
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 9:33 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Susan Dechovitz, Assistant State Attorney, Miami-Dade County (Sunshine Law) INQ 15-188

INQ 15-188 Dechovitz

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:52 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE)
Subject: INQ 15-188 Susan Dechovitz, Assistant State Attorney, Miami-Dade County (Sunshine Law)

Susan Dechovitz, Assistant State Attorney for the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office, inquired regarding whether there would be a Sunshine Law violation if she or another staff member of the State Attorney's Office, were to meet with a member of the Statewide Human Trafficking Council, where the State Attorney is a member of that public board and Ms. Dechovitz occasionally serves as the State Attorney's designee on the board. Another board member has asked to meet with Ms. Dechovitz or another staff member at the SAO to meet to discuss issues of concern to that board member, which might include issues that may come up before the board. The other board member seeks the meeting with someone at the SAO who has the knowledge and experience to address the issues in question.

I advised Ms. Dechovitz that it is inadvisable for a designee of a board member to meet with another board member under these circumstances, unless there is an understanding between the designee and the board member making the designation never to discuss board business, which is not the case in this situation. However, it would be permissible for another staff member at the SAO who does not serve as a designee of the State Attorney, to engage in discussion with the other board member, provided that the staff member does not share the discussion with either the State Attorney, or the designee.

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

