

**COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

IN RE:

ETHICS COMPLAINT

CHRISTI L. ELIAS

C 22-24-05

RESPONDENT.

_____ /

PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER

The Advocate filed this Complaint against Respondent, Christi L. Elias, alleging that she violated Section 2-11.1(s) of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance entitled “Lobbying.”

Investigation showed that on July 16, 2021, while the procurement solicitation for RFP MCC 9-18 was still pending, the Respondent via e-mail, sent a letter to Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz. In the letter, on the letterhead of her company, C.L. Elias Construction, Inc., the Respondent wrote that she has “participated in the MIA MCC Program for many years and I would like to ensure that as a Miami-Dade SBE/C firm, I will continue to be able to participate in the bidding opportunities it offers.” She described some of the benefits of this “wonderful Program.” She noted that she would like to confirm her support for the MCC 9-18 program. She stated the “should this program go away it will do a disservice to the SBE companies.” She further lobbied Mayor Levine Cava and Chairman Diaz, by advocating for the continuation of the program, stating that it would “insure the[re] will be future work for companies like mine.”

The Respondent in her sworn statement to this agency confirmed that she sent the subject letter to Mayor Levine Cava and Chairman Diaz. She also admitted that she was not registered as a lobbyist at the time she sent the email on July 16, 2021, encouraging the Mayor and Chairman Diaz to take action so as to ensure the continuation of the MCC program.

On May 11, 2022, this matter was presented to the Commission for a probable cause determination. The Ethics Commission found probable cause; dismissed the Complaint pursuant to Code of Miami-Dade County, Article LXXVIII, §2-1074(s), as it appeared that the alleged violation was inadvertent, unintentional, or insubstantial; and ordered that a Letter of Instruction C22-24-05

In re: Christi Elias

Final Order

be issued to the Respondent.

Wherefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Complaint C22-24-05 against Christi L. Elias, is hereby dismissed.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on this 11th day of May, 2022.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS
& PUBLIC TRUST

By:

DocuSigned by:
Judith Bernier
229F6B48B9E44EC...

Judith Bernier

Chair

5/18/2022

Signed on : _____