

INQ 05-189

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2005 5:52 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Inquiry

Marty Lucia from the Health Care Policy Task Force asked about conflicts of interest among members of the Task Force, who could be working on recommendations and strategies that benefit their organizations. As an advisory body, the Task Force forwards its recommendations to the BCC and the BCC can choose to fund the recommendations. I advised Mr. Lucia and Jan Perkins that in order for a voting conflict to exist, the member had to have one of the enumerated relationships with a program or project that is recommended and they had to directly benefit from the action of the Task Force or the BCC. For example, I indicated that a Task Force member who voted on a recommendation that benefited an agency where the Task Force member serves as a board member is not a conflict. The Task Force member could participate and vote. On the other hand, if a salaried employee of an agency which is recommended for funding votes, then it could present a conflict if that person benefits from any grant or award the County may disburse as a result of the Task Force's recommendation. If this scenario exists, I advised Mr. Lucia and Ms. Perkins that Task Force members may participate in the discussion but are barred from voting.

Robert Meyers
November 30, 2005