

# M E M O

## COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

TO: File

FROM: Miriam S. Ramos, Deputy General Counsel

DATE: August 21, 2014

RE: 2012 Miami Beach Lobbyist Appeals – K13-027

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The City of Miami Beach Code provides that lobbyists must file expenditure statements by February 28<sup>th</sup> of the year following the year in which they were registered to lobby in Miami Beach (Sec. 2-485).

During 2013, the Miami Beach Clerk's Office sent a list to the Commission on Ethics which included 100 lobbyists (3 were subsequently removed from the list by the City, leaving 97) who did not file their 2012 expenditure statement. One withdrew in February 2012 and was, therefore, removed as well narrowing the list down further to 96. The COE obtained compliance from 77 of those 96 individuals. All individuals were contacted numerous times by the COE, via phone, U.S. Mail (including certified/return receipt) and/or e-mail. Searches were also run in order to ascertain accurate contact information.

Pursuant to Sec. 2-485(d), Miami Beach Code, "any lobbyist who fails to file the required expenditure report by April 30 shall be automatically suspended from lobbying until all fines are paid, unless the fine has been appealed to the Miami Dade County Ethics Commission." Therefore, those 19 individuals who have not filed will be unable to re-register as lobbyists in Miami Beach until such time as they come into compliance.

Based on the foregoing, the instant case is closed without further action.