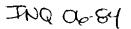
COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST



7

Memo

To:	The Honorable Rebeca Sosa, County Commissioner District 6
From:	Robert Meyers, Executive Director Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
Date:	6/2/2006
Re:	Ethics Opinion

Thank you for your memorandum dated June 2, 2006. I understand from your correspondence that your daughter applied for a job in the City of West Miami in the Home Bound Meal Program, which is located at the senior center. As a County Commissioner representing District 6, the City of West Miami falls within your boundaries. You further state that you allocate funding to projects/programs in the City of West Miami. It isn't clear to me whether these allocations to West Miami are part of your discretionary budget or whether they are allocation decisions of the full Board of County Commissioners. Moreover, I assume you have the authority to allocate money to specific programs within the City of West Miami.

I see no problem with you participating in and voting on County Commission items that involve a general allocation to the City of West Miami. The reason for this is that you would not be earmarking funds for a particular program. Rather, the City Council or the City Manager would have to decide how to spend the County dollars that have been allocated. As far as funding the City of West Miami from your district budget, the same rationale would apply. Giving money to the City in general would be of no concern. The only problem I could envision is if you gave money to the Senior Center or the Home Bound Program. Similarly, if the Senior Center and/or the Home Bound Program in West Miami came to the County Commission directly, you should recuse yourself as long as your daughter is employed by this city program.

Therefore, the county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance would not create a conflict for you if your daughter accepts the abovementioned position.

If you have any further questions or concerns, 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, Commission on Ethics	DATE:	June 2, 2006
FROM	Rebeca Sosa District 6	SUBJECT:	Employment within City of West Miami

My daughter Veronica Sosa recently responded to an advertisement for a job opening at the City of West Miami and went in for an interview. The position is at the senior center, and requires the in-take of applications for the Home Bound Meal Program the city offers to it's elder residents who qualify for the program.

I would like a legal opinion if there is any conflict for my daughter to be employed by the City of West Miami. As the District 6 County Commissioner, the City of West Miami is with-in my commission boundaries and I allocate funding towards city projects/programs.

My daughter will not accept this position until it is cleared by your office.

Thank you for your immediate response to this matter.

C.C. Robert Cuevas, First Assistant County Attorney Gerald Sanchez, County Attorney

Sosa 1

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From:	Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent:	Friday, June 02, 2006 4:14 PM
То:	Marante , Roly (DIST6)

Subject: RE: Opinion request

Attachments: 2006sosadaugther.inq.doc

Roly,

Attached is my response to Commissioner Sosa's request. If she has any questions, please have contact me before June 8th. I will on vacation from the 8th until the 15th.

Thanks and have a great weekend too.

Robert

From: Marante , Roly (DIST6) Sent: Friday, June 02, 2006 10:58 AM To: Meyers, Robert (COE) Subject: Opinion request

Robert,

Per my conversation with Gerald Sanchez and Bob Cuevas yesterday. On behalf of Commissioner Sosa, please see attached memorandum requesting a written opinion on the subject matter discussed. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Have a great weekend.

RM

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

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