

Meyers, Robert (CAF)

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To: Brown, Ophelia (CAA)  
Subject: "Fun with Books" event

Ms. Brown,

You and I spoke earlier today about an event that Head Start and the Miami Gardens Jaycees is co-sponsoring on Wednesday, April 28th. As I understand it, Andre Williams, a candidate for County Commission is the President of the Miami Gardens Jaycees and the President of the Community Action Agency Foundation. Furthermore, the Foundation does provide financial support to CAA programs, including the Head Start program. You wish to know whether Mr. Williams' candidacy for County Commission affects his ability to participate in this event.

As I see, Mr. Williams can organize, attend and participate in events that are important to him personally and to those organizations of which he is a member. However, there must be a clear separation between a community event and campaign event. After reviewing the flyer that you sent me, there is nothing to indicate this program is connected to his campaign. In fact, the invitation does not mention his name -- it is billed as an event to draw attention to the benefits of reading and learning. Moreover, the only person identified in the program is a local area professor, whom I assume will lecture on the topic of providing young children with a stimulating home environment.

Mr. Williams is not allowed to give a campaign speech at this event, nor can he solicit contributions from those in attendance. Furthermore, in his prepared remarks, he should not mention the fact he is candidate for a County Commission seat. However, he certainly has the right to speak to those in attendance in his capacity as President of the Miami Gardens Jaycees or as the President of the CAA Foundation, or both.

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Robert Meyers

**MEMORANDUM**

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To: Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
Commission on Ethics

Date: April 26, 2004

From: Ophelia Brown-Lawson, Director  
Community Action Agency

Subject: Request for Opinion

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Please provide your opinion on the following matter as it relates to Miami-Dade Community Action Agency involvement.

Andre Williams, President of the Miami Gardens Jaycees is running as a candidate for Miami-Dade Commission District 1. He has planned an activity that includes several of the CAA Head Start centers. CAA Head Start currently has a community partnership agreement with the Miami Gardens Jaycees to do literacy activities with Head Start children in the North Dade area.

Andre Williams is also President of the Community Action Agency Foundation, though the CAA Foundation is not legally affiliated with Miami-Dade CAA, does provide financial support to CAA programs.

As this activity is planned for Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at 6:00 p.m., your immediate response is requested.

# HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START & MIAMI GARDENS JAYCEES PRESENTS



## "FUN WITH BOOKS"

*"Have fun creating stimulating learning opportunities for your very young child/ren at home"*



*A NIGHT OF FUN  
FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN!!!*

**AN EARLY STIMULATION FOR  
PARENTS & CHILDREN**

**(Birth to Age 5)**

*Featuring Guest Speaker*

*Dr. Judith Bachay*

*Associate Professor, Social Sciences*

*St. Thomas University*

### **PLAN TO ATTEND!!**

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Omega Activity Center

15600 N.W. 42nd Avenue

Carol City, Florida 33054

6:00 PM

*For transportation arrangements, please contact,*

*Stephanie Allen at (305) 638-5730, ext. 261*

