas Pepe, City Attorney, City of South Miami	A city with a less stringent lobbyist ordinance than the County's must follow the County's lobbyist ordinance that requires a person to register as a lobbyist if he represents an individual who is seeking to encourage the passage or denial of an application, even if the representative is not being compensated in cash or in kind.
13-180	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	P. Scott Cunningham, Director, University of Wynwood, a nonprofit organization	A lobbyists who represents a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization is not exempt from taking ethics training or paying the \$100 fee for the course.
13-189	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Eric Bernstein, M-D Former Lobbyist for Gilead Sciences	A former employee of Gilead Sciences was not required to complete the lobbyist ethics course because he had severed employment with Gilead Sciences and withdrew as a lobbyist.
13-192	(s) RQO 04-33	Oriol Haage, Training & Certification Officer, M-D Dept. of Regulatory & Economic Resources	Private plans expeditors may be required to register as lobbyists when communicating with building inspectors or plans examiners if they are attempting to influence an official decision.
13-199	(s)(1)(b) RQO 11-26	Steven R. Davies, Retired Supervisor, Real Estate Division, Property Appraiser's Office	Immediately following his retirement, a County employee may represent taxpayers at publicly noticed quasi-judicial proceedings such as those conducted before the Miami-Dade Value Adjustment Board (VAB), but for 2 years following his retirement, he may not lobby the County, <i>i.e.</i> , make appearances in the County that are not quasi-judicial and intended to influence an official decision.
13-229	(s) RQO 04-33	Andrew O'Keefe, Eastern Regional Sales Manager, Transonic Systems, Inc.	The efforts of a vendor at JMH to extend the use of its equipment to a department not defined in its current contract is considered lobbying because the vendor is seeking to modify a current contract.
13-248	(s) RQO 04-33	Gerald Sanchez, Assistant County Attorney	An outside advocate/negotiator hired by a County labor union is required to register as a lobbyist when appearing before the County representing the union.
13-249	(s)(7) RQO 06-34	Jorge Machado, Sales Representative, Skeletal Dynamics, LLC	Traditional sales commissions are not considered contingency or success fees that are banned in the County lobbyist ordinance, and consequently, sales reps employed by a medical device company who call on Jackson Health Services may be compensated with sales commissions without violating the County Ethics Code.
13-270	(s) RQO 04-33	Fernando V. Ponassi, Manager, Contracts Administration, M-D Internal Services Dept.	Persons appearing on a video during an oral presentation as part of a County procurement process and who are attempting to influence an official decision are required to register as lobbyists.
13-292	(s)	Pedro Munilla, Principal, MCM	Individuals accompanying registered lobbyists meeting with the Mayor are not lobbying where they are potential subcontractors who will not be participating in the presentation but will be available to take questions regarding matters within their subject matter expertise.

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13-304	(s)(1)(b) RQO 04-07	Miguel De Grandy, Attorney, Holland & Knight	Principals who provide specialized knowledge at a <i>public meeting</i> to assist the decision-makers and are not addressing the merits of any pending procurement are expert witnesses and not lobbyists under an exception in the lobbying section of the Ethics Code. However, if the principal is providing specialized knowledge at a <i>non-public</i> meeting, then the activity would constitute lobbying and registration would be required.
13-315	(e),(s)  <i>directed to Fla. Stat 112.3148 (5)(a)</i>	Christopher L. Walker Corporate Counsel, Jacobs, Inc.	Unsolicited gifts of payment of lunches by a County vendor to a County employee which are not offered in exchange for official action are not prohibited under the code. The recipient must disclose the gift of the lunches if they singly or cumulatively exceed \$100.00. However, the Ethics Commission discourages such gifts due to the appearance of impropriety. Furthermore, discussion of matters at lunch related to any prospective contract with the County constitutes lobbying and all requirements of the lobbying ordinance must be met. State law bars lobbyists who in the preceding 12 months engaged in lobbying activities in the County from giving gifts to County personnel in excess of \$100.
14-22	(s)	Juan C. Castro, Jc2Bh Solutions LLC.	Pharmaceutical and medical device sales reps at JMH must register as lobbyists and comport with all other lobbyist requirements.
14-30	(n),(s) RQO 06-64	Jean Olin, Private Attorney representing the City of Miami Beach	Under Section (n) of the Ethics Code, a member of a board is prohibited from lobbying that board on a matter involving that member's financial interest. However, a board member's mere passive submission of an application to the board, without some affirmative act, e.g., a letter, conversation, email, appearance, or other action intended to influence the ultimate decision, would not constitute lobbying under Section (s) of the Ethics Code.
