

Meyers, Robert (COE)

ING 08-153

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2008 3:13 PM
To: Gulley, Cheree L. (DIST3)
Subject: RE: Brownsville project

Ms. Gulley:

Thank you for the additional information. You wish to know whether any conflicts of interest exist for Commissioner Edmonson concerning the fact that the St. James Economic Development Corporation, a non-profit organization created by her church, is partnering with the Carlisle Group in the construction of a transit-oriented development in her district. You indicate in your e-mail that Commissioner Edmonson is a member of the church, but she is not a member of the Economic Development Corporation.

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust has held on numerous occasions that an official who is simply a member of a congregation has no voting conflicts of interest if matters come up involving the elected official's church. In the case of Commissioner Edmonson, any potential benefit is even more remote as the matters likely to come before the Board of County Commissioners pertain to the Development Corporation, not the church itself. Therefore, under the facts presented, Commissioner Edmonson would have no conflicts of interest with respect to the partnership between the St. James Economic Development Corporation and the Carlisle Group.

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

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

From: Gulley, Cheree L. (DIST3)
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2008 2:46 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Re: Brownsville project

Yes, the church created the not for profit.

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
To: Gulley, Cheree L. (DIST3)
Sent: Mon Sep 22 14:44:12 2008
Subject: RE: Brownsville project
Dear Ms. Gulley:

Sorry I haven't replied sooner, but I do have one question. Is there a connection between the St. James Economic Development Corporation and the St. James A.M.E. Church? Once I have this clarification, I will be able to issue Commissioner Edmonson an opinion.

Thanks,

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

9/22/2008

From: Gulley, Cheree L. (DIST3)
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 10:33 AM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Villa, Pedro (DIST3)
Subject: Brownsville project

Commissioner Edmonson was informed that the Carlisle Group will partner with St. James Economic Development Corporation in the construction of a transit oriented development at the Brownsville Metrorail station in District 3. Please provide our office a written opinion of whether there is any conflict of interest in that the Commissioner is a member of St. James A.M.E. Church. Commissioner does not serve on nor is she a member of the Economic Development Corporation.

Please let me know if you have additional questions. Thanks.

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TEL : 3055792594
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Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics

fax

Subject: *Commissioner Edmonson's Ethics Opinion re St. James Economic Development Corp.*
Date: *Oct. 6, 2008*

To:	<i>Lee Salomon, GSA</i>	From:	<i>Victoria Frigo</i>
Phone Number:	<i>375.4421</i>	Phone Number:	<i>305.350-0601</i>
Fax Number:	<i>375.4968</i>	Fax Number:	<i>305.579.0273</i>
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