
From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:27 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ 15-115 Eugene Shy, Assistant County Attorney, Jackson Health Systems (Outside Employment, Travel Expenses)

Eugene Shy, Assistant County Attorney for Jackson Health Systems (JHS) inquired concerning a request for outside employment by a Jackson employee. The employee, a surgical technician, wanted to work as a consultant for Ethicon, a manufacturer of surgical equipment and products. The employee would work only sporadically for the company, but would be required to travel on occasion to service customers who had bought the company's products. The employee is not involved in any way with the Ethicon contract, makes no decisions concerning the buying or procurement of surgical equipment, or the recommending of any particular equipment to JHS surgeons. The employee has received tentative approval for the outside employment from her supervisor, subject to clearance by the COE.

While the hiring of such an employee by a hospital contractor raises inherent concerns regarding possible conflicts, there would be no conflicting employment under Section 2-11.1(j) under the information provided due to the employees non-involvement with product procurement or acquisition on any level. However, Section 2-11.1(w) would prohibit the employee from accepting travel or travel-related expenses from the employer, a county vendor, unless the Public Health Trust were to grant her a waiver of Section 2-11.1(w). It was acknowledged by Mr. Shy that it was unlikely that the JHS CEO would approve a waiver request going before the board, so this restriction would likely negate the employment.

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 579-2594
Fax: (305) 579-0273
ethics.miamidade.gov