14-51	(s)(6)(a) <i>directed to</i>	Joseph Bober, Attorney	A lobbyist registered in Miami Beach inquired about the expenditure reporting requirements under the County Ethics Code as compared to the Miami Beach lobbying ordinance. The County provides written guidelines to lobbyists for its ordinance requirements. The City of Miami Beach does not. The City ordinance concerning the reporting of expenditures is more sweeping, in that all lobbyist expenditures are required to be reported rather than only expenditures in excess of \$25. However, in regard to the reporting of expenditure items, the City of Miami Beach Ordinance, Section 2-485, has the identical list of included expenditures as does Section 2-11.1(s)(6)(a): food and beverage, entertainment, research, communications, media advertising, publications, travel, lodging and special events. Therefore, the criteria for reporting such expenditures under the City ordinance will be the same as under the County ordinance.
14-53	(s) RQO 06-34	Gerald Sanchez, Assist. County Attorney	A representative of County consumers of water and sewer services from the County is considered a lobbyist under the Ethics Code where he is paid to influence actions of the County's Water and Sewer Department (WASD) in connection with billing disputes over bills generated by WASD. These disputes will foreseeably be heard by a County board. Consequently, he must register as a lobbyist with the County and must take the required lobbyist ethics course.

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14-55	(s)(1)(b) RQO 04-07	Murray Greenberg, Attorney, Murray, Schachter, Greenberg P.A.	An attorney's actions do not constitute lobbying when he calls a City Attorney to discuss his client's potential claim on a pending bid solicitation with the city and where the City Attorney does not have any decision-making authority over the solicitation contract.
14-73	(s)(3)(b)	Ellen Book, Co-Founder, Community Advocates for Libraries in Miami (CALM)	County employees appearing as individuals representing only themselves may advocate their positions before County agencies, and need not register as lobbyists under Ethics Code Section(s)(3)(b). However, Section (m)(2) would prohibit county employees from engaging in any discussions with officials, directors or staff of the county on behalf of a third party, even if they did register as lobbyists. Therefore, it would be important in any contact with the County that county employees not engage in any "lobbying" type activity as a representative, paid or unpaid, of another person or entity, and to be careful to state that they are representing only themselves. Non-county employees who hold official positions with CALM, a non-profit entity, as officers or directors and appear without special compensation or reimbursement before the County as representatives of and on behalf of CALM should register as lobbyists, but are not required to pay registration fees under Section (s)(4).
14-85	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Jason Hunter Korn, Attorney, Cohen & Grigsby	The completion of the lobbyist ethics course within 60 days of initial registration as a lobbyist satisfies any ongoing requirement by the county for lobbyist ethics training in connection with any re-registration within two years from the initial training.
14-110	(s)(1)(b), RQO 14-01	Jorge Luis Lopez, Attorney/Lobbyist	A blogger, who receives payment from a private entity for the purpose of influencing elected public officials through direct emails to those officials, would be engaged in lobbying.
14-116	(s)(7) RQO 05-34	James McDonald, P.A., McLuskey & McDonald, P.A.	The County Ethics' Code ban on contingency fee arrangements prohibits an attorney from receiving a percentage of the value of the contract awarded to his client when the attorney's payment is based on whether the RFP is awarded.
14-126	(s)(1)(b) RQO 04-07	Mike Hernandez, Director of Communications, Miami-Dade County Mayor's Office	Discussion at group meetings with the County Mayor that is merely informational in order to air out procedural differences, disagreements, grievances or misunderstandings concerning past actions or decisions, is not lobbying under the County Ethics Code and the meeting may include non-registered lobbyists. However, in any situation where a discussion is likely to veer into an attempt to influence the Mayor's decision-making on a future decision or on reconsideration of a prior decision, then such discussion would require anyone involved to be a registered lobbyist.
14-127	(s) RQO 04-07	David J. Coviello, Partner, Shutts & Bowen, LLP.	Principals are required to register as lobbyists whenever they engage in lobbying.
14-199	(s)(3)(b) RQO 10-13	Dan Gelber, Attorney, Gelber Schachter & Greenberg, P.A.	Attorneys who will be supporting the placing of a referendum issue on the ballot for the construction of a new county courthouse are not lobbying pursuant to Sec. 2-11(s)(3)(b) of the Ethics Code, as long as the attorneys are speaking for themselves and expressing their own viewpoints on this matter, and are not retained by another person or entity to speak on their behalf.

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14-203	(s),(q) RQO 12-09 INQ 13-192.	Nahum Fernandez, Traffic Control Standards and Specifications Coordinator County, Dept. of Public Works and Waste Management (PWWM)	Sales representatives of manufacturers of traffic control products whose products must be certified by the County's PWWM Traffic Signals and Signs Division (TSS) in order to be included in TSS's Qualified Products List (TSSQPL) are not required to register as lobbyists when they communicate with PWWM staff regarding the certification and testing of their products for inclusion in the TSSQP. Pursuant to Sec. 2-11.1(s), individuals who are advocating for decisions that can be made at the sole discretion of an individual County employee (i.e., decisions that are not determined by a voting body) are not lobbying.
