

**Frigo, Victoria (COE)**

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**From:** Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2010 2:34 PM  
**To:** 'Brown, Maedell'  
**Cc:** Soto, B. Lori; Duran, Alfredo  
**Subject:** Question of Conflict of interest

Ms. Brown,

As the City of Miami Accounts Payable Supervisor, you asked if your prior voluntary board service with the nonprofit organization, Neighborhood Housing Services, creates any conflicts that would prevent the nonprofit itself, or its nonprofit affiliate, from obtaining grants from the City of Miami Department of Community Development (DCD). Neighborhood Housing Services provides lending and related services to individuals participating in community development initiatives.

Under both the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County ethics codes, your current employment and past volunteer efforts do not create any conflicts of interest in Neighborhood Housing Services' pursuit of grants from the DCD. Because of its nonprofit status, you could not hold a financial interest in Neighborhood Housing Services. Additionally, your past affiliation with the nonprofit as a nonpaid volunteer further underscores that you would not personally benefit, directly or indirectly, if Neighborhood Housing Services were to obtain a grant.

Be advised, however, that the City of Miami Code at Sec. 2-612 (a) prohibits you from appearing in any capacity on behalf of Neighborhood Housing Services before any board, commission, or agency of the city.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney  
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics  
Direct Phone: 305.350.0601  
Fax: 305.579.0273



19 West Flagler St., Suite 820  
Miami, FL 33130

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**Reference: INQ 10-15**

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**From:** Brown, Maedell [mailto:MBrown@miamigov.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2010 4:32 PM  
**To:** Frigo, Victoria (COE); 'rmyers@miamidade.gov'  
**Cc:** Soto, B. Lori; Duran, Alfredo  
**Subject:** Question of Conflict of interest

Good afternoon all

1/28/2010

My name is Maedell Brown, Accounts Payable Supervisor for the City of Miami. My duties within the City include overseeing the Accounts Payable day to day operations, the disbursement of City funds to vendors for services provided , refunds and reimbursements to external and internal customers once approval is received from authorized personnel. My position here at the City cannot influence in any way funding from any City Department to an outside agency.

I served in the capacity of resident board member for Neighborhood Housing Services from 2000-2009 at which time my 3 term limits expired. An affiliate of Neighborhood Housing Services, 1228 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, LLC has applied to the City of Miami Department of Community Development for the financing of an affordable housing rehabilitation project within City boundaries.

Seeing as though my position here at the City is not one that would persuade or otherwise direct funding from the City to the agency, I would like to request your assistance in determining if my previous position as board member would create a conflict of interest?

Thank you,

## ***YOUR CITY , YOUR PLAN***

### ***Maedell Brown***

**Finance Accounting Supervisor**

**City of Miami**

**Finance Department**

**Accounts Payable**

**305-416-1981**

**Fax: 305-400-5109**

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**Failure to provide this information on your invoices will result in payment delays.**

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