

INV 05-20

Prkic, Christina (COE)

From: Prkic, Christina (COE)
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2005 4:59 PM
To: 'Alex Palenzuela'
Subject: RE: Miami Dade Housing Authority Legal Services

Hi Alex:

Under the Code of Ethics, there is no conflict for the firm to represent the Housing Agency. You may want also want to check the conflict of interest provisions under the Florida Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Have a great weekend my friend!

Sincerely,

Christina Prkic
Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
P: (305) 350-0615

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

From: Alex Palenzuela [mailto:APalenzuela@wsh-law.com]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2005 3:10 PM
To: cprkic@miamidade.gov
Subject: FW: Miami Dade Housing Authority Legal Services RFP

Can you please tell me the answer to the following question?

The firm is planning on bidding for work to represent the Miami Dade Housing Agency in its eviction work. If the firm accepts this work, does it conflict itself out of representing any client before any County board or staff or from representing any client in litigation against the County. If there is a conflict, can we accept the work with a full waiver from the County. The firm is currently representing numerous clients before county boards and at least two clients in litigation against the county.

Thanks.

Alexander L. Palenzuela-Mauri

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5/20/05

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

From: Mitchell Bierman
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2005 3:05 PM
To: Joseph H. Serota
Cc: Alex Palenzuela
Subject: Miami Dade Housing Authority Legal Services RFP

I have reviewed the RFP and determined that it is worth further investigation. The response time is very short (Friday 5/27) and historically firms have not gotten high rates. However, the rate bid is worth only 20% meaning we could bid reasonable rates and still win based on qualifications. It is set up so that you bid a flat rate for filing boilerplate pleadings and an hourly with a flexible cap for more involved work.

Alex Palenzuela is sufficiently experienced in these areas and is willing to provide the County with the services sought with the support of other experienced L&T litigators in the firm. He will prepare the first draft of the response and the three of us can then decide appropriate rates. Maria de Pedro and our friends at the County Attorneys Office (Karon Coleman and Terrance Smith) can probably give us with a few pointers.

Alex, please check with Christina Prkic at the Commission on Ethics to insure that by accepting this work if awarded to us we do not conflict ourselves out of representing any client before any County board or staff or from representing any client in litigation against the County. If there is a conflict, we cannot accept the work without a full waiver from the County. I am currently representing numerous clients before county boards and at least two clients in litigation against the county. Thanks.

Mitchell A. Bierman

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