
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 9:32 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Ethics Opinion; Addendum to INQ 14-95

Addendum to INQ 14-95

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 9:32 AM
To: 'Roberto J. Icaza III'
Subject: RE: Ethics Opinion

Mr. Icaza,

I discussed this matter with Juan Armas over the phone. This issue was addressed in INQ 14-95. I reviewed the INQ with Mr. Armas. Please contact Mr. Armas if you have any further questions.

Best regards,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 579-2594
Fax: (305) 579-0273
gdiazgr@miamidade.gov
www.facebook.com/MiamiDadeEthics

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From: Roberto J. Icaza III [<mailto:ricaza@southfloridawildecotours.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 9:18 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Cc: Ethics (COE)
Subject: RE: Ethics Opinion

Ms. Diaz-Greco,

I was referred to the ethics commission by the parks department to get an opinion on my specific situation. I believe their thinking was that the opinion or response they received was too vague and did not apply to my situation.

The verbiage received was as follows:

Section 2-11.1(q) of the County Ethics Code prohibits a former County employee from lobbying the County for 2 years after his or her County service. The Ethics Code would not prohibit a former employee from working for a county vendor or becoming a county vendor himself. However, the employee would be prohibited from lobbying for the contract either on behalf of an employer or himself for two years after his County employment.

Given the above statement I do not believe I am in violation of the Ethics Code. I am requesting for my company to receive a permit to bring guests into the parks for Ecological and historical tours as any other company would. I guess I need an Ethics Opinion to proceed with the process. It is not very clear to me why I need this opinion. If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to call or email me.

I have spoken to Juan Armas who advised me to contact the Ethics Commission directly.

Thanks again for your help,

Roberto J. Icaza III
South Florida Wild EcoTours
(786) 286 – 7065

SOUTH
FLORIDAWILD
ECOTOURS



From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) [<mailto:GDIAZGR@miamidade.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 2:22 PM
To: 'Roberto J. Icaza III'
Subject: RE: Ethics Opinion

Mr. Icaza,

We recently provided an opinion to Parks and Recreation on a matter like this. It's possible that opinion referred to your situation. It would be a good idea to contact the department you are seeking to contract with and inquire if they already received an opinion from us on this. If not, let me know and we will process this inquiry.

Best regards,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



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From: Roberto J. Icaza III [<mailto:ricaza@southfloridawildecotours.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 10:06 AM
To: Ethics (COE)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: RE: Ethics Opinion

Ms. Diaz-Greco,

I just wanted to check the status of my request and maybe get a timeline of when I should be receiving a response. Thank you so much for your help.

Roberto J. Icaza III
South Florida Wild EcoTours
(786) 286 – 7065



From: Ethics (COE) [<mailto:ethics@miamidade.gov>]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 11:48 AM
To: 'Roberto J. Icaza III'
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: RE: Ethics Opinion

Mr. Icaza,
Your inquiry has been assigned to Staff Attorney Gilma Diaz-Greco. Ms. Diaz-Greco will be in touch with you.
Joe Centorino
Executive Director

From: Roberto J. Icaza III [<mailto:ricaza@southfloridawildecotours.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 11:43 AM
To: Ethics (COE)
Subject: Ethics Opinion

Hello,

I am a former county employee and need some directions on my current venture. I worked for the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces department for about 4-5 years in the Interpretive services section. First at Crandon Park then at the A.D. Barnes Nature Center and left about a month and a half ago. A colleague (never a county employee) and I recently

established a partnership where we offer guided naturalist lead Ecotours to various locations throughout South Florida. We are interested in offering some of these programs, namely kayaking and biking tours, in some Miami-Dade county parks. Payment is collected outside of the park and all we need is access to the launch locations for kayaking and permission to enter the park for the bike tours. It seems a permit to conduct business on county property or an ITB is what is needed to be allowed to access the parks. The permit outlines terms by which we are allowed access and establishes fees the county collects from us doing business in the park. An example would be 10% of our gross, parking fees and any rental fees for equipment used. Would this be allowed given I was a parks employee? If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to call or email me.

Thank you,

Roberto J. Icaza III
South Florida Wild EcoTours
(786) 286 – 7065



From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 2:27 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: FW: Ethis opinio - two year rule INQ 14-95
Attachments: RQO 12-09 Carreno.pdf

INQ 14-95

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 2:26 PM
To: Estrada, Ardene (MDPR); Wesley, Jon (MDPR)
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: Ethis opinio - two year rule INQ 14-95

Ms. Estrada,

Section 2-11.1(q) of the County Ethics Code prohibits a former County employee from lobbying the County for 2 years after his or her County service. The Ethics Code would not prohibit a former employee from working for a county vendor or becoming a county vendor himself. However, the employee would be prohibited from lobbying for the contract either on behalf of an employer or himself for two years after his County employment. I am attaching RQO 12-09 which addresses the issue of post-employment restrictions. I hope it is useful.

Sec.(h) of the County Ethics Code may also apply. It prohibits employees from ever disclosing confidential information gathered through an employee's official position with the County or from ever using such information for personal gain or benefit.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may be of further assistance.
Best regards,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



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-----Original Message-----

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 4:48 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Cc: Sibilialia, Rhonda (COE)
Subject: FW: Ethics Question

Please respond to Ms. Estrada.

-----Original Message-----

From: Sibilialia, Rhonda (COE)
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 4:16 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: FW: Ethics Question

Joe, it would be better for an attorney to reply. Please let me that someone will.

Rvs

From: Estrada, Ardene (MDPR)
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 3:55 PM
To: Sibilialia, Rhonda (COE)
Subject: Ethics Question

Good afternoon Rhonda,

Could you verify for us the time frame for an ex-employee of the County (Parks Department) to be able to have a contract with the Department he resigned from?

Thanks for your help.

Ardene Estrada
Training & Strategic Planning
Miami-Dade County Park, Recreation and Open Spaces Department
275 NW 2 Street, Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 961-2783

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