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From: Del Amo, Gerald M
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 2:43 PM
To: Armstrong, Norma S; Prendergast, Anne; Cuming, Ric; Andrews, Kevin; Cobb, Ivenette ; Huot-Barrientos, Maria I; Romano, Michelle A; Costanzo, Rosa M
Cc: Salinas, Diana
Subject: FW: RQO 12-91

All:

Below please find a written opinion from the Miami-Dade Ethics Commission regarding attendance at the upcoming symposium.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or comments.

Thank you,
-Jerry Del Amo

Gerald M. Del Amo, Esq.
Corporate Compliance Manager
Office of Compliance

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From: Ramos, Miriam S. (COE) [<mailto:MSRAMOS@miamidade.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 2:28 PM
To: Del Amo, Gerald M
Cc: Frigo, Victoria (COE); Centorino, Joseph (COE); Cedenro, Rachelle (COE)
Subject: RQO 12-91

Gerry,

The Cone of Silence applies to “...any communication **regarding a particular RFP, RFQ or bid** [emphasis added] between a potential vendor...and any member of the selection committee therefor...” Sec. 2-11.1(t)(1)(a)(iii), Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance.

Based on your description, the symposium is offered to a great number of individuals in the field and the subject matter will be the best methodology and approach to launching a survey. Thus, this is a general presentation of the product and not regarding the particular RFP that was put out by JMH. Given these facts, I do not believe that attendance by selection committee members at the symposium would be prohibited by the Cone of Silence. Furthermore, the selection committee’s role is the process has been completed, as they have already chosen their finalist. **Attendees should be cautioned, however, that they should not discuss the pending RFP with any company representatives at any point during the symposium** (unless, of course, the COE makes his recommendation to the Board before then).

Please feel free to call me if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Miriam S. Ramos, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel

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From: Del Amo, Gerald M [<mailto:Gerald.Delamo@jhsmiami.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 1:04 PM
To: Ramos, Miriam S. (COE)
Subject: Request for Opinion (RQO)

Miriam:

This follows up on our conversation from this morning.

I would like to make a Request for an Opinion on behalf of Jackson Health System’s (JHS) Compliance Department. JHS is in the final stages of contracting with the finalist for Satisfaction Survey Services. We are still under the cone of silence, and the contract is on schedule to be awarded at the end of July. The finalist has been selected and the selection team is working with procurement on the negotiations. As it turns out, the finalist holds an annual symposium with, and for customers, to share best practices and innovations. Three members of the selection committee would like to attend this symposium next week in Orlando (at their own expense), as it will answer many of the questions and concerns they have regarding the best methodology and approach to launching a new survey. Their intention in participating is to shortcut much of the research and meetings they would otherwise need to conduct in order to best launch the new survey

tools. In addition, they will have the opportunity to interact with peer organizations that have already gone through what they will be launching in a few months.

Our question is—Are there any foreseeable conflicts in the three JHS employees participating in this symposium? We do not want to impede the final contract award in any way.

The contract has not yet been recommended to the Board by the CEO. The selection committee chose the finalist and procurement has since been engaged in negotiations with same. Once they agree to final terms, then the contract will be presented to the CEO for submission to the Board. So. We are still in the cone of silence.

Thank you,
-Jerry

Gerald M. Del Amo, Esq.
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