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**ARDYTH WALKER**  
**STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL**

February 2, 1999

Khaled I. Ali  
Shrum, Ali and Associates, Inc.  
6175 N.W. 153<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Suite 402  
Miami Lakes, Fl 333014

**RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 98-27**

Dear Mr. Ali:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on January 29, 1999 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion as to whether you can respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide construction inspection services if you have reviewed design documents on the project.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that Shrum, Ali and Associates was retained by the County Staff managing construction of the Performing Arts Center to conduct a limited peer review of the construction documents prepared by the Performing Arts design team. The County is preparing to issue an RFP for construction inspection services and you would like to know if you are precluded from responding to the RFP and seeking award of the inspection contract.

The Commission finds that Shrum, Ali and Associates is not legally precluded from responding to the RFP and being awarded the contract from the county. The Conflict of

Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance does not apply to outside contractors unless they are otherwise covered under categories (b)1 through (b)(6) or (b)(9) of the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance.

Accordingly, the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance does not prohibit Shrum, Ali and Associates from responding to the Request for Proposal to provide construction inspection services.

If you have any questions regarding the opinion, please call the undersigned at (305) 579-2954 or Ardyth Walker, Staff General Counsel at (305) 579-2653.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Meyers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ROBERT MEYERS  
Executive Director