

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 1:58 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Richard Weiss, Esq. Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L. (Gifts) INQ 16-227

INQ 16-227 Weiss

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 1:55 PM
To: Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <perezmd@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 16-227 Richard Weiss, Esq. Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L. (Gifts)

Richard Weiss, Esq., of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L., inquired concerning whether it was permissible for his firm to provide complimentary tickets to local elected officials to an upcoming event honoring Weiss's partner Joe Serota as a "Legal Legend." The tickets have a face value of \$150, but are intended as a fundraiser for HistoryMiami, the sponsor of the event. Mr. Weiss said that his law firm contracts with municipalities whose officials would be offered the tickets. He indicated that he intended to determine the value of the event, including the meal, as distinct from the charitable contribution implied in the fundraiser.

I informed Mr. Weiss that the provision of the tickets would not be in violation of any County ordinance, but that if, as he expected, the value of the charitable donation exceeded \$100, the gift would be reportable under Section 2-11.1(e) by the recipient officials. Mr. Weiss also indicated that he was aware of the prohibition under Section 112.3148(5) concerning gifts valued over \$100 provided to reporting and procurement employees, as well as the State opinions permitting the splitting of the value of a ticket giving entry to an event that is a fundraiser for a non-profit entity.

Joseph M. Centorino

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