

## Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 2:37 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ 18-175 Imran Ali, Chief of Staff, Miami-Dade County Children's Trust (Sunshine Law)  
**Attachments:** INQ 16-91 Foster.pdf

INQ 18-175 Imran

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 1:58 PM  
**To:** 'Imran Ali' <imran@thechildrenstrust.org>  
**Cc:** Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>; Graves, Shanika (CAO) <Shanika.Graves@miamidade.gov>; Sanchez, Gerald (CAO) <Gerald.Sanchez@miamidade.gov>; Kirtley, Eddie (CAO) <Eddie.Kirtley@miamidade.gov>  
**Subject:** INQ 18-175 Imran Ali, Chief of Staff, Miami-Dade County Children's Trust (Sunshine Law)

Mr. Ali,

You inquired, in connection with the Miami-Dade County Children's Trust, regarding whether, under the Florida Sunshine Law, Section 286.011, Florida Statutes, a board member may call into a board meeting to participate and vote on matters during the meeting. Although many municipalities follow an interpretation of the Sunshine Law that permits such participation by non-present board members, the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office has consistently interpreted the Sunshine Law to not permit such participation and limits participation and voting to those board members who are present. In order to provide consistency in the interpretation of the Sunshine Law for County boards, this agency has generally followed the County Attorney's position. (See, e.g., INQ 16-91, attached). While the Children's Trust is not a designated County board, given that it has adopted most Miami-Dade County ethics standards, and that it is advised by the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office, it is my advice that you follow the interpretation of the Sunshine Law that is provided by the County Attorney. Under that interpretation, members may not participate and vote if they are not physically present at the meeting, and may only listen to the proceedings remotely.

Sincerely,

Joe Centorino

*Joseph M. Centorino*

Executive Director and General Counsel  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820  
Miami, FL 33130  
Tel: (305) 579-2594  
Fax: (305) 579-0273  
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**From:** Imran Ali [<mailto:imran@thechildrenstrust.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 12:04 PM  
**To:** Centorino, Joseph (COE) <[Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov](mailto:Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov)>  
**Subject:** Calling into meetings

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Hi Joe: How are you? The last time we spoke you mentioned that some municipalities allow for board members to call into meetings. Do you have any written opinions on how this was arrived at in keeping with the sunshine law? Please let me know. Thanks

Imran

**Imran Ali**

Chief of Staff  
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