

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

7-12-08 08-24

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 22, 2008 4:22 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Martha (LIB)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Question

Martha,

We are not revisiting the E-Bay question per se, but an employee who establishes a commercial enterprise to buy and sell on E-Bay is engaging in outside employment. To me, the key is whether the person is reselling the merchandise he/she is buying on E-Bay on a regular basis. If the goods are purchased for one's personal consumption, it isn't outside employment. If the goods are purchased to resell and make a profit, that to me appears to be outside employment.

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

**From:** Sanchez, Martha (LIB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2008 3:08 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Question

Good Afternoon, Mr. Meyers:

I posed the E-Bay question a couple of years ago (please see below) and was wondering if there have been any changes. (Last year, I attended a meeting where it was stated that the E-Bay question was being re-visited, in light of actual "companies" being set up through this medium).

Is it now considered outside employment?

Thank you for your assistance,  
 Martha Sanchez

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

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2005 4:17 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Martha (LIB)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Question

I understand. Any grammatical errors will not be held against you.

Believe it or not, the question you pose has never come up before. After giving it considerable thought and consulting with our General Counsel, she and I agree that buying and selling on Ebay would not constitute outside employment; therefore, it would be unnecessary to receive permission before engaging in such activities. As I see it, it is akin to an Internet garage sale; and our office does not believe a garage sale can be equated with outside employment.

I would caution you, however, that employees should not be accessing the Ebay website during working hours and County resources should not be utilized in check on the status of goods for sale or resale on Ebay.

If you have any additional questions or if you would like to discuss the above with me in more detail, please contact me at your convenience.

2/22/2008

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers

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

**From:** Sanchez, Martha (LIB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 08, 2005 5:21 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Question

Upon review of my email...PLEASE forgive my grammar, it's been a rough day!

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

**From:** Sanchez, Martha (LIB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 08, 2005 5:20 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** Ethics Question

Good Afternoon, Mr. Meyers:

It was nice seeing you again at Friday's Ethics Officers' meeting. I have a question for you that I haven't seen answered anywhere, so here it is:

Is selling items through the internet (i.e.: Ebay) considered "Outside Employment" and do the same rules apply? Does the amount of money a MDC employee makes through this medium matter?

Thank you for your time and consideration of my question,

**Martha Sanchez**  
Library Personnel Manager  
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