14-226	(s) RQO 12-09 INQ 13-192	Ric Katz, Executive Vice President, Balsera Communications	Pursuant to Sec. 2-11.1(s), individuals who are advocating for decisions that can be made at the sole discretion of an individual County employee (i.e., decisions that are not determined by a voting body) are not lobbying.
14-231	(s)(1)(b) RQO 04-33 RQO 04-40	Anthony Cotarelo, Deputy Director, County Public Works & Waste Management Dept. (PWWM)	Inquiries to PWWM employees that involve seeking general information about possible projects and ministerial functions such as scheduling and deadlines are not considered lobbying as long as the exchange does not include any attempt to influence an action, decision or recommendation that may ultimately go before the County Commission or another County board.
14-243	(s)(3)(a)	Kristina Raatama, General Counsel, Florida International University	Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(a) of the County Ethics Code , any officers, employees or appointees of FIU, a state public university, would fall under the public officer exemption of the County's lobbying ordinance and would not be required to register as County lobbyists or attend lobbyist training.
14-253	(s), (2)(a), (2)(d),(7)  RQO 06-63 RQO 10-28	Martin Lipman, Vice President and General Counsel Instrumentation Laboratory	Pursuant to previous opinions of the Ethics Commission, vendors who appear before Jackson Health Systems (JHS) staff to seek approval for clinical trials or sale of products and services must register as lobbyists and complete the lobbyist ethics course. However, the Commission has also ruled that sales commission payments received by sales representatives of JHS vendors are not prohibited by the ban on lobbyist contingency fees as provided in Section 2-11.1 of the Ethics Code.
14-260	(s)(4) RQO 04-07 RQO 13-01	Tim Gomez, Floridian Partners	Unpaid representatives of not-for-profit community-based organizations, who only are seeking grant funding and not lobbying on other matters at the same time, are not required to register as lobbyists. However, persons who lobby the County on matters other than grant funding as unpaid volunteers on behalf of a nonprofit organization must register as lobbyists; are not required to pay the lobbyist registration fee; must take the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering; and pay the \$100 fee for the course.
14-274	(s)(3)(b)	Pablo Acosta, Attorney, Law Offices of Pablo Acosta, P.A.	Attorneys that are not paid or reimbursed by any party and who appear before County officials to speak as private citizens regarding the deterioration of the Miami Dade Courthouse are not required to register as lobbyists. Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(b) of the County Ethics Code exempts from lobbyist registration persons appearing in their individual capacity for the purpose of self-representation without compensation or reimbursement.

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15-04	(s)(1)(b)  plain meaning	Edward Shohat, Attorney for former Town of Miami Lakes Mayor Michael Pizzi	An attorney appearing on behalf of the former Mayor of the Town of Miami Lakes to speak before the Town Council to persuade the Council not to defend a pending lawsuit filed by the former Mayor, which seeks to compel the Town to reinstate the former Mayor is required to register as a lobbyist and take the lobbyist ethics course.
15-18	(s)(1)(b)  directed to Miami-Dade County Code § 2-11.1.2	Lucia Dougherty, Attorney, Greenberg Traurig	A law firm that represents the County on bond issues is engaged in legal work, not lobbying. The law firm's representation of an appeal of an historic designation, if it involves only representation of a client at a quasi-judicial hearing, is exempt from the lobbyist ordinance. Therefore, there is no necessity for the firm to apply for a lobbyist waiver from the County, though it should consult with the County Attorney regarding a legal conflict.
15-21	(s)  RQO 11-26	Miguel De Grandy, Partner/Lobbyist, Holland & Knight	A private attorney who contacts the City of Miami to present his client's claim for reimbursement of all or a portion of an application fee and who acts as the client's attorney in connection with the claim is engaged in the practice of law and thus is not required to register as a lobbyist under Section (s) of the Ethics Code.
15-30	(s)(3)(b), (s)(2)(d)  RQO 10-09	Jose Diaz, Lobbyist, Professional Wrecker Operators of Florida	A Principal who lobbies on behalf of his company must register as a lobbyist, but is not required to pay registration fees and must also complete the lobbyist ethics training and pay training fee.
15-32	(s)(3)(b) (s)(2)(d)  RQO 10-09 RQO 11-28	Javier Vasquez, Esq., Berger Singerman LLP	A Principal who lobbies on behalf of his company must register as a lobbyist, but is not required to pay registration fees and must also complete the lobbyist ethics training and pay training fee.
15-43	(s)  RQO 06-63 RQO 10-28	Andrea Jamel, Marketing & Business Relationship Manager, DMS Disaster Consultants	A private firm that conducts business as a disaster management consultant to PHT/JHS hospitals in Miami-Dade County is not required to complete lobbyist registration. However, in the future, if the private firm markets its services or negotiates contract terms with PHT/JHS, registration as a lobbyist is required.
