
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:39 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Pete Betancourt, Senior Procurement Contracting Officer, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (Conflict of Interest, Outside Employment) INQ 15-205

INQ 15-205 Betancourt

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Betancourt, Pete J. (Aviation)
Cc: Clark-Vincent, Marie (Aviation); Murray, David M. (Aviation); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ 15-203, INQ 15-204, INQ 15-205 Pete Betancourt, Senior Procurement Contracting Officer, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (Conflict of Interest, Outside Employment)

Mr. Betancourt:

In response to the three issues raised in your email, please be advised as follows:

- 3- You have inquired whether individuals employed with the same entity that employs a non-County member of an Evaluation/Selection Committee, may provide contract references on behalf of a Respondent that has listed the employees as contract references. This may create a conflict under Section 2-11.1(j), which prohibits members of a County advisory board from having outside employment that would impair their independence of judgment in performance of their public duties. An employee of a private company sitting on an advisory board may be unduly influenced by contract references from individuals with which he is associated in his private employment that such independence of judgment is called into question. Certainly, there is a serious appearance problem created by such an arrangement. I suggest that either the member of the board should resign from the board, or else the Respondents listing the employees should be asked to list contract references who are not involved in the same business entity as any member of the board.

Sincerely,

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

From: Betancourt, Pete J. (Aviation) [<mailto:PJBETANCOURT@miami-airport.com>]
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <CENTORI@miamidade.gov>
Cc: Clark-Vincent, Marie (Aviation) <MClark@miami-airport.com>; Murray, David M. (Aviation) <dmmurray@miami-airport.com>
Subject: FW: Opinions - Evaluation/Selection Committee Member and Former County Employees
Importance: High

Good morning Mr. Centorino.

The Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) seeks the following opinions from your office:

Opinion

1

Respondents (Vendors) have listed Ms. Aida Bao-Garciga, MDAD Chief Contracts & Construction, as contract reference. Ms. Bao-Garciga has been appointed to the Evaluation/Selection Committee (Committee).

MDAD is in the process of conducting reference checks (project questionnaires) and would like to know if Ms. Bao-Garciga can provide the required references and feedback.

Opinion

2

Respondent listed in its submittal Mr. Jose Abreu, former Aviation Director as contract reference and Mr. Juan Carlos Arteaga, former WASD, Deputy Director for Regulatory Compliance & Capital Improvements.

Can MDAD requests contract references from the two (2) former Miami-Dade County employees (Mr. Abreu and Mr. Arteaga)?

Opinion

3

The Aviation Department often utilizes external (non-County) candidates to serve on evaluation selection committees. Mr. Robert Binish, Vice President of AvairPros, has also been appointed to the Committee for the same solicitation. One of the Respondents has listed Mr. Jeff Woosman, Project Manager, with AvairPros as a contract reference.

Mr. Brian S. Miller, Regional Director, Delta Airlines, is also on the Committee. Respondents have listed the following Delta Airlines employees as contract references:

- Brian Ruppert, General Manager, Delta Airlines at La Guardia International Airport
- John Head, Delta Airlines at Ft. Lauderdale International Airport
- Doyle Steele, PMT Director, Delta Airlines at Los Angeles International Airport
- James Tiefenthaler, Delta Airlines at La Guardia International Airport
- Ryan Marzullo, Delta Airlines at JFK International Airport

Can MDAD request contract references from individuals employed with the same entity employing a Committee Member?

Your assistance is greatly appreciated and please let me know if you require additional information.

Regards,

Pedro J. Betancourt, PMP, CPPO, LEED® AP O+M
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