

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 11:56 AM
To: 'jmccoy@hollyre.com'
Subject: Your request for an ethics opinion

Mr. McCoy:

In an email to our office on February 11, 2010, you asked if you had any ethics conflicts based on certain positions you hold in the Village of Miami Shores, specifically—

- You are employed by Barry University in Miami Shores as a lobbyist, and you have registered as a lobbyist with the Village of Miami Shores.
- You serve as a volunteer board member for the Doctors Charter School, appointed by the Village of Miami Shores. The Doctors Charter School is located on land owned by Barry University.
- From April 2003 to April 2007, you served as Mayor of the Village of Miami Shores.
- You are a licensed real estate agent specializing in commercial real estate.

Potential ethics conflicts may arise as voting member of the Doctors Charter School Board. The County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (v) prohibits you from voting on matters involving any entity with which you have certain business or professional relationships, such as Barry University, if you would also be directly affected by the vote.

You may lobby the Village under the terms specified in the Village Code at Sec. 2-100. Since your elected service ended more than two years ago, you do not violate the County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (q), which prohibits elected officials from lobbying their respective cities for two years following their service with the city.

Finally, since the Doctors Charter School operates under a State charter, you may wish to contact the Florida Ethics Commission to determine any potential ethics conflicts under State law.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney

Reference: INQ 10-30

Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics
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