
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:40 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Xavier Suarez, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, District 7 (Sunshine Law) INQ 15-122

INQ 15-122 Suarez

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:26 PM
To: Padron, Joanne (DIST7)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ 15-122 Xavier Suarez, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, District 7 (Sunshine Law)

Commissioner Suarez:

Your appearance at a city/town council accompanied by another County Commissioner, who is present only as part of the audience and does not engage in discussion with you, would not violate the Sunshine law. If some discussion were to take place between the two commissioners involving issues that could foreseeably come before the Commission, that could violate the Sunshine law unless the meeting is a noticed, public meeting conducted in compliance with the Sunshine law and either the notice of the meeting indicates the attendance of the two commissioners or else the meeting of the two commissioners is noticed separately by the County as a Sunshine meeting. However, if the attendance of the two commissioners is not noticed publicly, it would still be permissible for the two commissioners to be present at the same time and to respond separately to questions that might be posed to them at such a meeting, provided that they do not engage in any discussions between themselves. If only one commissioner is in attendance, the commissioner in attendance would be free to discuss anything with the council regardless of whether his or her presence was included in a public notice of the meeting.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino
Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

From: Padron, Joanne (DIST7)
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 2:51 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: Sunshine law

Good afternoon,

In the next few months, I will be appearing before various city/town councils regarding mutual matters of interest. I am inclined to invite the commissioner from the district who will simply be part of the audience. I assume this is not a violation of the Sunshine law.

Xavier L. Suarez
Miami-Dade County Commissioner
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Suite 220
Miami, Florida 33128

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