

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: FW: Zari Watkins, Public Health Trust-Jackson Health Systems (Gifts) INQ 17-196
Attachments: RQO 06-05 Lucas, T. Letter.pdf

INQ 17-196 Watkins

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2017 4:00 PM
To: 'zari.watkins@jhsmiami.org' <zari.watkins@jhsmiami.org>
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>; Shy, Eugene (CAO) <Eugene.Shy@miamidade.gov>; Murawski, Michael P. (COE) <Michael.Murawski@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>
Subject: Zari Watkins, Public Health Trust-Jackson Health Systems (Gifts) INQ 17-196

Dear Ms. Watkins:

It was a pleasure to speak with you over the phone. You have inquired whether Jackson Health Systems/ Public Health Trust ("PHT/JHS") employees may solicit gifts from JHS/PHT vendors on behalf of the United Way, a nonprofit, charitable organization. JHS/PHT is covered by the County Ethics Code. *See* Miami-Dade Code Section 25-A-9.

As we discussed, regarding solicitation of vendors on behalf of the United Way, the Ethics Commission has previously opined that when activities to support the United Way are explicitly sanctioned by the Mayor or Board of County Commissioners or the PHT, PHT/JHS employees may solicit gifts for the United Way but may not **target** PHT/JHS Vendors or Contractors. *See* RQO 06-05 (attached) INQ 13-279 and INQ 13-291. However, vendors may be contacted in a broad solicitation directed to the members of the general community. *Id.*

The Ethics Commission has previously suggested that a preferred way to handle solicitations would be to have the United Way staff contact potential contributors. INQ 13-291.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Cordially,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



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