

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST



REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

#K13-008

Date Opened: 01/16/13

Date Closed: 01/31/13

Investigator: Sylvia Batista

Information was provided to the COE in connection with the 2010 Statement for Financial Interest (Form 1) filed by Denis Rod (Rod). Rod reported no income, no property ownership and no liabilities in his 2010 Form 1.

The COE's issue relates to possible violations of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance Section 2-11.1(i)(1) *Financial Disclosure*.

Investigation:

Rod has been a member of the International Trade Advisory Board (ITAB) since 2006. Rod has consistently reported no source of income, no property ownership and no liabilities in any of his Form 1 filings from 2007 through 2011.

Research conducted on the County Boards and Appointment System reflects that Rod, who lists his occupation as "doctor," was appointed to the ITAB on September 12, 2006.

Research on Rod's reported address reflects that the property is owned by Ney D. Rodriguez and Caridad C. Rodriguez. Further research of property deeds and mortgages reflect that Rod does not own any property within Miami-Dade County. Finally, Florida vehicle registration records relate that Rod's most recent vehicle registration was issued on 07/28/10, and was for a 2001 Chevrolet Impala.

01/31/13 – Denis Rod Interview –

Rod was contacted and appeared to answer questions at the COE in connection with his Form 1 report(s). Rod stated that he does not own any property, and presently has no source of income. Rod said that the address where he resides is his parent's house which his parents have owned since 1965. Rod said that his parents are Ney D. Rodriguez and Caridad C. Rodriguez. Rod explained that he began using "Rod" and discontinued using "Rodriguez" due to the difficulty his school teachers had in pronouncing his last name.

Rod explained that his father, Ney D. Rodriguez, passed away on 10/30/12. His mother, Caridad C. Rodriguez, is now the sole owner of the property. Rod explained that he has been taking care of his elderly parents for several years. Since his father passed away, Rod is dedicated to taking care of his mother only. Rod explained that by taking care he means everything from cleaning and cooking to doctors' visits and anything else that they may need. Rod advised that his mother's house is paid for, and all other household expenses are covered by his mother's social security benefits. Rod and his brother are the only beneficiaries to his mother's estate.

Conclusion:

In view of the findings in this case, it is appropriate to conclude that Rod does not have a source of income, assets or liabilities to report on his Form 1. For this reason, this matter is closed without further action.