15-47	(s)  plain meaning	Chad Friedman, Attorney, Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman	Where nothing is pending before the municipality; no proposal has been formalized, written, or submitted; and there has not been a decision as to whether a proposal will even be submitted, a private attorney who meets with municipal officials is not required to register as a lobbyist pursuant to Section (s) of the County Ethics Code because the meeting would be considered a "meet and greet" preliminary meeting.
15-48	(s)	Evelyn Campos, Director, Professional Compliance Division, Aviation Dept. (MIA)	A proposed MIA Aviation Departmental Standard Operating Procedure (DSOP) for lobbyists complies with the County Ethics Code as long as it includes the lobbyist registration, training, and reporting requirements enumerated in Section 2-11.1(s), and COE opinions interpreting that section.
15-91	(s)  RQO 06-04	Evelyn Campos, Director, Professional Compliance Division of Miami-Dade Aviation Department	Pursuant to section 2-11.1(s) of the Ethics Code, a sales representative at the Miami-Dade Aviation Department would not be considered a lobbyist if he is merely servicing an existing contract or providing technical information about a product, without attempting to influence a decision that would ultimately go to a County board or committee.

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15-93	(s)  plain meaning	Louis A. Noriega, Automated Port Solutions, former CIO, Port of Miami	Pursuant to section 2-11.1(s) of the Ethics Code, a former County employee who wishes to schedule meetings with County staff to discuss the services of his private company would not be considered a lobbyist only if he is merely servicing an existing contract or providing technical information about a product, without attempting to influence a decision that would ultimately go to a County board or committee. Efforts to influence official action which foreseeably will be reviewed by the County Commission or a County board or committee would require registration as a lobbyist.
15-96	(s) (1)(b), (2), (3)(b)  plain meaning	Felix Lasarte, Lobbyist, Lasarte Law Firm	Under the County Ethics Code, a principal who engages in lobbying must register as a lobbyist and take the ethics course, but he is exempted from paying the registration fee. However, pursuant to an exemption in the lobbyist ordinance at Section 2-11.1(1)(b), an individual who only attends a meeting to answer technical questions or provide information requested by County personnel is not required to register as a lobbyist.
15-103	(s)(3)(b)  plain meaning	Siuby Fleites, Sr. Legal Secretary, Holland & Knight	A principal who is an applicant for a change in a Comprehensive Development Master plan who engages in lobbying is required to register and take the lobbyist course, but is exempt from the registration fee.
15-104	(s)(3)(a)  plain meaning	Eve Boutsis, Deputy City Attorney, City of Miami Beach	Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(a) of the County Ethics Code, any municipal officers, employees or appointees who appear in their official capacity before a city board are exempt from the lobbyist registration requirements.
15-120	(q), (s)  RQO 12-09	Craig Collier, former Assistant County Attorney/ President of LaGorce/Pine-tree Dr. Association	The County Ethics Code two-year rule does not prohibit a retired Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney from engaging in the unpaid representation of a neighborhood association because the former employee's activity is exempt from the lobbying requirements under Section 2-11.1(s) of the County's Ethics Code.
15-129	(s)  RQO 06-65	James Benson, Staff Counsel, Verizon Wireless	Sales representatives seeking to influence a decision that would ultimately go to the Board of County Commissioners or a County board or committee are required to register as lobbyists and take the lobbyist ethics course.
15-132	(s)(2)(d)  RQO 04-07	Jennifer Zona, Compliance Associate, State & Federal Comm's, Inc./Lobbyist	The completion of the lobbyist ethics training course satisfies any ongoing requirement by the County for lobbyist ethics training in connection with any re-registration within two years from the initial training.
15-133	(s)(1)(b)  directed to City of Miami Code § 2-653	Keith Kulynych, Architect, Revuelta Architectural International P.A.	An architect appearing before a City of Miami quasi-judicial board is required to register as a lobbyist and take the lobbyist ethics training course unless his sole purpose for the appearance is to provide factual information requested by the board members, and not to influence a decision of the board.
15-136	(s)(6)(a)	Robert Meyers, Attorney, Weiss Serota Helfman	A lobbyist's transportation expenditures are reportable under sec. 2-11.1 (s)(6)(a) of the County Ethics Code.



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15-139	(s) RQO 14-01	Brian Andrews, Brian Andrews USA, LLC d/b/a The News Director	A media relations firm does not engage in lobbying when it is hired by a client that has pending matters with the County, where it communicates directly to County Commissioners on events unrelated to pending County issues, and their staff without any intent to influence any action or decision by the board.
