



April 10, 2003

Dear Mr./Ms. Tucker:

I do not recall seeing your previous fax. However, I do want to provide you with a timely response.

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chairman
Robert H. Newman, Vice Chairman
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ROBERT A. MEYERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI
ADVOCATE

ARDYTH WALKER
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

1) County attorneys are covered by the Truth in Government provision of the Citizens' Bill of Rights.

2) I can't give you a definitive answer to this question – it really depends upon the situation.

3) Outside attorneys and law firms are not local public officials or employees. Therefore, I would conclude that they are not covered by the Citizens' Bill of Rights.

4) I don't believe there are any exceptions; those hired by contract are not within the definition.

Feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers
Executive Director

INQ 03-29

P O Box 144366
Coral Gables, FL
33114-4366
Apr. 10, 2003

Director
Miami Dade Commission on Ethics
Suite 220
19 W Flagler St
Miami, FL 33130
fx: 579-0273

RE: Advisory Opinion

Sir,

Last month we sent the enclosed request. We are awaiting your reply.

Respectfully,



J Tucker

enc.

P O Box 144366
Coral Gables, FL
33114-4366
Mar. 10, 2003

Director
Miami Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
Suite 220
19 W Flagler ST
Miami, FL 33130

RE: Citizens Bill of Rights

Sir,

With respect to the Dade County Citizens Bill of Rights would you please answer the following questions:

- 1) Are County attorneys, as employees, subject to paragraph 2., Truth in government?
- 2) If so, are there any exceptions, such as when they furnish false information or knowingly omit significant facts during the course of a lawsuit filed against the County, a County board, or County employee?
- 3) Are outside attorneys and law firms hired by the County or County board subject to paragraph 2., Truth in government?
- 4) If so, are there any exceptions, such as those suggested in 2) above?

I look forward to your reply.

Respectfully,

J Tucker

TUCKER

FAX

DATE: 4-10-03

SEND TO: DIRECTOR

COMPANY: ETHICS COMMISSION

FAX #: ~~415-781~~ 579-0273

PHONE #: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 3

MESSAGE: Request for Opinion

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