

# MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST



## REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

#K11-149

Date Opened: 12/06/11

Date Closed: 12/07/11

Investigator: Sylvia Batista

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On December 5, 2011, the COE received an inquiry from Deborah Aguero, a retiree from the Miami-Dade County Police Department (MDPD). Mrs. Aguero retired from the MDPD on July 29, 2011, and is presently working in her husband's business, D&L Auto and Marine Supplies, Inc. (D&L). In her inquiry, Mrs. Aguero advised that D&L received a request for bid from the MDPD, but because her employment with the MDPD recently ended, she is precluded from lobbying any county personnel in connection with any request for bid for two years.

The COE issue relates to a possible violation of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, Sec. 2-11.1(q) *Continuing application for two (2) years after County service.*

### **12/07/11 – Richard Sierra, MDPD Inventory and Supply Bureau –**

COE investigator spoke with Mr. Sierra who advised that his job is to supply the MDPD with the equipment and uniforms needed for officers to do their jobs. Mr. Sierra, who is not a police officer, submitted the request for quote to D&L, and a few other

vendors who are on the M-D County Procurement Contract #1070-5/14-2 – *Automotive and Truck Parts and Repair Service*. Mr. Sierra explained that he followed the same procedure in this case that he always follows which is to send requests for quotes to the vendors who are on the contract. Mr. Sierra explained that no one spoke to him, or recommended D&L as a vendor. Mr. Sierra does not know Mrs. Agüero, but he is aware that she used to be a secretary at the MDPD. Mr. Sierra did not know she was working for D&L. Mr. Sierra said that he does not know Cynthia Cuni who is related to Mrs. Agüero.

Mr. Sierra added that he spoke to a Deborah yesterday who said she worked with one of the vendors. The person called to ask about the time frame for delivery of the items. Mr. Sierra said he advised the person that he could wait since these items are to be stocked and used as needed by the police officers. Each squad car has to have a set of booster cables in the trunk. Mr. Sierra said that Deborah advised that delivery of the booster cables would take 3 weeks.

**Contract No. 1070-5/14-2 –**

COE investigator reviewed the contract award sheet for the Automotive & Truck Parts and Repair Serv. D&L Auto & Marine Supplies, Inc. is listed amongst the vendors under the contract as stated by Mr. Sierra.

Conclusion:

All information has been turned over to Staff Attorney Victoria Frigo for the issuance of an opinion.