

## Ethics (COE)

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**From:** ken forbes [ccoorken@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2005 6:46 AM  
**To:** 'Ethics (COE)'  
**Subject:** RE: Conflict of Interest

Mr. Myers,

I thank you for responding to my inquiry in an expeditious manner. What I also needed was an opinion in the area of other public meetings as well. I may not have been specific in pointing out that I am considered to be a Community Outreach Specialist and from time to time I may be retained as a consultant for developers or their representatives on projects being presented at other public hearings (not Community Council - 15. (i.e., Community Zoning Appeal Boards, Board of County Commissioners etc.) With my wife serving on one of the Community Zoning Appeal Boards and developers or their representatives having business before all of them and the BCC; what is the opinion of COE regarding conflict of interest? I await your response.

Ken Forbes

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

**From:** Ethics (COE) [mailto:ethics@miamidade.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 07, 2005 3:08 PM  
**To:** ken forbes  
**Subject:** RE: Conflict of Interest

Mr. Forbes,

Thank you for your inquiry and I discussed it over with our staff attorney. She and I agree that no conflict of interest exists if you appear as a representative of the Naranja CAA/DHS Community Advisory Committee before the Community Council on which your wife sits. However, if the Community Council is exercising its quasi-judicial authority with respect to a zoning question and you speak, there could be a claim that your wife is biased because she could be unfairly swayed by your testimony. This isn't a violation of the County Code of Ethics Ordinance, but it could be grounds for an appeal of an unfavorable ruling by the Community Council. Moreover, I assume that your appearance on behalf of the agency does not translate into a financial benefit to you or your wife. If for some reason you or your wife could benefit because of your presentation to the Community Council, then it would be improper for you to speak.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the above with me in greater detail, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

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

**From:** ken forbes [mailto:ccoorken@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2005 8:10 AM  
**To:** ethics@miamidade.gov  
**Subject:** Conflict of Interest

I serve on the Naranja CAA/DHS Community Advisory Committee which is in place as a means of complying with Federal Regulation for citizen

participation. From time to time businesses, corporations, organizations, developers and the likes come before our committee with projects and seek our support at public hearings. Some of these same entities have supported our committee financially in community endeavors but not as quid pro quo or personally. The question I have for the Ethic Commission is; My wife, Patricia A. Forbes was elected to Community Council 15, as the Chair of my committee and its spokesperson at public hearings, am I prohibited from speaking on behalf of the community? I would appreciate a response from your office as quickly as possible but with proper diligence afforded this matter.

Sincerely

Ken Forbes  
(305) 258-2587 - Phone  
(305) 345-5505 - Cell  
(305) 258-6327 - Fax  
25121 S.W. 120th Place  
Princeton, FL 33032

INQ 05-16

**Ethics (COE)**

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