

**MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST  
MEETING SUMMARY  
JANUARY 30, 2007  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ROBERT MEYERS @ (305) 350-0613**

Opinions

07-01: The Commission on Ethics opined that a condominium association that collected donations from its residents to deposit into a holiday fund benefiting county fire rescue personnel does not violate the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance as long as the gifts to fire rescue personnel are not in exchange for any official action or for performing an official duty.

07-02: The Commission on Ethics opined that an engineer with the Department of Water and Sewer who is planning to enter the county's Executive Early Retirement Program may serve as an officer of a corporation seeking a county contract while he is still employed by the County, but he may not serve as a qualifier for the company as long as he is on the payroll of Miami-Dade County.

06-49: The Commission on Ethics opined that the acting director of the county's Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security may work as an officer in a company that provides various services to EMS workers and medical professionals since his county position is not in the division that certifies county EMS workers that might work under his supervision.

Complaints

06-23: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Office of the Advocate and Respondent Juan Gonzalez that he would plead no contest to the first count of the complaint (statements made during the campaign concerning his opponent's work schedule); that Respondent would agree to pay a fine of \$250 and the second count of the complaint would be dismissed.

06-30: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Office of the Advocate and Respondent Sergio Martinez that he would plead no contest to counts five and six of the complaint (unregistered lobbying of County officials); he would pay a fine of \$750 and investigative costs to the Inspector General of \$3,000 and the remaining six counts of the complaint would be dismissed.

06-32: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Office of the Advocate and Respondent Raul Gonzalez that he would plead no contest to counts five and six (unregistered lobbying of County officials); he would pay a fine of \$750 and investigative costs to the Inspector General of \$3,000 and the remaining six counts of the complaint would be dismissed.

06-42: The Commission on Ethics found probable cause with respect to three counts of a five count complaint against Respondent Victor Bao would allegedly violated several provisions of the Voluntary Statement of Fair Campaign Practices in his campaign against County Commissioner Katy Sorenson in 2006. The Commission on Ethics granted the Advocate's motion to dismiss the remaining two counts.

06-54: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint against Citizens to Protect People's Choice for lack of legal sufficiency, as the Ethics Commission has no jurisdiction over campaign treasurer's reports.

06-55: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint against Terry Murphy, an aide to County Commissioner Natacha Seijas, for lack of legal sufficiency, as the Ethics Commission lacked jurisdiction to consider the claims contained in the complaint.

06-57: The Commission on Ethics found the complaint against County Commission Natacha Seijas was legally sufficient but was dismissed for lack of probable cause. The complaint alleged that Commissioner Seijas had a voting conflict when the Board of County Commissioners selected a date to hold her recall election due to the fact she participated in and voted on this matter.