15-140	(q)(2), (s) RQO 03-62 RQO 12-09	Miriam Ramos, Deputy City Attorney, City of Coral Gables	The County Ethics Code two-year rule does not prohibit a former Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney from working as a contracted outside counsel for a municipality because the two-year rule prohibition on lobbying does not apply to County employees representing governmental entities.
15-146	(s) RQO 06-04	Karen Estis, Compliance Counsel, DMS Disaster Planning & Recovery	A private, for-profit disaster recovery company that receives federal, state and local funds, and which seeks to do business with Jackson Health Systems (JHS) must register as a lobbyist and comport with all lobbyist requirements.
15-156	(s)(7) RQO 06-34 RQO 10-28	Michael Garcia, Balsera Communications	Traditional sales commissions are not considered contingency or success fees that are banned in the County lobbyist ordinance, and, consequently, salespersons may be compensated by commission without violating the County Ethics Code.
15-160	(s)(3)(b), (s)(2)(d)	Andrea Jamel, DMS Recovery	Under the County Ethics Code, a principal who engages in lobbying on behalf of his own firm, must register as a lobbyist, take the ethics course and pay the ethics course training fee, but he is exempted from paying the registration fee.
15-161	(s)(3)(b), (s)(2)(d)	Kennedy Rosario, Manager, Moonstone LLC	Under the County Ethics Code, a principal who engages in lobbying on behalf of his own firm, must register as a lobbyist, take the ethics course and pay the ethics course training fee, but he is exempted from paying the registration fee.
15-162	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Tyler Kleinman, Nielsen Merksamer	Completing the lobbyist ethics course within 60 days of initial registration as a lobbyist satisfies any ongoing requirement by the County for lobbyist ethics training in connection with any re-registration within two years from the initial training.
15-167	(s)(3)(b), (s)(2)(d)	Helen Correa, Office Manager, Entic USA	Under the County Ethics Code, a principal who engages in lobbying for his own firm must register as a lobbyist, take the ethics course and pay the ethics course training fee, but he is exempted from paying the registration fee.
15-179	(s)(7) RQO 06-34	Chip Iglesias, Ballard Partners	Traditional sales commissions are not considered contingency or success fees banned by the County lobbyist ordinance, and consequently, sales representatives may be compensated with sales commissions without violating the County Ethics Code.
15-185	(s)(1)(b) directed to City of Miami Code § 6-253 RQO 12-177	Jason Hagopian, Architect, TSAO Design	Pursuant to Sec. 6-253 of the City of Miami Code, an architect hired to represent the County before the City of Miami on a zoning change application would fall under the "government employee" exemption of Miami's lobbying ordinance and would not be required to register as a city lobbyist or attend lobbyist training.

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15-187	(s) RQO 06-63 RQO 06-65 RQO 10-28	Everett Wilson, Partner, Akerman LLP on behalf of JIPA	Pursuant to section 2-11.1(s) of the Ethics Code, the representative of a private network provider who appears before JHS/PHT, at JHS/PHT's request, to provide information about his client's services would not be considered a lobbyist. However, if the meeting goes beyond an informational meeting and the discussion would include an attempt to influence an action, decision or recommendation by JHS/PHT staff, registration as a lobbyist would be required.
15-190	(s) RQO 10-09	Janine Pratt, Director, KPMG	Under the lobbyist ordinance of the County Ethics Code, a person designated by a corporation as a Principal, and who is responsible for lobbying on behalf of his or her organization, is required to register as a lobbyist and take the ethics course but is exempt from the registration fee.
15-194	(s)(1)(b) RQO 06-64	Thomas F. Pepe, City Attorney, City of South Miami	Where nothing is pending before the municipality; no proposal has been formalized, written or submitted; and there has been no decision as to whether a decision will be made, a private property owner who meets with municipal officials at their request is not required to register as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 2-11.1(s) of the County Ethics Code because the meeting would be considered a "meet and greet" preliminary meeting.
15-209	(s)	Brian Andrews, Managing Partner, Brian Andrews USA, LLC d/b/a The News Director	A media relations firm does not engage in lobbying when it advertises a training class to County employees unrelated to pending County issues.
15-210	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Chad Friedman, Weiss Serota Helfman	The Ethics Commission has previously opined that, Section 2-11.1(s)(2)(d), permits lobbyists whose registration has lapsed for a period of less than two years and who took the original ethics course following their initial registration, to take the refresher course within 60 days of re-registering. However, if the lapse in lobbyist registration is longer than two years, then the lobbyist would have to re-take the initial four-hour lobbyist course within 60 days of re-registering.
15-211	(s) RQO 10-28	Carolyn Perkins, Executive Secretary, Miami-Dade County Public Works & Management Dept. (PWWM)	A sales manager making a presentation to County personnel in an attempt to influence an official purchasing decision is required to register as a lobbyist.
