

IND  
03-115

**Prkic, Christina (COE)**

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**From:** Prkic, Christina (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2003 12:23 PM  
**To:** 'dalvarez@csagroup.com'  
**Cc:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** Ethics guidance

Dear Mr. Alvarez,

I am writing to you in response to your request for guidance sent to our office via e-mail on November 13, 2003. The response below is based upon the information provided in your email and in your phone conversation with me yesterday.

In your e-mail, you advised the Ethics Commission that you were the former Director of the Miami-Dade County, Office of Public Transportation Management. In that capacity, you were involved with various transit projects, including, but not limited to, the funding of public works projects from the 1/2% Charter County Surtax [also referred to as the People's Transportation Plan].

Presently, you are employed with a private engineering firm, CSA Group, which assists private and public entities with such issues as permitting, building inspection and transportation policies and plans. You asked whether you may represent the firm and its clients before the County and its various entities on the above-related issues.

In addition, you also ask whether you may represent and work with municipalities regarding their transportation plans, including their share of the People's Transportation Plan.

In response to your first question, you are prohibited from lobbying Miami-Dade County, its officials/personnel and other decision-making entities for a period of **two (2) years** after your County employment has ceased. You stated in our phone conversation that this would be October 31, 2005. Section 2-11.1(q) "Continuing application for two (2) years after County service," of the Code of Ethics provides in part, that you are precluded from lobbying the County on any matter for a period of two (2) years. This does not preclude your firm from lobbying the County; however, you may not participate or be identified as part of your firm's lobbying team.

In addition, this provision does not prohibit you from submitting routine administrative requests or applications to the County and its agencies. For instance, signing permit applications or inspection documents. Moreover, this provision does not apply to officials or employees who become employed by governmental entities, educational institutions or nonprofit organizations and lobby on behalf of such entities.

In response to your second question, regarding your work with municipalities, you are not prohibited from assisting and advising municipalities on their transportation plans. You stated in our phone conversation, that you will be involved in writing several municipal transportation plans. As I mentioned to you, this is permitted under the Code of Ethics. However, you may not lobby the County with respect to these plans or policies for a period of two (2) years after your County service. Nothing prohibits you from meeting with or making presentations before municipal officials with regard to these projects.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Robert Meyers.

Sincerely,

Christina Prkic  
Staff Attorney  
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
P: (305) 350-0615

<b>Tracking:</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Delivery</b>	<b>Read</b>
	'dalvarez@csagroup.com'		
	Meyers, Robert (COE)	Delivered: 11/18/03 12:23 PM	Read: 11/18/03 2:13 PM

**ETHICS**

**From:** dalvarez@csagroup.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 13, 2003 3:39 PM  
**To:** ETHICS  
**Subject:** Guidance

I need some guidance as to what I can and cannot do as it relates to doing business with Miami-Dade County. I am the former Director of the Office of Public Transportation Management, as such I was involved in matters relating to Transit projects and the funding of Public Works projects from the 1/2% Charter County Surtax (a/k/a the People's Transportation Plan). I am now employed by an engineering firm that has clients (private and public sectors) that often need Miami-Dade County services, permits, etc.. May I represent the firm and/or clients before the County as long as the matters do not involve Miami-Dade Transit or sales tax funded Public Works projects? May I represent municipalities regarding the Municipal share of the People's Transportation Plan?

Any guidance you may provide will be greatly appreciated.

Danny Alvarez  
Director, Surface Transportation Program  
CSA Group  
P. 305-461-5484  
F. 305-461-5494

\* writing their transportation plans  
advising them

→ provide city and building inspectors  
on behalf of applicant

**Prkic, Christina (COE)**

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**From:** dalvarez@csagroup.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 20, 2003 8:54 AM  
**To:** Prkic, Christina (COE); dalvarez@csagroup.com  
**Cc:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics guidance

Thank you for the quick response!

Danny Alvarez  
Director, Surface Transportation Program  
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P. 305-461-5484  
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