

## **Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)**

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2014 10:19 AM  
**To:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Cc:** Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)  
**Subject:** INQ - Carlos Lopez-Cantera, Miami-Dade Property Appraiser (Sunshine Law)

I received an inquiry from Carlos Lopez-Cantera, Miami-Dade Property Appraiser, regarding a Sunshine Law issue. He advised that, as a result of a decision made by the County Commission upon a measure proposed by Commissioner Bruno Barreiro, a previous policy that provided qualifying senior citizens with a \$100 payment was changed. In 2009, following a property tax increase voted by the Commission, a \$100 payment was initiated to help seniors in a certain income bracket. During the past year a new complete exemption was created for certain qualifying senior citizens. The Commission then voted to put an end to the \$100 payment. However, there are several thousand seniors who were previously exempted anyway from County property taxes and many of them have complained to the Property Appraiser's office upon realizing that they were not receiving the \$100 check at the end of the year.

Lopez-Cantera brought this to the attention of Commission Chair Rebeca Sosa, who suggested that he take it up with Commissioner Barreiro, since it was his proposal that had led to the situation. Lopez-Cantera was concerned that it might be a Sunshine Law violation for him to speak with Commissioner Barreiro upon the suggestion of Chairwoman Sosa. I advised Lopez-Cantera that, provided he was not conveying any substantive information about the issue from Sosa to Barreiro and was limiting his discussion with Barreiro to informing him of the dissatisfaction of senior citizens with the existing policy, there would be no Sunshine Law issue raised by such a discussion.

### *Joseph M. Centorino*

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