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

In re: Crespo v. Sarnoff, Suarez & Regalado

C 12-33

**PUBLIC REPORT
AND
FINAL DISMISSAL ORDER**

Al Crespo, a private citizen, filed this complaint against City of Miami Commissioners Marc Sarnoff and Francis Suarez and, by implication, Miami City Mayor Thomas Regalado. The complaint alleged that respondents exploited their official positions when they used the services of Sergeants-at-Arms provided by the City of Miami to convey them and their guests to three political events, one in 2012 and two in 2010. If true, these actions might violate Section 2-11.1 (g) of the County Ethics Code.

An investigation into the allegations showed that the conveyance of elected officials as described in the complaint were consistent with the City policy of using Sergeants-at-Arms to transport and protect elected officials. As per state rules, other persons may travel with elected officials when no additional expense is incurred by the government.¹

Pursuant to the Code of Miami-Dade County at Sec. 2-1068, the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission extends "to any person required to comply with the County

¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 60B-1.0004 (e) (2012).

or municipal Code of Ethics Ordinances....” The County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1(a) extends the jurisdiction of the County Ethics Ordinance to municipal elected officials.

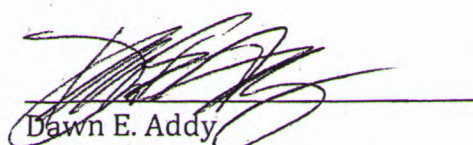
Because the evidence presented was insufficient to sustain probable cause that respondents violated Section 2-11.1 (g) of the County Ethics Code, the Advocate for the Ethics Commission recommended that the complaint be dismissed. Meeting in public session on October 23, 2012, the Ethics Commission unanimously agreed with the Advocate’s recommendation and dismissed Complaint No. C 12-33 for lack of probable cause.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the complaint against Marc Sarnoff, Francis Suarez and Thomas Regalado is hereby dismissed.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on October 23, 2012.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS
& PUBLIC TRUST
By:



Dawn E. Addy
Chair

Signed on this date: 10/30/2012