



May 17, 2013

Jeanette Lebrecht, Administrator
Local 199
AFSCME Area Field Services Director
6405 NW 36 Street, Suite 113
Miami, Florida 33166

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

Dawn Addy, CHAIR
Charlton Copeland, VICE CHAIR
Nelson Bellido
Judge Seymour Gelber
Kerry E. Rosenthal

Re: INQ 13-121

JOSEPH CENTORINO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GENERAL COUNSEL

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI
ADVOCATE

MIRIAM S. RAMOS
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

Dear Ms. Lebrecht:

Thank you for your letter dated May 1, 2013 in which you request an opinion regarding how the Cone of Silence (Sec. 2-11.1(t), Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance) applies to union members in relation to Miami-Dade County RFP#853, regarding the group medical insurance program.

In your letter you state that AFSCME unions have taken an interest in this RFP and have undertaken an exhaustive educational program for its leadership and administrators. The Miami-Dade County Mayor has now asked the Deputy Administrator of AFSCME Local 199, Ben Borges, to serve on the selection committee for this RFP. You acknowledge that Mr. Borges is covered by the Cone of Silence and are correct that he is.

You ask whether members of AFSCME units may still communicate with vendors. **AFSCME unit members are not under the Cone of Silence and may continue to communicate with vendors if they wish to do so.**

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at (305) 350-0656.

Sincerely,



Miriam S. Ramos, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel