

Meyers, Robert (COE)

JNO 08-165

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 10:54 AM
To: Sanchez, Yolanda (Aviation)
Subject: RE: Invitation

Yolanda:

I have given your question considerable thought and I conferred with our staff general counsel. It is our opinion that you may accept the gift from American Airlines on its inaugural flight to Bahia, Brazil as part of your work on the Carybe Project. We have concluded the relationship between Miami-Dade County and American Airlines is that of landlord-tenant, which means such a gift would not be prohibited under the County's ethics code. Please understand that if such an offer had been extended to you by Odebrecht, a County vendor, you would have been barred from accepting it.

It appears from your e-mail that you are going in your official capacity; however, you should report the trip as a gift, as it is not being paid for by Miami-Dade County. If you have any questions about the process of reporting the gift, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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

From: Sanchez, Yolanda (Aviation) [mailto:YSANCHEZ@miami-airport.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 10:09 AM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Invitation

Hi Robert, per our conversation of this morning, I am writing to present the situation and obtain your input.

After I spoke to you, I determined that clearly the invitation is coming from American Airlines (and not Odebrecht) and I will be given a written invitation reflecting that.

I have been working on the Carybe Project for some time which will bring the two iconic murals from JFK Airport to MIA. The murals were salvaged prior to demolition and we have been working with conservators to refurbish the murals and ultimately install them in Phase II of South Terminal. This is a major collaboration between American Airlines, Odebrecht and MIA.

The invitation consists of joining a group on American Airlines' "first flight" from Miami to Bahia, Brazil, the birthplace of Carybe. There will be a series of meetings with the artist's wife (widow) and visits to his studio/home. I will be collecting photographs that we will use in our exhibit. Additionally, there are a number of dinners and so forth with dignitaries and government officials. I would be representing MIA. The trip would take place from Sunday, November 2nd through Wednesday, November 5th.

Please contact me if you have any questions.
 Thank you very much for your input.
 Best regards, Yolanda

Yolanda Sanchez, Ph.D.
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10/22/2008

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