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May 23, 2002

Carlos Moore
President
Victoria Property Group
P.O. Box 430164
South Miami, FL 33143

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 02-56

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for an advisory opinion at its meeting on May 22, 2002 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding your ability to contract to provide Section 8 housing.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you are President and fifty percent shareholder of Victoria Property Group, Inc. The Victoria Property Group wants to rent property through the Section 8 program. Your wife, Margarita Arango Moore, is an attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Dade County. Dade County acts as a fiscal agent for the Legal Aid Society but Legal Aid employees work for the Dade County Bar Association.

The Commission found that you may contract with the Housing Department to provide Section 8 housing because the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance does not apply to Legal Aid employees. Since Legal Aid employees work for the Dade County Bar Association, the employees are not county

employees and are not subject to the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance.

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) 350-0616.

Sincerely Yours,



ROBERT MEYERS

Executive Director