

Meyers, Robert (COE)

ING 08-54

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2008 4:14 PM
To: 'Suz'
Subject: RE: Give me an idea.

Hi Suzette,

Let me do my best to answer your questions in plain English.

- 1) Asking for information is not lobbying. Therefore, you can request information from County departments.
- 2) Individuals who are representatives for neighborhood associations are not considered lobbyists. Thus, the Two Year Rule would not apply if you were a board member of the association and not being compensated for your appearances. If the neighbors wanted to hire you to represent their interests to individual county commissioners, you would be prohibited from do so on account of the Two Year Rule.
- 3) Former County employees who go to work for a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization may lobby County – the Two Year ban does not apply to former employees employed by non-profit agencies.
- 4) It would seem to me that your date of separation was November 4th, so you would not be permitted to lobby County officials or personnel for a period of two years from November 4, 2007.
- 5) Former County employees have the right to apply for business certifications. The only problem that could materialize is if you wanted to bid on a County contract. Under the Two Year Rule, that might be prohibited.

I hope I have addresses your questions. If not, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Thanks,

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

From: Suz [mailto:suzeq@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2008 3:05 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Give me an idea.

Hi Robert,

Can you tell me in plain language what I can do around the county offices as a former member of the Mayor's Staff? Who I can approach to ask for information (like in public works); can I meet with a commissioner if is an issue that I am working on (like a community problem)? And when do I stop being a person helping a group of neighbors with an issue and become a lobbyist?

Also, if I went to work for a non-profit as a development director, can I

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represent them before county boards and in public meetings?

And finally, if there is a time limit before I can do county work, when did that clock start running? I was moved to the managers staff in March 2007 (although I think the payroll paperwork was delayed a week or 2 even though I was not working for the Mayor) and then our office in the Managers was moved to PZ in Oct and my official county exit date was Nov 4. I may want to apply for business certification with the county and I don't want to step into anything.

With regards,

Suzette Rice