15-217	(s)(1)(b) directed to MRO Software v. Miami-Dade County, 895 So.2d 1086 (2004) ("MRO")	Keith Knowles, Senior County Commission Clerk, Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Board	An attorney hired to represent a County vendor at a bid protest proceeding is required to register as a lobbyist. While Section §2-11.1(s)(1)(b) of the County Ethics Code exempts from lobbyist registration those that represent clients at quasi-judicial hearings where ex parte communications are prohibited, the Third District Court of Appeal held in MRO that bid protest proceedings are not quasi-judicial proceedings.

INQ #	County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 + Precedent, or other as noted	Requester	Holding
15-218	(s)(4) RQO 04-07	Samantha Padgett, General Counsel, Florida Retail Association	A person who lobbies the County on behalf of a nonprofit trade organization on matters other than grant funding, must register to lobby but is not required to pay the lobbyist registration fee. Notwithstanding this exemption, the person must take the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering and pay the \$100 fee for the course.
15-219	(s) RQO 06-65	Linda Sykes, Salesperson, Office Depot	Sales representatives seeking to influence a decision that would ultimately go to the City of Homestead City Council or a city board or committee are required to register as lobbyists and take the lobbyist ethics course.
15-220	(q), (s)(1)(b) RQO 11-26	Darcee Siegel, former City Attorney, City of North Miami Beach	Under Section 2-11.1(s) of the County Ethics Code, a former City of North Miami attorney may represent a City official at publicly-noticed quasi-judicial proceedings such as those conducted before the Miami-Dade County Ethics Commission and is exempt from County lobbying registration requirements.
15-221	(s)(2)(d) RQO 04-07	Mireya Carballosa, Florida Partners, LLC	The Ethics Commission has previously opined that, Section 2-11.1(s)(2)(d) permits lobbyists whose registration has lapsed for a period of less than two years and who took the original ethics course following their initial registration, to take the refresher course within 60 days of re-registering.
15-223	(s)(1)(b), (s)(5) RQO 08-22	Miguel De Grandy, Holland & Knight	In accordance with Section 2-11.1(s)(5), members of a proposer team appearing “for an oral presentation before a County certification, evaluation, selection, technical review or similar committee” need not register as lobbyists if they do not otherwise lobby, but they must be listed on an affidavit filed with the Clerk of the Board.
15-224	(s)(5) RQO 08-22	Emily Escrader, Office Manager, Air Products, Inc.	Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(s)(5) of the County Ethics Code, members of a technical team appearing “for an oral presentation before a County certification, evaluation, selection, technical review or similar committee” need not register as lobbyists if they do not otherwise lobby, but they must be listed on an affidavit filed with the Clerk of the Board.
15-230	(s)	Kara Lenglade, Senior Compliance Officer, Loop Capital	The Ethics Commission has previously opined that, Section 2-11.1(s)(2)(d) permits lobbyists whose registration has lapsed for a period of less than two years and who took the original ethics course following their initial registration, to take the refresher course within 60 days of re-registering.
15-231	(s)(1)(b), (q), (b)(10), (m)(2) directed to City of Miami Code §§ 2-612 and 2-653	Victoria Mendez, City Attorney, City of Miami	Pursuant to Section 2-612 of the City of Miami Code, a former city board member may transact business with the city but may not lobby or attempt to influence any official decision or official action before his or her city board for a period of two years following his or her separation from the city board.
15-236	(s)(1)(b) directed to City of Opa-Locka Code § 2-18(b) RQO 06-65 RQO 10-28	Steve Shiver, City Manager, City of Opa-Locka	Under the County Ethics Code and the Opa-Locka Lobbying ordinance, meetings or communications between vendors and city employees in the course of servicing existing contracts are not considered lobbying. However, any meetings or communications intended to influence the award of a contract or the modification of an existing contract are considered lobbying, requiring compliance with the lobbying requirements set out in the County Ethics Code.

INQ #	County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 + Precedent, or other as noted	Requester	Holding
15-237	(s)(3)(b) RQO 10-09	Joseph Geller, Esq.	Under the County Ethics Code, a principal who lobbies on behalf of his organization is required to register as a lobbyist and take the ethics course but is exempt from the registration fee.
15-250	(s)(5)	Ryce Stallings, Architect, Stantec	Pursuant to § 2-11.1(s)(5) of the County Ethics Code, persons appearing only as part of an oral presentation team before a County selection or evaluation committee are not required to register as lobbyists but must be listed on an affidavit filed with the Clerk of the Board at the time the proposal is submitted.
15-256	(q), (s) RQO 12-09 RQO 06-65 RQO 06-63	Chip Iglesias, Partner, Miami-Ballard Partners	The County's two-year rule (prohibiting former County employees from lobbying the County for two years after their separation from the County) includes PHT employees currently employed as sales representatives for companies that sell to the PHT/JHS because the Ethics Commission has included the activities of PHT sales representatives under the definition of lobbying.
