

Meyers, Robert (COE)

IND 06-33

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2006 3:06 PM
To: Abolila, Esther (Office of The Chair)
Subject: FW: JAM health expo letter, etc.

Ms. Abolila,

I reviewed the letter and would offer the following comments. Section 2-11.1(e) of the County Code covers this solicitation. I understand the purpose of the solicitation is to seek support from organizations to dispense free services and products to the public who will be attending this health and safety expo. The letter makes reference to space that participating companies will be provided and I assume this means the County will cover the costs of the tables, chairs and other incidentals charges that companies may request to set up their areas.

It appears that Chairman Martinez' letter falls within one of the exceptions to the ban on soliciting gifts; specifically, the Code permits Commissioners to solicit gifts on behalf of the County in performance of their official duties for use solely by the County in conducting its official business. Clearly, promoting health, safety and the general welfare is consistent with the mission of Miami-Dade County government and the elected officials who serve the residents of Miami-Dade County. The Ethics Commission has found on several occasions that County Commissioners enlisting the support of private and non-profit organizations in forums and events that will benefit the community at large are conducting official County business and are performing such activities in their official capacity. The one reminder that our office has consistently stressed is to make certain that any letter or other form of communications appealing to the private/non-profit sectors is not limited to County vendors, service providers or bidders. In other words, the Chairman should try to make every effort in publicizing this expo to reach out to as many organizations as possible, as a broad-based approach is preferred over a targeted campaign.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2006 10:19 AM
To: Abolila, Esther (Office of The Chair)
Subject: RE: JAM health expo letter, etc.

From: Abolila, Esther (Office of The Chair)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2006 4:24 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE); Greenberg, Murray A (CAO)
Subject: FW: JAM health expo letter, etc.
Importance: High

Hi Gentleman,

Hope you are both doing well. We are planning on having our 2nd annual Health, Safety and Hurricane Preparedness Expo and I would like to have this letter approved by both of you before the Chairman signs it. If

3/8/2006

you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Esther Abolila

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of the Chair

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman

305-375-5511

305-375-5883 fax

eca@miamidade.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Martinez-Aleman, Marta (Office of the Chair)

Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2006 3:47 PM

To: Abolila, Esther (Office of The Chair)

Subject: JAM health expo letter, etc.

Marta Martinez-Aleman

Special Assistant

Media, Protocol and Employee Recognition

Office of Chairman Joe Martinez

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