

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2007 11:49 AM
To: Raymond, David (HT)
Subject: RE: Request for an opinion

7NQ 07-148

Mr. Raymond:

I apologize for not responder sooner to your question. I understand the relevant facts are that you are the executive director of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and you have a lengthy affiliation with the United Way. Your wife has accepted a lead teacher position at the United Way Center for Excellence and you wish to know whether you can continue to encourage staff to participate in the United Way annual campaign.

Miami-Dade County is a major supporter of the United Way and engages in an annual campaign to educate County employees concerning the benefits of donating to the United Way. In order for the County to meet its fundraising targets for the United Way, the department directors are an integral part of the equation.

Employees from your department should feel free to donate to the United Way in general or to donate funds to particular programs unrelated to the one employing your wife. The only reservation I have is if a perception were created that you were attempting to steer donations to the benefit of your wife's program. Assuming that is not the case, I see no conflict of interest for you to continue to support the United Way and to encourage your employees to do the same.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Raymond, David (HT)
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2007 12:40 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Torriente, Susanne M. (CMO); 'Ronald L. Book'; Johnson-Stacks, Cynthia (CAO); Isler, Damarys (CMO); Golphin, Barbara M. (HT); Green, Kimberley (HT)
Subject: FW: Request for an opinion

Dear Mr. Meyers:

As executive director of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust I have always been a strong supporter of the County's United Way campaign. At a previous point in my career I was the assistant director of a United Way agency, thus I have a long history of involvement with the United Way.

The County is a major supporter of the United Way and as a department director I have always encouraged my staff's participation in the United Way annual campaign.

Recently, my wife accepted a position as lead teacher at the United Way Center for Excellence. As such, I would like the Ethics Commission opinion as to any potential conflict I may have in encouraging my staff to participate in the United Way campaign.

Regards,
David

David Raymond, Executive Director
Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust
111 NW 1st Street, 27th floor
Miami, FL 33128

If you are Homeless or about to become homeless, please contact the Homeless Helpline at
1877994HELP

If you are seeking Affordable Housing, please view our website at:
www.miamidade.gov/homeless