

October 12, 2005

Irby M. McKnight
1040 NW 3rd Ave., Apt. #02
Miami, FL 33136

**RE: INQ 05-171, Membership on Boards and Candidacy
for Elected Office**

Dear Mr. McKnight:

In your letter dated September 23, 2005, you asked if your candidacy for City of Miami Commissioner conflicts with your chairmanship of the Overtown Empowerment Zone Neighborhood Assembly and your voting membership on the Empowerment Zone Trust Board of Directors.

The jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission on matters related to board membership is limited to county and municipal boards. Your affiliation with the organizations mentioned above does *not* fall within the scope of the Code of Ethics, because neither the Overtown Empowerment Zone Neighborhood Assembly nor the Empowerment Zone Trust is a county or municipal advisory board. Rather, both are organized under the Miami-Dade Empowerment Trust, Inc., which is an independent 501(c)(3) entity created by a Presidential initiative.

I hope this provides some clarity for your circumstances. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Meyers
Executive Director