
INQ 16-178

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2016 2:04 PM
To: Turay, Radia (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ 16-178 Tina Paul, Commissioner, Town of Surfside (Exploitation, Section 2-11.1(g))

Commissioner Tina Paul, Town of Surfside, inquired regarding whether she would be able to endorse a candidate for the state legislature. I informed her that she was entitled to do so, as long as she did not utilize any public resources, e.g., Town stationery or equipment, for political purposes. There is no prohibition against the use of her title in an endorsement, since that is an appropriate means for her identification, as has been determined in prior opinions. However, any use of Town resources could involve and Exploitation of Official Position, in violation of Section 2-11.1(g) of the County Ethics Code.

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 579-2594
Fax: (305) 579-0273
ethics.miamidade.gov

