
INQ 16-27

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:22 PM
To: Perez, Martha D. (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ 16-27 Alex Bokor, Assistant County Attorney, Miami-Dade County (Travel Expenses, Gifts)

Alex Bokor, Assistant County Attorney, Miami-Dade County, inquired concerning is receipt of a scholarship he applied for and received from Jewish National Fund, a charitable organization specializing in development of land and infrastructure in Israel, whereby he would receive payment for hotel expenses and meals in connection with a trip to Israel. He would pay for airfare and would use accrued Annual Leave for the trip. Jewish National Foundation is not a contractor or vendor with Miami-Dade County. I indicated to him that there would be no prohibition under Section 2-11.1(w) of the County Code for acceptance of travel-related expenses since the Fund is not a County contractor, vendor or service provider. I also indicated that, inasmuch as it is a scholarship he applied and qualified for, there may be some question regarding the requirement to report it as a gift under County Ethics rules. However, since Mr. Bokor is a reporting individual under State law, and because State opinions tend to be strict in requiring reporting of gifts, even when those gifts have a public purpose, it was recommended that Mr. Bokor report the paid expenses as a gift on a State of Florida Quarterly Gift Disclosure Form.

Joseph M. Centorino

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