

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

*INQ 03-97*

**From:** Castillo, Hilda (DP&Z)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 23, 2003 11:07 AM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for opinion

Thank You.

Hilda Castillo  
Personnel and Information Services  
Department of Planning and Zoning

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

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 23, 2003 10:43 AM  
**To:** Castillo, Hilda (DP&Z)  
**Cc:** Holness, Damon (DP&Z)  
**Subject:** Request for opinion

Ms. Castillo,

On October 15, 2003, I received an e-mail from you and I wanted to provide you with a response to your inquiries. You state in your first request that Damon Holness works in your department at a Zoning Plans Processor 4 and he is part of a Homeowners' Association and will be doing fundraising within the Association. It isn't clear to me whether he is an officer of the Association and you haven't described the fundraising activities in which he will be engaged. Under the circumstances, county employees are permitted to fundraise provided he is doing it in his capacity as a board member or homeowner, not as a county employee. Therefore, he could not use county letterhead, stationery or indicate his status as a county employee when he participates in these fundraising efforts.

The second question relates to Mr. Holness and his interest in purchasing a property that is being reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Department based on a zoning change requested by the current owner. You further state that Mr. Holness would be interested in the property if the change is approved. As long as Mr. Holness plays no role in the decision to grant or deny the zoning request of the current property owner, there is no conflict of interest if at some later date, Mr. Holness does purchase the property in question.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please forward them to me at your convenience.

Thank you,

Robert Meyers