
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2015 8:38 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Marlene Marante, Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance (Gift Disclosure) INQ 15-92

INQ 15-92 Marante

From: Heidi Siegel [mailto:villagemanager@biscayneparkfl.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 4:15 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE); 'Marlene Marante'; Steinback, Robert (COE)
Cc: Craig Sherman (craig@shermanslaw.com); Frank Simone (frank@franksimone.com); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); attyhearn@aol.com
Subject: RE: INQ 15-92 Marlene Marante, Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance (Gift Disclosure)

Thank you for the clarifications!

Heidi

*Heidi Siegel, AICP
Village Manager
Village of Biscayne Park*

*Village Hall
640 NE 114th Street
Biscayne Park, FL 33161
305 899 8000 – Phone
305 891 7241 – Fax
villagemanager@biscayneparkfl.gov
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"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style" — Maya Angelou

Please print only if necessary.

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From: Centorino, Joseph (COE) [mailto:CENTORI@miamidade.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 4:05 PM
To: 'Marlene Marante'; Steinback, Robert (COE)
Cc: Craig Sherman (craig@shermanslaw.com); Frank Simone (frank@franksimone.com); Heidi Siegel; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: RE: INQ 15-92 Marlene Marante, Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance (Gift Disclosure)

Marlene,

You do not need to file the form with our agency, but thanks for thinking of us. And Congratulations!
Joe

From: Marlene Marante [mailto:mmarante@bayharborislands.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 4:01 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE); Steinback, Robert (COE)
Cc: Craig Sherman (craig@shermanslaw.com); Frank Simone (frank@franksimone.com);

villagemanager@biscayneparkfl.gov; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)

Subject: RE: INQ 15-92 Marlene Marante, Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance (Gift Disclosure)

Thank you for your response.

I will file the form if a gift is given to us that exceeds the \$100 market value. Just to make sure everyone is aware, I never accept gifts from lobbyist, contractors or political committees. Furthermore, I have made it my personal policy not to even go to lunch with any of the previously named individuals.

One more question, should I provide a copy of the gift form to your agency? Under normal circumstances the forms are filed with my office.

Marlene Marante
Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance
Town of Bay Harbor Islands
9665 Bay Harbor Terrace
Bay Harbor Islands, FL 33154
Tel.: 305-866-6241
Fax: 305-866-4863
Email: mmarante@bayharborislands.net
Web: www.bayharborislands.org

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE) [<mailto:CENTORI@miamidade.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 3:55 PM

To: Marlene Marante; Steinback, Robert (COE)

Cc: Craig Sherman (craig@shermanslaw.com); Frank Simone (frank@franksimone.com); villagemanager@biscayneparkfl.gov; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)

Subject: INQ 15-92 Marlene Marante, Town Clerk/Director of Code Compliance (Gift Disclosure)

Ms. Marante:

You have inquired concerning whether gifts that you have received or will receive in connection with your upcoming wedding will need to be disclosed. These gifts have come from co-workers and bosses (who are also elected officials). Section 2-11.1(e) of the County Ethics Ordinance governs gifts and disclosure is addressed in Section 2-11.1(e)(4) of the ordinance. Under the latter section, gifts, or a series of gifts received from any one person or entity, and which fit the definition of a "gift" in the ordinance, and which have a value in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), must be disclosed by public officials or employees in the County on the form required by Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, for "local officers."

Section 2-11.1(e)(2) excepts from the definition of a gift certain items, including "Gifts from relatives or members of one's household." There is no exception in the County Code for gifts from co-workers or bosses. Therefore, regarding any gift or series of gifts received from a non-relative or non-household member, such as a co-worker or elected official, that exceeds the fair market value of \$100, then that gift should be disclosed. In the event that you are required under Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, to file an Annual Financial Disclosure Form, or if you are considered a procurement employee under Chapter 112, then you also would be prohibited from accepting any gift in excess of \$100 from a lobbyist, Town contractor or vendor, or political committee.

Since your spouse is also a public official, then she should also file the required disclosure for gifts provided to you and her jointly.

Please let me know should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

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

From: Marlene Marante [<mailto:mmarante@bayharborislands.net>]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 3:24 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE); Steinback, Robert (COE)
Cc: Craig Sherman (craig@shermanslaw.com); Frank Simone (frank@franksimone.com);
villagemanager@biscayneparkfl.gov
Subject: Question - Gift Law

Mr. Centorino/Mr. Steinback,

I want to clarify and get an opinion from you on something that affects me and my future wife (technically already married) who is Heidi Siegel the Village Manager in Biscayne Park. Heidi and I are getting married this Saturday!

This would be no news to you, except for the fact that we have received several gifts from our co-worker (who are all public employees) and from some of our bosses, who are elected officials. I asked the elected officials to make a donation in our name to Save Dade, which is an organization we both support. At least one Council Member did that, but also gave us a very nice photo frame. Some of the gifts are not very expensive, but there was a card passed out in the office which co-workers signed and put in a monetary contribution. There were more than 15 employees who signed and I don't have any idea how much each contributed and I don't feel right about asking them. The total in the card was \$142.00.

The questions is, should we report all these gifts in the County's gift form? And, If I fill it out, does Heidi also need to do so?

I'd hate to bother you with these questions but in our positions we have to make sure we are following the law.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Marlene Marante
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