

**MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST
MEETING SUMMARY
OCTOBER 30, 2006
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Opinions

06-55: The Commission on Ethics opined that the Immediate Past Chair of the Dade Heritage Trust may serve as architect of record for historic preservation projects funded by the GOB bond program. However, the requester is prohibited from participating in the evaluation and selection process for any project funded by the Historic Preservation Fund where he may provide services.

06-56: The Commission on Ethics opined county employees are permitted contract with OCED to receive Mom and Pop grant funds, with the exception of employees who work for OCED. Before receiving these funds, employees must obtain outside employment approval from their departments and receive an opinion from the Ethics Commission. Finally, all employees must report the outside business as outside employment, which includes reporting the income generated from these grants.

06-57: The Commission on Ethics opined that married County employees are required to file separate outside employment forms when they own and rent property together. Further, each spouse is required to report the total amount of income received from all jointly owned property.

Complaints

04-44: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Advocate and Respondent Feliu wherein Respondent pleads no contest to one count of a four count complaint, agrees to pay fines and costs to the Ethics Commission of \$2,071, and the remaining three counts of the complaint are dismissed.

06-11: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Assistant Advocate and Respondent John Barr, city of Miami Firefighter, wherein Mr. Barr agrees not to contest the allegations in the complaint and agrees to pay \$3,250 in exchange for the Commission dropping six of the counts in the complaint.

06-22: The Commission on Ethics ratified the proposed settlement agreement between the Advocate and the Respondent Alejandro Noa, an employee of the county's Public Works Department, wherein the Respondent pleads no contest to one count of the three count superseding complaint and agrees to pay a fine and costs of \$750. The Advocate agrees to dismiss the original five count complaint.

06-30: The Commission on Ethics granted the Respondent's Motion for a Continuance.

06-31: The Commission on Ethics found no probable cause and dismissed the complaint against Respondent Amy Gonzalez-Hernandez, who was alleged to have exploited her official position as the director of Policy and Legislative Affairs for the Office of the Miami-Dade County Mayor.

06-32: The Commission on Ethics granted the Respondent's Motion for a Continuance.

06-33: The Commission on Ethics granted the Respondent's Motion for a Continuance.

06-39: The Commission on Ethics granted the Advocate's Motion to Dismiss the Complaint against County Commissioner Sally Heyman without prejudice.

06-42: The Commission on Ethics agreed to continue the case and charged the continuance to the Respondent.

06-44: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint for lack of legal sufficiency against Respondent Madeline Clodfelter, Miami-Dade County Housing Agency employee, finding the allegations in the complaint involved personnel matters outside the scope of the Ethics Commission's enforcement authority.

06-45: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaint for lack of legal sufficiency against Respondent Willie Harris, finding that some of the allegations in the complaint involve the Citizens' Bill of Rights, which the Ethics Commission cannot enforce, and other allegations implicate local campaign finance rules, which is outside the scope of the Ethics Commission's authority.

06-46/47: The Commission on Ethics dismissed the complaints for lack of legal sufficiency against Respondent Paul Thompson, finding that the allegations in the complaint amount to potential violations of the Building Code, which is not within the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.