

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2016 9:21 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Richard Weiss, Esq., Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L. (Gifts, Exploitation)) INQ 16-265

INQ 16-265 Weiss

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2016 3:51 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 16-265 Richard Weiss, Esq., Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L. (Gifts, Exploitation))

Richard Weiss, Esq., of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman, P.L., attorneys for the Miami Heat organization, inquired concerning the appropriate way for the Heat to send complimentary tickets to the County for public distribution, for special school tournament basketball games held at the American Airlines Arena, where Heat has thousands of unused tickets for such events and wishes to have them properly distributed through the county to the public.

I discussed with Mr. Weiss the policy adopted by the COE in regard to the acceptance of complimentary tickets by public officials. I suggested to him that the best way to accomplish the distribution without creating a violation or perception of a violation under Sections 2-11.1(e) or 2-11.1(g) of the Ethics code, would be for the Heat organization to donate the tickets to the County, whereby the tickets would be County property, and then be distributed in accordance with their policies for distribution of other County-owned tickets, such as those provided to the County under its contract with the Miami Marlins. That would insure that they would be distributed for a public purpose and not used for the private purposes of any official. Additionally, I told him it would be best to avoid directing the tickets to public officials, which might create a violation under Section 112.3148, Florida Statutes, which prohibits acceptance by any such official of a gift valued in excess of \$100 from any County lobbyist or vendor.

Joseph M. Centorino

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