

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

ING 09-167

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2009 4:09 PM  
**To:** Fuentes-Johns, Yolanda (MDPR)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics question

Dear Yolanda:

Thank you for your question. As I understand it, Mr. Book has been nominated for a prestigious award and Ms. Binhack, a Parks Department employee, is being asked to write a letter of support for Mr. Book on County letterhead. I assume the reason a letter of support is being solicited from her is because she is familiar with Mr. Book's work in his capacity as President of the Leisure Access Foundation.

The Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics has consistently held that letters of recommendation or support can be written by County officials and employees using official County letterhead when the official or employee has come to know the person who is the subject of the recommendation through official County business. In this particular case, it appears that Ms. Binhack through her work in leisure access services for the Miami-Dade Parks Department interacts with the Leisure Access Foundation. Due to this relationship, Ms. Binhack can offer insight about Mr. Book's role with the Leisure Access Foundation and she would be permitted to use County letterhead when submitting her letter of support.

Feel free to contact me should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

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

**From:** Fuentes-Johns, Yolanda (MDPR)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2009 1:41 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** FW: Ethics question

Hi Robert,  
 Hope all is well.

Please read the question submitted below by Ms. Binhack. Is there a conflict with the letter of support being on Parks' letterhead?

Thanks.

**From:** Binhack, Lucy (MDPR)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2009 8:38 PM  
**To:** Fuentes-Johns, Yolanda (MDPR)  
**Subject:** Ethics question

Yoli,

I am being asked to write a letter of support for Ron Book who is the President of the Leisure Access Foundation and a very influential lobbyist. See below. Is there any reason I cannot send these letters on Parks letterhead.

I just felt I needed to check before I use Parks letterhead. Thanks, I know you are swamped right now.

10/8/2009

Lucy Binhack, CTRS, MPA  
Disability Services Manager  
M-D Parks Leisure Access Services  
Crandon Park Tennis Center  
7300 Crandon Blvd  
Key Biscayne, FL 33149  
305-365-6706  
[binhack@miamidade.gov](mailto:binhack@miamidade.gov)

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**From:** Staci [<mailto:sehrens@att.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2009 5:19 PM  
**To:** Binhack, Lucy (MDPR)  
**Subject:** Fw: Ron Book Letters of Support

Hello Lucy

Thank you for your time this afternoon and it was a pleasure speaking with you. As I expressed, I am nominating Mr. Ron Book for the 2010 Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Awards and the Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award.

I am nominating Ron in both Miami Dade and Broward Circuits so if you don't mind I will need the same letter of support (two of the same letters for the two different people listed below) on the work you do through the Leisure Access Foundation. Plus anything you would like to add and include.

The Miami-Dade letter should be addressed to:

Dori Foster-Morales  
Elser & Foster-Morales LLC  
44 W. Flagler Street  
Miami, FL 33130

The Broward letter should be addressed to:

Timothy Lawrence Bailey  
Bailey & Bailey Et Al  
2335 E Atlantic Blvd, Suite 300  
Pompano Beach, FL 33062

If you don't mind - please scan and email back to me at [sehrens@att.net](mailto:sehrens@att.net) so I can include it in the final packet. Also my cell phone is (305)586-7025. I would like to get these back by mid October or the third week at the latest. Please feel free to contact me for ANY questions or in anyway that I can assist.

Thank you in advance,  
Staci

Staci Ehrenkrantz  
SJE Concepts, Inc.

10/8/2009