

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 Ardyth Walker, Staff General Counsel at (305) 350-0616 or the undersigned at (305) 579-2594.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Meyers".

ROBERT MEYERS
Executive Director



October 15, 2001

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chairperson
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI
ADVOCATE

ARDYTH WALKER
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

Arlington Ferguson
1349 N.W. 96th Street
Miami, FL 33147

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 01-110

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on October 11, 2001 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding any conflict caused by your outside employment.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you are a Safety Specialist for the Miami-Dade Housing Agency. Your responsibilities are safety inspections of county owned facilities and conducting safety classes for county employees. You have sought approval for outside employment as a housing inspector. As a housing inspector, you will primarily conduct termite inspections for realtor, mortgage companies and title companies in residential home sales.

The Commission found that the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance permits your outside employment. Section 2-11.1(j) provides that no employee shall accept other employment which would impair his or her independence of judgment in the performance of his or her public duties. Since your duties as a housing inspector should not impair your judgment as a safety specialist, the outside employment is permissible.