

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2008 11:45 AM
To: 'emanuelw6@aol.com'
Subject: Overtown Community Oversight Board

TO: Emanuel Washington, Sr.
305.761.7443
INQ 08-59 (relating to Sections 2-11.1 (c) & (d))

Dear Mr. Washington:

You asked two questions about possible conflicts associated with your service on the City of Miami Overtown Community Oversight Board. As we discussed today, in both cases, you may obtain benefits through the City of Miami Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) because the County Ethics Code does not prevent you from benefiting financially or transacting business with government agencies other than your own board.

Both of your questions deal with funds obtained through the City of Miami CRA, an independent government entity that awards grants to develop and renovate projects within the CRA territory. The facts are as follows:

1st. You currently serve without pay as the Executive Director of the Overtown Optimist Club, a nonprofit youth organization. The Optimist Club is seeking a grant from the City of Miami CRA that will be used, in part, for the salary of a program executive. If the Optimist Club is successful in obtaining the grant, you will serve as the paid program director.

You have no conflict to serve as the paid program director with money funded through the Miami CRA, since you have no affiliation with the CRA.

2nd. You own a 9-unit rental property in the CRA territory. You would like to obtain funding from the CRA to improve the property, specifically to fix the roof and add central air conditioning.

Again, you may accept funding from the CRA because you have no affiliation with the CRA.

If you have further questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade Co. Commission on Ethics
Direct Phone: 305.350.0601
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