



February 7, 2007

Rafael Ballesteros  
4410 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Hialeah, FL 33012

Dear Mr. Ballesteros:

I am receipt of your letter dated February 1, 2007 seeking an interpretation of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. According to your letter, you retired from the Water and Sewer Department as a Senior Professional Engineer on September 8, 2006 and you wish to start an engineering consulting firm. You mention in your letter that you would like to offer your services to other engineering companies, many doing business with Miami-Dade County.

Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(q) of the County Code, you are barred from lobbying the County for a period of two years from the time you separated from the County. However, this would not preclude you from offering you services to other companies contracting directly with the County. The Two Year Rule prohibits you from directly meeting with County officials or employees during this period, but it does not prevent you doing work for another firm that has a County contract. Moreover, if your consulting firm decided to seek County business, a partner of yours could appear on behalf of your firm. Finally, after the two years expire, you would be free to directly lobby the County.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. I can be reached at (305) 350-0613.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers  
Executive Director

**ETHICS COMMISSIONERS**

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**ARDYTH WALKER**  
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

Miami Dade County Commission of  
Ethics and Public Trust.  
19 West Flagler, Suit 209  
Miami Fl. 33130

February 1, 2007


Ref: Request for Advisor Opinion on Section 2-11.1 (q)  
Continuing Application for 2 years after County Service.

Dear Sirs,

After working 30 years of services with Miami Dade County in the Water and Sewer Department, I retired from my position as Senior Professional Engineer as of September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

However, in order to continue to provide my family with the living status they have benefited from, I have decided to start a private Engineering Consultant Firm, offering my services to others Consultant Engineer companies. Most of these engineering companies are doing business or seeking to do business with Miami Dade County and they want to know if acquiring my services as a Consultant Engineer would be in conflict with Section 2-11.1 (q). My experience and knowledge would be of benefit to many County projects that are designed by these consultants.

Thank you,

  
Rafael Ballesteros, P.E.  
4410 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Hialeah, Fl. 33012