



For Immediate Release: May 28, 2009  
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### **Complaint dismissed against mayoral candidate**

The Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust today found no legal sufficiency to support a complaint (C 09-08) against Frank Wolland, who is facing a runoff next week for mayor of North Miami. A competitor in the primary campaign for the same office, Andre Pierre, alleged that Wolland violated Miami-Dade County's Fair Campaign Practices Ordinance by misrepresenting facts in campaign material. The board ruled that since Wolland did not sign a voluntary pledge to adhere to the ordinance, he is not subject to that section of the County Code.

A public hearing will be set to hear a complaint (C 09-05) filed by the Independent Advocate against Kentward Forbes, a community organizer in South Miami-Dade, after he rejected a proposed settlement. It was alleged that the Board Member of the Naranja Lakes Community Redevelopment Agency failed to disclose income he received from various sources on financial disclosure forms filed for 2005, 2006 and 2007 as required by law. Forbes told investigators he had no primary source of income, but state records show he is the registered agent for several incorporated entities, including "Citizens Integrated Voices Inspiring Changes," "Civic Services" and "Naranja Optimist Club, Inc." through which he received several thousand dollars for consulting services and community organizing. He also was paid \$26,000 by the First National Bank of South Florida during that time period.

In response to a request for opinion (RQO-09-18), the Commission determined there would not be a conflict of interest for a firm that provides real estate services to the Miami-Dade Aviation Department to serve as broker for a company that's interested in leasing property at Kendall Tamiami Airport. Board members found that Slack Johnston & Magenheimer, Inc. may provide brokerage services as long as the company does not disclose any confidential information about the property or provide services related to the County approval process.

The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of education and outreach, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.

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