
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 9:04 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Morris Copeland, Director, Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department (Conflict of Interest, Exploitation) INQ 15-189

INQ 15-189 Copeland

From: Copeland, Morris (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 5:08 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE); Antunez, Maria (COC)
Cc: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: RE: INQ 15-189 Morris Copeland, Director, Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department (Conflict of Interest, Exploitation)

Thank you,

Morris Copeland, CPM
Director
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department
275 N.W. 2nd Street, 2nd Floor
Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 755-6202 Phone (305) 755-6146 Fax
www.miamidade.gov/jsd/
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From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 4:51 PM
To: Copeland, Morris (JAC); Antunez, Maria (COC)
Cc: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ 15-189 Morris Copeland, Director, Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department (Conflict of Interest, Exploitation)

Mr. Copeland:

You have inquired regarding whether a full time hourly employee of the Juvenile Services Department (JSD) may serve as a board member of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) board, which would require him to attend a monthly board meeting of MDEAT during working hours, 3:00 to 5:00 PM every month.

It would be appropriate for a full time County employee to spend time attending meetings of a public board during working hours, where there has been a determination that service on the board is directly relevant to the work, goals and mission of the employing agency, such that it would be a justifiable expenditure of the agency's resources to support such activity. If that were not the case, then such service could be considered an Exploitation of official position in violation of Section 2-11.1(g) of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. You, as the director of the agency, are the person to make that determination. If you determine that such board service is not so inextricably interwoven with the agency's work that it would be justifiable to use agency resources for that purpose,

then it would be appropriate to permit the employee to perform such service on his own time provided he covers his required number of work hours during those weeks that he attends board meetings. In any event, you as the director of the agency, should make the determination whether service on the board is compatible with his employment in your agency.

I understand that there may be occasions when JSD will interact with the board concerning referrals. I do not have sufficient information to determine whether such matters will come before the MDEAT for a vote, how the employee would be affected by those matters, and whether there may be a conflict that may require or argue for an abstention on his part from voting on or participating in those matters as a board member. Those issues should be re-addressed with us in the event that he does go forward and serve on the MDEAT and it is known that there will be voting matters that concern JSD.

Sincerely,

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

From: Copeland, Morris (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 4:27 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Cc: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC)
Subject: RE: Assistance Relating to a JSD Employee

Good afternoon Mr. Centorino,

The employee is a new full time hourly employee of JSD. Attending MDEAT meetings as a board member is not one of his job duties. His MDEAT board membership was established before he was hired by this department.

Can we allow him to attend this board meeting while on county time? Or will he be able to attend the meeting utilizing his own time or can it be deemed administrative leave?

Thanks

Morris Copeland, CPM
Director
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department
275 N.W. 2nd Street, 2nd Floor
Miami, Florida 33128
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From: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Copeland, Morris (JAC)
Cc: Burgos, Cathy (JAC)
Subject: FW: Assistance Relating to a JSD Employee

Morris,

Please refer to Mr. Centorino's inquiries below.

Gloria M. Madison, Senior Executive Secretary
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department
Office of the Director

275 N.W. 2nd Street, 2nd Floor, Miami, Florida 33128
305-755-6202 Phone 305-755-6146 Fax

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From: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: RE: Assistance Relating to a JSD Employee

Mr. Centorino,

I will forward your inquiry to Director Copeland. He will respond shortly. Thank you.

Gloria M. Madison, Senior Executive Secretary
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department
Office of the Director

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From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC)
Subject: RE: Assistance Relating to a JSD Employee

Is it anticipated that this person will be a full time employee and that he would be paid by the agency for the time that he spent attending MDEAT board meetings?

Joe Centorino

From: Madison, Gloria M. (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:41 PM

To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)

Subject: Assistance Relating to a JSD Employee

The following is being sent on behalf of Director Morris Copeland.

Good afternoon Mr. Centorino,

We just hired a new hourly employee, but before joining our team he was appointed by Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson to sit on the MDEAT (Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust) Board. As a member, he is required to attend a 2 hour (3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.) meeting on a monthly basis. First, is it appropriate to allow an hourly employee to take 2 hours a month to attend a meeting. Secondly, is the fact that we make referrals to MDEAT's Teen Court a conflict of interest?

Please advise. Thank you.

Morris Copeland, CPM
Director
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department

Gloria M. Madison, Senior Executive Secretary
Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department
Office of the Director

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