

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

JAG 05- 156

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 27, 2005 6:41 PM  
**To:** 'Lynn Dannheisser'  
**Subject:** Ethics Opinion

Dear Lynn,

We had a conversation earlier in the week about the post-employment provision of the County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. We specifically discussed the two year lobbying ban (Section 2-11.1(q)) and the extent to which this subsection applies to you as the former City Attorney of Sunny Isles Beach. As you know, this provision restricts the ability of a former employee from lobbying his/her municipality; however, your area of inquiry is whether the activities you wish to pursue on behalf of your clients who may have matters before the city of Sunny Isles Beach amount to lobbying. Section 2-11.1(s) defines lobbying and identifies certain exceptions. One of the exceptions noted in this subsection exists when an attorney is retained or employed solely for the purpose of representing a client during publicly-noticed quasi-judicial proceedings. Therefore, you can personally appear before the Sunny Isles Beach Commission or any of its boards exercising quasi-judicial authority without violating the two year rule. If, however, you want to meet with city staff within two years from the date you left Sunny Isles Beach, you must limit your communications. In other words, gathering information from city staff or officials for a client would not be lobbying, but attempting to influence the City's officials or staff in these meetings or any other informal setting would be considered lobbying and is not permitted per the County Code for a period of two years.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers

9/27/2005