

Meyers, Robert (COE)

JNG 06-11x

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, August 09, 2006 3:39 PM
To: Marante , Roly (DIST6)
Subject: RE: Need an opinion from your office
Attachments: 2006marante.memo.doc

Roly,

Attached is the memo you requested. Please call me if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers

From: Marante , Roly (DIST6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 09, 2006 9:42 AM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Need an opinion from your office

Robert, please see attached and if you can provide me with a written opinion for my records so I can share with the Commissioner and personnel.
I'm faxing over signed copy for your records.

Regards,

RM

Roly Marante
Chief of Staff
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa
Miami-Dade County
111 NW 1st Street, #220
Miami, FL 33128

305 375-5696 / F. 305 372-6090 /Cell 786 295-1836

Memo

To: Roly Marante, Chief of Staff
District 6

From: Robert Meyers, Executive Director
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Date: 8/9/2006

Re: Leave of Absence

I am in receipt of a memorandum from you wherein you ask whether taking a three week unpaid leave of absence from your duties as Chief of Staff to County Commissioner Sosa would violate the county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance if you work for the re-election of Commissioner Sosa during your leave of absence. You further state that you will be put on the campaign's payroll during this time period.

The conflicting employment section of the Ethics Ordinance seems to be most relevant to the above situation. It states that no employee shall accept other employment that would impair his or her independence of judgment in the performance of his/her public duties. In the instant case, you will not be performing public duties during your three week leave, as these duties will be handled by another staffer in Commissioner Sosa's office. Therefore, no conflict of interest exists if you take unpaid leave from your County position to engage in paid campaign activities during this time period. Of course, once you return to your position on Commissioner Sosa's staff, you will no longer be permitted to work or her re-election campaign, unless you do so on your own time.

If you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.



MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, District 6

TO: Robert A. Meyers, Executive Director
Miami-Dade County Commission on
Ethics & Public Trust

DATE: August 9, 2006

FROM: Roly Marante, Chief of Staff
District 6

SUBJECT: Leave of Absence from Office

I will be taking a three week unpaid leave of absence from my duties as Chief of Staff to County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa effective on Wednesday August 16th – returning to work at the county on Thursday September 7th, 2006.

I would like an opinion in writing from your office, if during this leave of absence; I can become an employee of a political campaign and be put on the payroll for the time I will be off the county payroll. Specifically, I will be working for the re-election campaign of Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

In my absence, Lourdes Milian will assume my day-to-day duties.

Thank you for your prompt assistance with this matter.

c.c. Commissioner Rebeca Sosa