

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,



ROBERT MEYERS

Executive Director

comprehensive plan by the Public Health Trust for uninsured residents of Miami-Dade County.

Coral Gables Hospital is a for-profit hospital operated Tenet Health Systems. The hospital is a medical and surgical facility and provides a number of services including a fully staffed emergency room. The hospital also provides indigent health care to neighborhood residents.

The Commission found the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance permits you to serve as a trustee of Coral Gables Hospital and a member of the Health, Public Safety and Human Services Committee. However, you may not vote on any matters that may affect Coral Gables Hospital. Section 2-11.1(d) of the Code of Miami-Dade County prohibits commissioners from voting or participating in any way in any matter presented to the county commission if said person has any of the following relationships with any of the persons or entities which would be or might be directly or indirectly affected by any action of the County Commission: (1) officer, director, partner, of counsel, consultant, employee fiduciary or beneficiary or (11) stockholder, bondholder, debtor or creditor, if in any instance the transaction or matter would affect the person defined in subsection (b) (1) in a manner distinct from the manner in which it would affect the public generally.

As a trustee of Coral Gables Hospital, you are a fiduciary and may not vote on matters that may directly or indirectly affect the hospital. However, you may serve on the committee and participate in discussions and vote on matters that will not directly or indirectly affect the hospital.

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



July 11, 2001

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

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ROBERT A. MEYERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI
ADVOCATE

ARDYTH WALKER
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

The Honorable Rebecca Sosa
Board of County Commissioners
District Six
111 N.W. First Street
Suite 220
Miami, FL 33129-1963

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 01-79

Dear Commissioner Sosa:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on July 10, 2001 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding any conflicts of interest between your service as a member of the Board of Trustees for Coral Gables Hospital and your appointment to the county commission's Health, Public Safety and Human Services Committee.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you are a member of the Board of Trustees for Coral Gables Hospital and serve on the Health, Public Safety and Human Services Committee. The Mayor recently created several commission committees to review legislation and make policy determinations of matters pending before the County Commission. One of the committees established by the Mayor was the Health, Public Safety and Human Services Committee. The committee is charged with the responsibility of developing policy measures and overseeing administration of all matters related to the delivery of health care and social services. Among the committee's tasks is monitoring the development of a