

RQO 99-02

**COMMISSION ON
ETHICS AND PUBLIC
TRUST**

Memo

To: Bernard McGriff, Interim Director
General Services Administration
From: Robert Meyers, Executive Director
Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
Date: 04/02/99
Re: Request for Opinion (Pest Control Manager – RQO 99-12)

I am in receipt of your request for opinion concerning the hiring of a Pest Control Manager. I have discussed this case with our Staff General Counsel and we find that hiring Mr. Jude Plummer would not create a conflict of interest prohibited by the Dade County Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Ordinance. Based on the information you provided, Mr. Plummer's brother did not participate in the decision-making process, nor is there any indication he exploited his official position in the County to impact the selection decision. Secondly, Mr. Jude Plummer's ownership of a pest control company does not present a problem unless he or a member of his immediate family maintains a controlling interest in the company and that company continues to do business with the County. If Mr. Plummer's company does not do business with the County, I see no reason why he or wife would be forced to sell the company. However, if in the future he or his immediate family sought to do business with the County during his employment as Pest Control Manager, he would be restricted by the abovementioned ordinance.

Thank you for attention to this important matter. Please contact me at your convenience if you have any questions.

cc: Barry Brown, Director, FUMD/GSA
Jose Mendez, Physical Plant Manager/GSA