

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

JNQ 10-31

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 2:08 PM  
**To:** Baum, Eric (MDFR)  
**Cc:** Murawski, Michael P. (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Ethical question regarding scholarship

Dear Captain Baum:

I apologize for not responding to your earlier e-mail. As I understand it, you have been offered a scholarship from Landmark Education LLC to enroll in a personal development course. Your e-mail indicates that firefighters are eligible for a 100% scholarship and tuition for your course is \$415.

If you take advantage of the full scholarship, you have received a gift of \$415. In order to comply with the county ethics code, you must report this gift by the end of the next quarter – assuming you take the course this quarter. If you take the course in the second quarter of 2010, then the gift must be reported by the end of the third quarter of this year.

If you have any questions about locating the gift reporting form or how to complete it, please reply to this e-mail or call me at (305) 350-0613.

Sincerely,

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

**From:** Murawski, Michael P. (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2010 1:57 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE); Walker, Ardyth (COE)  
**Subject:** FW: Ethical question regarding scholarship

Robert:

I forwarded this to you a few days ago. He is still looking for an opinion

**From:** Baum, Eric (MDFR)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2010 12:21 PM  
**To:** Murawski, Michael P. (COE)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Ethical question regarding scholarship

Any word regarding this issue?

--eric.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Baum, Eric (MDFR)" <[eric.baum@miamidade.gov](mailto:eric.baum@miamidade.gov)>  
**Date:** January 29, 2010 11:37:55 EST  
**To:** "Murawski, Michael P. (COE)" <[MURAWSK@miamidade.gov](mailto:MURAWSK@miamidade.gov)>

2/4/2010

**Subject: Ethical question regarding scholarship**

Greetings-

My name is Eric Baum. I am a Fire Captain with Miami Dade Fire Rescue. (Employee number 88842). I spoke with you on January 29 regarding a scholarship that was offered to me for a personal development class. I would like to know if there are any legal or ethical issues that would give me reason to decline this scholarship. As per your request, I have summarized my query below:

My wife wants me to attend a personal development course offered by Landmark Education LLC. Landmark is a personal training and development company which offers educational programs in approximately 115 locations in 20 countries worldwide.

The tuition for this class is \$415. Attendance will be off-duty, on my own time. The company offers a 100% scholarship to firefighters in the United States. I found the following excerpt from the company's webpage accessed today. It explains the reason for the scholarship for firefighters:

*"...Although LE's [Landmark Education] offices were lost in the tragedy of 9/11, fortunately, its entire staff survived unharmed thanks to the heroics of the New York City's police and firefighters. In commemorating the LE center, **LE would like to honor the extraordinary commitment and heroism of firefighters and policemen in New York and throughout the United States of America by offering police and firefighters its core program, The Landmark Forum - free of charge....**"*

[http://www.landmarkeducation.com/display\\_content.jsp?top=26&mid=659&bottom=676&siteObjectID=3569](http://www.landmarkeducation.com/display_content.jsp?top=26&mid=659&bottom=676&siteObjectID=3569) accessed on 1/29/2010

I called the Miami-Dade County Office of Procurement and Management at your suggestion. They do not show Landmark Education LLC as doing business with Miami-Dade County. (The only "Landmark" was a Landmark Precasts that provide construction materials). They did not check by Tax ID number. I am not aware of Landmark operating under any other name. I will call corporate headquarters in California to check on DBA and get a Tax ID number.

If there is any other information you need, please contact me at this e-mail, or via my cell phone, 786-863-7930.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,

--eric.

**Eric Baum**  
Relief Captain  
Operations North B

**Miami-Dade Fire Rescue**

9300 NW 41st Street • Miami, Florida 33178

786-331-5000

[baume@miamidade.gov](mailto:baume@miamidade.gov)

[www.miamidade.gov](http://www.miamidade.gov) <file:///C:/Documents%20and%  
20Settings/baume/Application%  
20Data/Microsoft/Signatures/www.miamidade.gov> /mdfr/

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*Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure. All E-mail sent and received is captured by our servers and kept as a public record.*