

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:58 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Beth Spiegel, City Commissioner, City of North Miami Beach (Cone of Silence) INQ 17-102

INQ 17-102 Spiegel

-----Original Message-----

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:44 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 17-102 Beth Spiegel, City Commissioner, City of North Miami Beach (Cone of Silence)

Beth Spiegel, City Commissioner for the City of North Miami Beach, inquired concerning whether during the pendency of the Cone of Silence, imposed during the procurement process for the contracting out of the City's water and wastewater utility, she could respond to an inquiry from the media concerning the contract and questions raised about the leading firm that is about to be designated for negotiation that could lead to a recommendation on to the Commission for award of the contract.

I advised Commissioner Spiegel that the County Cone of Silence, Section 2-11.1(t) of the County Ethics Code, applicable to the City of North Miami Beach due to the City's not having opted out of the Cone, only restricts communications between certain designated parties involved in the procurement--lobbyists, contractors, consultants, professional staff, selection committee members, Commissioners or their staffs. Since the media is not covered by the prohibitions under the Cone there is nothing in the Cone that would prohibit her communicating with the media concerning the procurement while the Cone is in effect.

However, I also advised Ms.Spiegel that, given the nature of the Cone and its purpose of preventing undue political and private influence over the selection/evaluation process on a procurement, she may want to consider refraining from extensive comment on a pending procurement that could be perceived as an attempt to influence the process during the pendency of the Cone.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Spiegel, Beth [mailto:beth.spiegel@citynmb.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 10:39 AM
To: Smith, Jose <Jose.Smith@citynmb.com>; Garcia, Ana <Ana.Garcia@citynmb.com>
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>; Nau, George [FBI] <George.nau@ic.fbi.gov>;
Latimore, Pamela <Pamela.Latimore@citynmb.com>
Subject: FW: Comment RE: FBI probe

Good morning.
Please see below.

As you know, I am not on Facebook in any way and so I have no knowledge as to what Mr. Iannelli is referring. I don't know Mr. Iannelli. To my knowledge this is first contact I have had.

I thought that there is still a cone of silence concerning the RFQ for the water plant. So, I don't believe that I could speak with a reporter concerning that RFQ even if I were inclined to do so.

Can I send a copy of this e-mail to Mr. Iannelli without violating the cone of silence.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

From: Jerry Iannelli [jerry.iannelli@miaminewtimes.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Spiegel, Beth
Subject: Comment RE: FBI probe

Commissioner Spiegel,

Good morning — my name is Jerry Iannelli, and I'm a reporter with Miami New Times.

I'm reaching out because City Attorney Jose Smith admitted on Facebook last night that the FBI had probed the city's upcoming water deal with CH2M Hill. I've also obtained emails that show Smith filed a public records request earlier this year to obtain any emails you sent regarding the FBI.

Can you comment on the probe? My desk line is 305-571-7681, I'm available any time after noon today. Thanks for any/all help.

Best,
Jerry

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[http://webcasts.citynmb.tv/Other/NMB_90.jpg]

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