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DADE COUNTY, FLA.
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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

In re: Charlene Stafford /

Case No: 07-37

PUBLIC REPORT AND ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT

Mattie Lomax filed the above-captioned complaint against Charlene Stafford ("Respondent") for alleged violation of Section 2-11.1(g) (misuse of official position). The complaint alleged the Respondent made false statements in a court filing.

Lomax filed an appeal from a civil case with the Third District Court of Appeal. The Respondent is a deputy court clerk. The Respondent filed an affidavit with the Third DCA where she stated that Lomax included an original document from the court file in a pleading to the appellate court. The trial court judge later initiated indirect criminal contempt proceedings against Lomax for violation of Fla. R. Jud. Admin 2.410. The complaint further alleged the Respondent conspired to prevent Lomax from receiving notice of the contempt proceedings.

On December 19, 2007, the Ethics Commission found the complaint legally insufficient because the Ethics Commission does not have jurisdiction over court personnel. Thereafter, after reviewing the complaint and being otherwise advised in the premises, the Ethics Commission ordered the complaint dismissed.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the Complaint is **DISMISSED** for lack of jurisdiction.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust in public session on December 19, 2007.

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION
ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST**

By: 

Kerry Rosenthal
Chairperson

cc: Charlene Stafford
Mattie Lomax