

Walker, Ardyth (COE)

To: Williams, Selena (DPM)
Cc: Lucas, Theodore (DPM); Singer, Miriam (DPM)
Subject: Cone of Silence

In our phone conversation this morning, you asked whether a selection committee chair may speak with an Assistant County Manager regarding a matter pending before the selection committee. Pursuant to A.O. 3-33, the selection committee chair is a non-voting member of the committee. The Cone of Silence prohibits any communication regarding a particular RFP, RFQ or bid between any member of the County's professional staff and any member of the selection committee therefore. The Cone further provides that the County Manager and the Chair of the selection committee may communicate about a particular selection committee recommendation, but only after the committee has submitted an award recommendation to the Manager. Since the ordinance specifically only permits communication between the Manager(or his or her designee) and the Chair after the recommendation, the Chair and the Manager may not speak prior to a recommendation to the Manager.

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