15-268	(s) RQO 06-65 RQO 10-28	Cathy Uresti, Anchor Floor and Supply Co	Pursuant to § 2-11.1(s) of the Ethics Code, a vendor who appears at JHS/PHT's request, to complete the sale of a product that has been ordered by JHS, would not be considered a lobbyist.
15-289	(s)(2)(d) directed to City of Miami Code § 2-654(a) RQO 04-07	Tom Robertson, Esq., Lobbyist	Pursuant to Sec. 2-654(a) of the City of Miami Code, the completion of the lobbyist ethics training course satisfies any ongoing requirement by the city for lobbyist ethics training in connection with any re-registration within one year from the initial training.
16-26	(s)(4) RQO 04-07	Steve Zarzecki, Lobbyist	A person who lobbies the County on behalf of a nonprofit community-based organization must register to lobby but is not required to pay the lobbyist registration fee. Notwithstanding this exemption, the person must take the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering and pay the \$100 fee for the course. (JC)
16-32	(s) RQO 08-22	Robert Feldman, Partner, RSM US LLP, Lobbyist	Members of a technical team attending a presentation before the County, who will be available to take questions regarding matters within their subject matter expertise, need not register as lobbyists if they do not otherwise lobby, but they must be listed on an affidavit filed with the Clerk of the Board. (JC)
16-50	(s)(3)(a) RQO 03-62	Jose Arrojo, Chief Assistant, Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office	Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(a) of the County Ethics Code, which exempts a public officer, employee, or appointee, who appears in his official capacity before the BCC from the lobbyist registration requirements, would permit an Assistant State Attorney to make a presentation to the board regarding issues of concern to the State Attorney without registering as a lobbyist. (JC)
16-68	(s) 2-11.1(10) directed to Sunshine Law at Fla. Stat. § 286.011	Beth Spiegel, Council woman, North Miami Beach	A Councilmember may choose to attend a one-on-one meeting with a lobbyist and his client, arranged by the City Manager, on a proposal to build a charter school on the site of the City library (which does not involve a particular RFP, RFQ, or bid), provided the lobbyist is properly registered to lobby pursuant to 2-11.1(s) and the meetings are not used to indirectly transmit communications between Councilmembers. (JC)

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16-86	(s)(4), (d)	Leah Aaronson, Esq., Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP	A person who lobbies the County on behalf of a nonprofit community-based organization, on matters other than grant funding, whether paid or unpaid, must register to lobby but is not required to pay the lobbyist registration fee. However he or she is required to complete the lobbyist ethics training course within 60 days of registering and pay the \$100 fee for the course. (JC)
16-94	(s)(10)  directed to City of Miami Code § 654(e)	Xavier Alban, Assistant City Attorney, City of Miami	City of Miami employees may check the list of registered lobbyists provided by the City Clerk of the City of Miami to verify that a lobbyist has met the City's lobbyist requirements before permitting the lobbyist to lobby him or her. However, in the event that the name of the individual involved in the lobbyist activities does not appear on the list provided by the City Clerk, the employees should make a separate inquiry to the City Clerk to determine the lobbyist's registration status before permitting the lobbyist to lobby them. (JC)
16-109	(q), (s), (h)  RQO 12-09 RQO 11-24 RQO 08-28	Charles L. Sutton, former employee, Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASD)	Under the two-year rule, the County Ethics Code would not prohibit a former employee from working for a County vendor or becoming a County vendor himself. However, the employee would be prohibited from lobbying (i.e., influencing any Co. decision-makers) for the contract either on behalf of an employer or himself for two years after his County employment. (MP)
16-146	(a), (b)(5),(q), (s)(1)(b)  RQO 11-26 RQO 11-04 INQ 08-81	Michael Pizzi, former Assistant City Attorney, City of Opa-Locka	Former Assistant City Attorney for the City of Opa-Locka is covered by the two year rule from lobbying any City officer, departmental personnel or employee in connection with any judicial or other proceeding, contract, claim controversy, charge, accusation, arrest or other particular subject matter" in which the City of Opa-Locka or one of its agencies or instrumentalities is a party or has any interest whatever, whether direct or indirect.
16-151	(h), (q), (s) RQO 04-33 RQO 04-34 RQO 08-18 RQO 08- 28 RQO 11-24 RQO 12-09 INQ 14-71 INQ 16-78	Angel Curbelo, Former County Employee, Miami-Dade County Water & Sewer Department (WASD),	A former County employee may form his own business and/or be employed with firms that do business with the County. He is prohibited from LOBBYING the County. Lobbying activities under the "Two- Year Rule" are more expansive than those in the general County lobbying ordinance.
