

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 10:33 AM
To: Ryan, Timothy (MDCR)
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: Ethics Opinion re Becker & Poliakoff (INQ 11-177)

TO: Timothy P. Ryan, Director, Corrections & Rehabilitation Department

Mr. Ryan,

Joe Centorino has asked me to respond to your question about possible conflicts of interest as a result of your private business relationship with the law firm of Becker & Poliakoff and the affiliation of Carlos Gimenez, Jr., the son of Mayor Carlos Gimenez, with the law firm.

Your private business relationship is through your condominium association, where you serve as president. The attorney, Carlos F. Martin, Esq., of Becker & Poliakoff has been assigned to assist your condominium association on a retainer basis.

You have no familial relationships or financial interests in the law firm that would trigger a potential conflict of interest or an appearance of impropriety. In general, however, when dealing with attorneys from Becker & Poliakoff in your capacity as a County department director, you should avoid actions that could be construed as, or result in, exploitation of your official County position to obtain a special benefit for yourself or your condominium association.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Centorino or me if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

VICTORIA FRIGO, STAFF ATTORNEY

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