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STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

April 14, 2000

David Lee  
16350 S.W. 282<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Homestead, FL 33033

**RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 00-32**

Dear Mr. Lee:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on April 12, 2000 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your memorandum.

You requested an opinion regarding your ability to contract with a county vendor to market an invention.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you have designed and patented a device for the underground sewer industry. The device will be used to extend the life of the high pressure hoses used to clean sewer pipes. You are seeking the assistance of a county vendor with marketing the device.

The Commission found The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance does not preclude you from contracting with a county vendor to market his device. The ordinance only restricts your ability to contract with the county regarding your product.

However, pursuant to 2-11.1(j), you must obtain consent for the venture as outside employment and file disclosure with the Department of Elections. Further, you may not work on the device during county time or use county materials in the venture.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Please contact the State of Florida Commission on Ethics if you have any questions regarding possible conflicts under state law.

If you have any questions regarding this opinion, please call the undersigned at (305) 579-2594 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