

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

INQ 07-641

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2007 12:44 PM  
**To:** Rowe, Leslie (MDPR)  
**Subject:** RE: Approval for Out Side Employment

Ms. Rowe:

I understand from your request that you are the Special Events Coordinator at the Deering Estate, you are also engaged in freelance work and that some of the companies that utilize your services may have events at the Deering Estate. The Parks and Recreation Department has a policy to ban you from the property when these events are being held. You describe you position with Deering as performing a walk through for potential Deering clients, giving them a contract for the rental of the facility, and providing them with a list of vendors, if they inquire.

The only reservation I have concerns the vendor lists that you give out to clients upon their request. If you simply give out the vendor lists without commenting on any of the vendors, then I see no conflict of interest for you to continue to do your freelance work. However, if you are asked to recommend a vendor based on your experiences as the Special Events Coordinator, it places you in a position of a possible conflict. The conflict would be recommending a vendor who has used your freelance services in the past or is contemplating using your freelance services in the future.

In closing, your outside employment activities do not conflict with your County position as long as you refrain from commenting on the vendors who are on the vendor list you occasionally hand out to clients. I also agree with the departmental policy keeping you off the premises when events are being held at Deering where your freelance services are utilized.

If you have any questions concerning the above, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
(305) 350-0613

**From:** Rowe, Leslie (MDPR)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2007 12:54 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Approval for Out Side Employment

Hi Mr. Meyers,

I am just wondered if you had a chance to review the answers to your questions. Please let me know at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

**Leslie Rowe**, Special Events Coordinator  
The Deering Estate at Cutler  
**Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department**  
305-235-16368 ext.236  
www.miamidade.gov/parks

4/26/2007

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2007 2:27 PM  
**To:** Rowe, Leslie (MDPR)  
**Subject:** RE: Approval for Out Side Employment

Dear Ms. Rowe,

Sorry for not responding to your question sooner. I understand from you e-mail that you are the Special Event Coordinator at the Deering Estate and have outside employment as a freelancer, including event set up and break down and waitressing. Some of the companies who utilize your services may have events at the Deering Estate and the policy established by the Parks and Recreation Department is not to allow you on the property when these events are being held.

Before I can issue an opinion, I need to know more about your position with the Deering Estate. When a company or individual wishes to hold a special event at Deering, what is your interaction with them? Do you work directly with their caterers? Are you ever asked to recommend a caterer by someone planning to schedule an event at the Deering Estate? If so, what do you tell them?

Once you answer my questions, I will have a final opinion for you within 24 hours.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers

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**From:** Rowe, Leslie (MDPR)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 10, 2007 2:42 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** Approval for Out Side Employment

Hi Mr. Meyers,

As per our conversation, I am the Special Events Coordinator at the Deering Estate. I also engage freelance event set up, waitressing and break down. Some of the freelance companies also provide catering services to clients at the Deering Estate. For the past eight years; it has been the policy by Parks and Recreation Department Human Resources, that when those companies have been employed by client having their events at the Deering Estate, I am not allowed to work on the property. Does continued employment with these companies outside of the Deering Estate cause a conflict of interest? Please respond at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

**Leslie Rowe**, Special Events Coordinator  
The Deering Estate at Cutler  
**Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department**  
305-235-16368 ext.236  
[www.miamidade.gov/parks](http://www.miamidade.gov/parks)