

## Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 11:13 AM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** Damarys Isler, Executive Assistant to Deputy Director of Operations, Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department ( WASD) (Gift Solicitation) INQ 17-259  
**Attachments:** RQO 06-05 Lucas.PHT.VendorSolicitations.pdf

INQ 17-259 Isler

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** Isler, Damarys (WASD) <Damarys.Isler@miamidade.gov>  
**Cc:** 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>; Sanchez, Gerald (CAO) <Gerald.Sanchez@miamidade.gov>; Kirtley, Eddie (CAO) <Eddie.Kirtley@miamidade.gov>  
**Subject:** INQ 17-259 Damarys Isler, Executive Assistant to Deputy Director of Operations, Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department ( WASD) (Gift Solicitation)

Ms. Isler:

You have inquired concerning whether there is any ethical issue created by your involvement as coordinator of two County-sponsored fundraising drives, one for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Campaign, and the other for the United Way Campaign. You are a County employee at Miami-Dade WASD and have been designated to coordinate these fundraising drives under the purview of the County Mayor. Both of these fundraising drives have the explicit endorsement of the County government, and involve participation by all County departments which have coordinators for the campaigns.

Although the County Ethics Ordinance generally prohibits solicitations of gifts by County employees under Section 2-11.1(e)(3), there is an exception to this prohibition under Section 2-11.1(2)(e), which exempts from the definition of gifts in 2-11.1(e)(1), "Gifts solicited by County employees or departmental personnel on behalf of the County in performance of their official duties for use solely by the County in conducting its official business." This agency has recognized this exception in connection with fundraising drives that have the explicit endorsement of the County government and the authorization and encouragement of the County administration in employee involvement in these fundraising drives. See RQO 00-111. However, it also should be noted that there are limitations when it comes to solicitation of County vendors or contractors for such purposes. Although County vendors may be included in general solicitations to the public or business community for these donations, they should not be targeted in direct solicitations by County officials or employees. See RQO 06-05 (attached).

Accordingly, you may act as coordinator for both of these fundraising drives with the caveat that direct solicitations of County vendors or contractors should be avoided.

Sincerely,

Joe Centorino

*Joseph M. Centorino*  
Executive Director and General Counsel

Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820  
Miami, FL 33130  
Tel: (305) 579-2594  
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[ethics.miamidade.gov](http://ethics.miamidade.gov)



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**From:** Isler, Damarys (WASD)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 3:07 PM  
**To:** Centorino, Joseph (COE) <[Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov](mailto:Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Ruling

Yes, the Breast Cancer Campaign is done with the explicit endorsement of the Mayor or County Commission. Please see attached memo from the Mayor. Thank you!

**Damarys Isler**, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director of Operations  
Water & Wastewater Operations  
**Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department**  
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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 2:54 PM  
**To:** Isler, Damarys (WASD) <[Damarys.Isler@miamidade.gov](mailto:Damarys.Isler@miamidade.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Ethics Ruling

Ms. Isler,

I apologize for this not having been responded to sooner. I thought it had. There may not be a problem here at all, certainly none with the United Way drive. Has the County in some way endorsed the Breast Cancer Campaign and is that campaign done with the explicit endorsement of the Mayor or County Commission?

*Joseph M. Centorino*

Executive Director and General Counsel  
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**From:** Isler, Damarys (WASD)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 01, 2017 5:38 PM  
**To:** Centorino, Joseph (COE) <[Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov](mailto:Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov)>  
**Subject:** Ethics Ruling  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon Mr. Centorino:

I am a County employee but I also serve as the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Campaign Coordinator and the United Way Coordinator under the purview of the Mayor's Office. Many years ago, we received the ethics ruling on gift solicitation for the United Way Campaign (see attached memorandum). I would like to ensure that the ruling is still in effect and in addition I would like to make sure that the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Campaign can also be included as part of this ruling.

Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

**Damarys Isler**, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director of Operations  
Water & Wastewater Operations  
**Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department**  
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