16-169	(h), (q), (s) RQO 04-33 RQO 04-34 RQO 08-18 RQO 08-28 RQO 11-24 RQO 12-09 INQ 14-71 INQ 16-78	Monty Barrett, Former Employee (WASD)	A former employee of Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASD) who is considering working for private companies, some of which may transact business with the County and, specifically, with his former department and/or division may form his own business and/or be employed with firms that do business with the County; however, he is prohibited from LOBBYING the County for contracts between his business and the County.

INQ #	County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 + Precedent, or other as noted	Requester	Holding
16-170	(s)(7) INQ 12-132 INQ 12-231 INQ 13-249 INQ 15-179  RQO 06-24 RQO 10-28	Angus Jackson, On behalf of Law Firm	Under Section 2-11.1(s)(7), a law firm who lobbies for the County or its municipalities is restricted in the form of compensation that it is permitted to accept if it engages in third party representation of County/ Municipality interests (ie., lobby) before Miami-Dade County or its municipalities.
16-180	(s)(3)(b)	Jorge Luis Lopez, Esq.	Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(b) of the County Ethics Code, which exempts private individuals who appear in their individual capacity without compensation before the BCC from the lobbyist registration requirements, would permit board members of the Park Foundation, a non-profit organization, to speak in favor of more funding for Miami-Dade County Parks without registering as lobbyists. (JC)
16-197	(q), (s)  RQO 13-04 RQO 12-09 RQO 11-26 RQO 04-33 RQO 02-139	Tom Roberson, Former Assistant County Attorney	A former County attorney, for two years following his separation from the County, may not arrange or participate in meeting with County staff involved in quasi-judicial proceedings, if the meetings are convened for the purpose of or result in a discussion to influence County staff to take a particular course of action on behalf of a client, which would constitute lobbying. Moreover, he is prohibited from engaging in any activity where he attends a meeting and is publicly identified as part of the "lobbying team". (MP)
16-203	(s)	Jennifer Blohm, Meyer Brooks Dehmer and Blohm, PA	An attorney representing an organization may send emails to the general public encouraging individuals receiving the e-mails to contact their County Commissioners urging them to take a position for or against an issue before the Commission without having to register as a lobbyist. (JC)
16-210	(a), (s)(1), (s)(10), (cc)	Scott Stetson, Attorney, MultiState Associates, Inc.	A municipal official may not permit an unregistered lobbyist to lobby him or her. (GDG)
16-228	(s)(3)(a) RQO 09-26 INQ 13-248 directed to North Miami Beach Code § 2-78(4)(e)	Jessica Robinson, Associate General Counsel, AFSCME, AFL-CIO	An outside (non-City) advocate/negotiator hired by a City of North Miami Beach labor union is required to register as a lobbyist when appearing before the City representing the union. (MP)
16-247	(s)	Michael Pizzi, Esq., former Town Attorney, Town of Medley	The former Town Attorney for the Town of Medley may contact the Director of Planning at the Town to ask the reason that his private client was denied an occupational license without registering as a lobbyist, as long as he limits the discussion to finding out the reason for the denial and does not attempt to influence the decision to grant or deny a license reviewable by a Town board or commission. (JC)
16-253	(s)(1), (s)(2)  RQO 04-33	Craig Coller, Attorney, Craig H. Coller, P.A.	An attorney may speak to County personnel in the Regulatory and Economic Relations Department (RER) to obtain general application information and procedures on a property without registering as a lobbyist, where the attorney is simply gathering information or performing routine administrative activities for a client. (MP)

INQ #	County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 + Precedent, or other as noted	Requester	Holding
16-255	(q), (s)(1), (s)(3)	Juan Zapata, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, District # 11	Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(b) of the County Ethics Code, which exempts from the lobbyist registration requirement any person who only appears in his or her individual capacity, without compensation or reimbursement, to express support or opposition to any item, would permit a County Commissioner following the end of his current term to appear before his former colleagues on the BCC regarding issues of concern to him. (JC)
16-258	(s)	Jeffery Bercow, Esq., Lobbyist, Bercow Radell & Fernandez, P.A	The County Ethics Code, which exempts expert witnesses who provide only scientific, technical, or other specialized information or testimony in public meetings from the lobbyist registration requirement, would permit members of Florida TaxWatch, an entity that was hired as a consultant to provide expert, technical assistance regarding the impact of two proposed developments, may appear before a Community Council for the limited purpose of explaining the technical study that they completed, without registering as lobbyists. (JC)
16-285	(s)	Brian Andrews, Lobbyist	A principal who lobbies the County on behalf of his own media and communications strategy company should register as a lobbyist in order to appear before the County Commission regarding programmatic issues that might affect his industry. (JC)
16-292	(s)	Steven Burk, Lobbyist	The completion of the lobbyist refresher training course within two years of the date of a person's initial lobbyist ethics training, satisfies any ongoing requirement by the County for lobbyist ethics training. (JC)