
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 9:13 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Jeannette Garcia-Amodeo - Special Projects Coordinator and Liaison to the MIami-Dade Youth Commission(Gifts) INQ 15-28

INQ 15-28 Garcia-Amodeo

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 5:28 PM
To: Garcia-Amodeo, Jeannette (JAC)
Cc: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ - Jeannette Garcia-Amodeo - Special Projects Coordinator and Liaison to the MIami-Dade Youth Commission(Gifts)

Ms. Garcia-Amodeo:

In response to your questions concerning whether it would be ethically appropriate for the Youth Commission to utilize privately donated funds to buy youth for youth commission events, and also whether it would be appropriate for Youth Commission members to accept free travel on a bus chartered by the Children's Trust for its Youth Advisory group, in order to travel to Tallahassee for Children's Week in April, please be advised as follows:

It is ethically permissible for the Youth Commission to utilize privately donated funds for approved Youth Commission activities, provided that the funds were not donated for any improper purpose in an attempt to influence a vote or other action of the Commission, and provided that the funds are used strictly for public purposes and to no Commission member's private benefit.

It is ethically permissible for the Youth Commissioners to accept the free travel to Tallahassee from the Children's Trust provided that the travel is not being provided in any attempt to improperly influence the Commissioners regarding any official action. Although the Children's Trust is a county contractor, the ban on acceptance of travel expenses from County vendors does not apply to advisory board members such as Youth Commissioners, although it does apply to County employees who could not accept such free travel. However, inasmuch as the trip would likely be valued in excess of \$100, it would be considered a reportable gift under Section 2-11.1(e)(4) and an appropriate disclosure form should be filed by any Commissioner who accepts the free trip.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino

From: Garcia-Amodeo, Jeannette (JAC)
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 1:15 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: FW: Youth Commission ethics questions

Friendly reminder....please see below. thnx. jg

Jeannette M. Garcia-Amodeo
Special Projects Coordinator and
Liaison to the Miami-Dade County Youth Commission

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From: Garcia-Amodeo, Jeannette (JAC)
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 3:59 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: RE: Youth Commission ethics questions

Jeannette M. Garcia-Amodeo
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From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 12:28 PM
To: Garcia-Amodeo, Jeannette (JAC)
Subject: Youth Commission ethics questions

Ms. Garcia-Amodeo:

I need a little more information before answering these questions.

- 1) Is the money received by the Youth Commission that is used for food at its events raised from general fundraising drives or is it the product of unsolicited donations? Do the donations come from any person or entity that does business with the Youth Commission or with the County?

We are in the process of establishing a fundraising implementing order as per ordinance for the youth commissioners and although it will state what fundraising activities are allowed (basically letter writing campaigns and special presentations to prospective sponsors), but in the event a youth commissioner takes it upon himself to do ie a bake sale for the youth commission...can I accept the money on behalf of the youth commission – please note the implementing order's list of fundraising activities will be 'non-exhaustive'.

2) Is there any business or financial relationship between the Youth Commission and the Children's Trust?

There is no financial relationship, but some of our youth commissioners have also been on the children's trust advisory board in past years. Additionally, we collaborated with them a couple of years ago on a countywide youth talent show—some of our youth commissioners were emcees or contestants.

the trust has extra space on their bus and some of our youth commissioners were interested in attending-so they extended the invitation of a free bus ride. Their food, per diem and lodging would be paid for from the youth commission budget.

Look forward to your answer. jg

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel

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