
From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:51 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Cc: Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ 15-113 Gerald Sanchez, Assistant County Attorney (Children's Trust, Voting Conflicts)

Assistant County Attorney Gerald Sanchez inquired regarding whether members of the Children's Trust are required to comply with the provisions of the Miami-Dade Ethics Code in connection with possible voting conflicts. The Children's Trust is an entity formed under State law for coordination of funding sources and programs affecting children's services. It is not considered a County board because it is not formed by the County for the purpose of providing a service specifically to the County, although County funds and County personnel may be involved in its programs. The by-laws of the Children's Trust provide that it will be subject to County ethics ordinances, however, there is a specific provision in Article VI of the By-laws that states that a member of the board who is employed by or a member of the governing body of an agency receiving funding from the Trust must disclose the conflict publicly, file a written disclosure, and abstain from speaking or voting on the issue, but need not leave the room during a discussion. Since the Children's Trust is governed by the County Ethics Code only to the extent that it has adopted its provisions, compliance with its own by-laws should suffice for it to be in compliance with voting conflict requirements. Its members should also comply with provisions of Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes, concerning voting conflicts.

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