
INQ 16-182 Palenzuela

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 9:51 AM

To: Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <GDIAZGR@miamidade.gov>

Subject: INQ 16-182 Alex Palenzuela, Esq. (Prohibited Appearances, Section 2-11.1(m)(1); Recommending Professional Services, Section 2-11.1(p))

Alex Palenzuela, Esq., who represents several municipalities as outside counsel, inquired regarding a conflict he has in one of the municipalities he represents. He has been approached by a developer in that municipality to represent the developer in a zoning matter before the municipality. Mr. Palenzuela was aware that as outside counsel to a municipal government, he is covered by the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, as would a municipal or assistant municipal attorney. In such capacity, he is unable to represent the developer in the zoning matter or to take any fee, including a referral fee from the developer in connection with a municipal matter, pursuant to Section 2-11.1(m)(1). Additionally, I advised him that Section 2-11.1(p) would also apply and would prohibit him from recommending the services of any other lawyer to that developer to assist in a transaction involving a municipality that he represents.

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

