

**MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST
MEETING SUMMARY
JANUARY 31, 2008
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Complaints

07-28: The Commission on Ethics granted the Motion for Respondent's Attorney to withdraw from the case.

07-34: The Ethics Commission ratified the settlement agreement proposed by the Office of the Advocate and Respondent John Timoney. The settlement terms included a fine of \$500, reimbursement of investigative costs of \$342.50 and a Letter of Reprimand in connection with the Respondent's failure to file a gift reporting form disclosing his use of a loaner vehicle from Lexus of Kendall for more than one year.

07-35: The Commission on Ethics granted the Advocate's Motion to Dismiss the complaint without prejudice in connection with a complaint filed against former City of Homestead Councilperson Amanda Garner who allegedly violated the Fair Campaign Practices ordinance.

07-45: The Commission on Ethics found probable cause, issued a fine of \$250 and a Letter of Instruction against Respondent Dominic LaRocca who improperly lobbied Public Health Trust officials regarding a contract covered by the Cone of Silence.

Opinions

08-01: The Commission on Ethics opined that a member of the county's Building Better Communities Advisory Board was required to file a financial disclosure form. The Commission found that the modified application of the county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance did not exempt the board member from the financial disclosure requirement.

08-02: The Commission on Ethics opined that a prospective appointee to the county's Affordable Housing Advisory Board, who is president of an architectural firm and has been involved as an architect, developer and investor in affordable housing projects in Miami-Dade County for the past twenty-five years, may not serve as member of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

08-03: The Commission on Ethics opined that a legal expense trust established to benefit a City of Miami Commissioner in connection with legal expenses the commissioner has incurred or may incur in the future may not operate as a blind trust. The Commission found that any contributions received by the trust in excess of \$100 must be reported as gifts by the commissioner on a quarterly basis and these reports are considered public records.