

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 3:17 PM

To: 'Kathryn Mehaffey'

Subject: Elected official must not use city funds to pay for a ticket to a partisan political event (INQ 11-39)

Hello Kathy,

As we discussed this afternoon, an elected municipal official may not use city funds to purchase a ticket for himself to attend a partisan political event. In Miami-Dade County, where local elections are nonpartisan, attending a partisan political event is not within the scope of one's official duties.

Consequently, purchasing a ticket with city funds would violate the County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (g), exploitation of official position. In this case, the official would be securing a special privilege for himself (getting a free ticket at the city's expense) based on his elected position in the city.

Attached is a memo from Robert Meyers summarizing recent ethics opinions on campaign issues that may be useful.

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

Sincerely,

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