

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 10:34 AM
To: Seff, Flora (MDFR)
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: INQ 12-21 RE: Sec. 2-11.1 (w)

Ms. Seff,

Section 2-11.1 (w) of the County Code prohibits County employees from accepting travel expenses from County vendors. Only the Board of County Commissioners may waive the prohibition by a majority vote.

Consequently, since the Ethics Commission is not empowered to grant this variance, you may wish to bring your request directly to the BCC.

Sincerely,

VICTORIA FRIGO, STAFF ATTORNEY

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From: Seff, Flora (MDFR)
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2012 12:41 PM
To: Ethics (COE)
Subject: 2-11.1(w)

I would appreciate a response as soon as possible since the proposed trip is in 2 ½ weeks. Thank you for your assistance.

A Texas vendor with MDFR operates a flight simulator training (no other vendor offers similar type training) which MDFR pilots have attended for over 20 years. They are extending an invitation to the training personnel of MDFR – Air Rescue to visit their facility February 13 - 14. The two personnel who would benefit from this invitation have never had the opportunity to tour the training facility and evaluate the emergency procedures which are taught there using the flight simulator. Additionally, both MDFR employees are responsible for coordinating Pilot/Co-Pilot training and determining cost effective ways to continue the quality of training and service for which MDFR Air Rescue is recognized.

The vendor has agreed to cover the transportation and lodging costs for the employees. Would this be a violation of 2-11.1(w)?

I emphasize that this is the only company in this country which provides this type of training and MDFR would not be in a position to use any other vendor.

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