

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 08-168

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 10:33 AM
To: Bennett, Betty (CAA)
Subject: RE: Ethical Opinion

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Based upon the information you have supplied me, I find no conflict of interest would exist if you were hired as a consultant by Our Kids, Inc. to draft policies and procedures for the Family Finders Project. The consulting work for Our Kids does not conflict with your County position.

Please be advised that any income generated from your consulting work needs to be reported. For outside employment income earned in 2008, an income disclosure form must be submitted no later than July 1, 2009.

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

From: Bennett, Betty (CAA)
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2008 2:40 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: RE: Ethical Opinion
Importance: High

Mr. Meyers

Since Our Kids, Inc. is not a HeadStart Delegate, my staff nor would I monitor their operations. Even if Our Kids were a county funded Community Based Organization (CBO), and it's my understanding that they are not, I would not monitor them as such organizations are monitored by the county's Office of Grants Coordination. Thanks
 Betty

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2008 11:12 AM
To: Bennett, Betty (CAA)
Subject: RE: Ethical Opinion

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Before I can respond to your request, I need to ask you a question. Is it conceivable or likely that you or your staff would be asked to monitor the operations of Our Kids, Inc.? Once you provide me with an answer to this question, I will be able to issue an opinion.

Thanks,

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

From: Bennett, Betty (CAA)

10/24/2008

Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 11:04 AM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Ethical Opinion
Importance: High

Mr. Meyers:

I was approached by Our Kids, Inc. to write policies and procedures for their Family Finders Project for a fee. This project is responsible for locating relatives of children in foster care and work towards family reunification where possible. I inquired as to whether or not the agency received county funding and was told that funds are received from the Children's Trust.

Presently, my position of Monitoring Supervisor is with the Community Action Agency. My duties consist of writing policies and procedures, staff training and development, supervising 3 Monitoring Specialist, conducting monitoring reviews of the department's service divisions, special projects, and monitoring corrective action processes. These tasks are performed solely for the department and do not include interfacing with any other county department or private/public not for profits. However, my staff and I have monitored delegate agencies contracted to provide educational services to eligible children enrolled in the department's HeadStart Program. My question is what if any ethical dilemma is presented in this type of arrangement? I also have an approval for Outside Employment.

Should you need additional information or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 786-469-4719. Thanks for your prompt response to this matter.

Respectfully,
Betty Bennett