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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:18 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** Chris Kokoruda, Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney (Conflict of Interest) INQ 15-82

INQ 15-192 Kokoruda

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2015 5:37 PM  
**To:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ 15-192 Chris Kokoruda, Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney (Conflict of Interest)

Chris Kokoruda, Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney, inquired regarding whether Miguel Fara, a nominee to the Public Health Trust Board would be barred from serving on the board where he is also a member of the governing board of the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. The Sylvester Center is owned and operated by the University of Miami, which has a contract with the PHT worth approximately \$120 million for the provision of physician and medical services. The Sylvester Center is wholly owned by UM and operates separately from JHS, although it is located next to JMH.

After speaking with Mr. Kokoruda about the nomination, it became apparent that Mr. Fara should not serve on the PHT due to the significant connection that Sylvester has on a contractual basis with PHT and that there would be repeated instances in which he could not vote on matters pertaining to Sylvester pursuant to Section 2-11.1(d) of the Code, given Mr. Fara's status as a member of Sylvester's governing board. Additionally, insofar as Sylvester may be competing with JHS for some patients, Section 2-11.1(j) could be implicated, in that Mr. Fara's independence of judgment could be affected regarding other management issues that would likely come before the PHT. Moreover, under Article III, Section 3 of the PHT by-laws, enforceable by the Commission on Ethics, there is a heightened standard of ethical conduct applicable to PHT board members, including the consideration of one having an immediate family member having control of an organization that competes with JHS. In this situation the prospective board member himself appears to have a role in managing a hospital which may at times be competing with JHS. Accordingly, it was recommended that the nomination of Mr. Fara be withdrawn.

### *Joseph M. Centorino*

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