



Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust

Investigative Report

Investigator: Manuel W. Diaz

Case No.: PI 14-003	Case Name: Perry - MBCC	Date Open:	
Complainant(s): Michael Band	Subject(s): Aaron Perry	1/10/14	

Allegation(s):

Michael Band Esq. (Band) contacted the Commission on Ethics and Public Trust Executive Director, Joseph Centorino.

According to Band, Aaron Perry (Perry) registered to lobby on Miami Beach representing the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce (Chamber). Representatives from the Chamber contacted Band and informed Band that Perry was not authorized to represent the Chamber.

According to Band, Perry may have registered on behalf of the Chamber but may have lobbied representing a business interest which he owned.

Relevant Ordinances:

Miami Beach Code of Ordinances

DIVISION 3. LOBBYISTS:

Sec. 2-482. Registration.

a) All lobbyists shall, before engaging in any lobbying activities, register with the city clerk.

Every person required to register shall register on forms prepared by the clerk, pay a registration fee of \$350.00, as specified in appendix A and state under oath:

- (1) His name;
- (2) His business address;
- (3) The name and business address of each person or entity which has employed the registrant to lobby;

- (4) The commissioner or personnel sought to be lobbied, and whether the lobbyist has entered into any contractual relationship (paid or unpaid) with said city commissioner or personnel from 12 months preceding such person's commencement of service with the city to the present date, stating the general nature of the subject contractual relationship.
- (5) The specific issue on which he has been employed to lobby; and
- (6) The terms and amount of compensation to be paid by each principal to the lobbyist with regard to the specific issue on which the lobbyist has been engaged to lobby.

Investigation:

Interviews

Michael Band

On February 5, 2013, Band contacted the COE. In his email he advised,

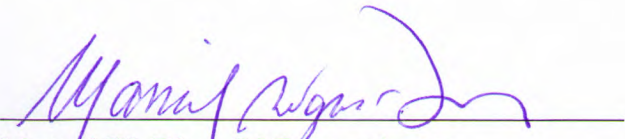
“At the time the Chamber’s complaint was lodged it was our view that the forms filed were done so without the explicit authorization of the Chamber. We asked that the ethics commission visit the issue as we understood that a possible breach of the ethics code might have occurred. Upon further investigation of this matter we are convinced that the foundation of this complaint no longer exists, i.e., while there might not have been an explicit authorization by the Chamber to engage in lobbying there was no prohibition nor proscription that would have prevented an individual board member to engage in lobbying. Further, the lobbying efforts would have been consistent with the positions taken by the Chamber. The MBCC respectfully requests that its complaint be withdrawn.”

Documents reviewed.

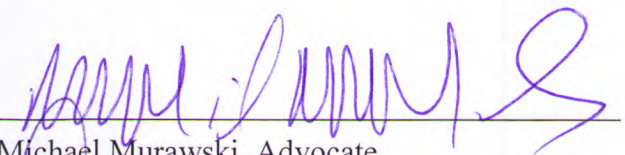
None

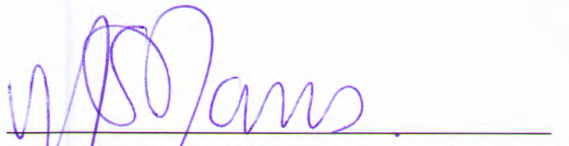
Conclusions:

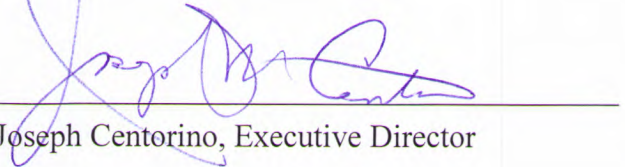
The Complainant advised that upon further review the allegations he made were incorrect. Accordingly, this matter is closed with no further action.


Manuel W. Diaz, COE Investigator

Approved by:


Michael Murawski, Advocate


Miriam S. Ramos, Deputy General Counsel


Joseph Centorino, Executive Director

Date Closed: 2/17/14

**CASE
CLOSED**

Date: 2/17/14