

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 9:31 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: FW: INQ 17-197 Alex Palenzuela, Esq. (Lobbyist Registration)

INQ 17-197 Palenzuela

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>
Subject: INQ 17-197 Alex Palenzuela, Esq. (Lobbyist Registration)

Alex Palenzuela, Esq., inquired concerning whether he would need to register as a lobbyist with the County in the event that he were to meet with the County Director of Public Works and Transportation on behalf of his uncle for the purpose of requesting approval of a County declaration of a roadway for public use. The issue concerns his uncle who is in a dispute with a neighbor regarding the road in vicinity of his house. The County had apparently declared its intention some years ago to dedicate this particular roadway, which is still owned privately, for public use, but has never formally done so. The process involves a recommendation from the Director of Public Works and Transportation for Miami-Dade County to make a recommendation for formal acceptance of the roadway to the County Commission, which then must act on the recommendation. It does not involve a quasi-judicial proceeding.

Mr. Palenzuela was advised that, pursuant to Section 2-1-1(s)(1)(b), representation of a principal, such as his uncle, on an action, decision, or recommendation of County personnel that will be foreseeably heard or reviewed by the County Commission falls within the definition of a lobbyist. Since ultimate approval of the matter would need to go before the County Commission, the meeting with a County department director intended to influence the recommendation of the director would be considered lobbying.

Mr. Palenzuela was also advised of the necessity of taking the County lobbyist ethics training course pursuant to Section 2-11.1(bb). Although Mr. Palenzuela has taken the original course in 2012 due to his having registered at that time as a City of Miami lobbyist, he was advised that he needed to re-take the four-hour course because of the time lapse involved.

Joseph M. Centorino

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