

Meyers, Robert (COE)

JNQ 06-145

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2006 1:24 PM
To: Campbell, Kyndal (Vizcaya)
Subject: RE: Need Opinion

Hi Kyndal,

Thank you for your e-mail. It seems to me that a museum employee who accepts a complimentary ticket or guest pass to evaluate a performer for purposes of determining whether Vizcaya should engage this performer is not receiving a gift. The evaluator is acting in his/her official capacity and would not have to report the free ticket.

I understand the impression that could be conveyed that the booking was in return for a free ticket, and if that were the case, a crime has been committed and it doesn't matter the value of the ticket. The \$100 threshold is meaningless in bribery cases. If you are concerned about this, then one option is for Vizcaya to pay the fair market value of the ticket. Another option is to report the complimentary ticket, regardless of its value.

However, my opinion is the ticket is not a gift in this instance due to the fact the employee is on official business when attending this performance.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director
 Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
 (305) 350-0613

From: Campbell, Kyndal (Vizcaya)
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2006 1:04 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Need Opinion

Good Afternoon Robert,

A few questions for you...

May a museum employee accept complimentary tickets or guest passes to a performance by a performer that may later be booked for programs at the museum?

The purpose of accepting the complimentary tickets or guest passes is to evaluate the performance to determine if the performer is providing quality work that may be suitable for programming purposes at Vizcaya.

Would complimentary tickets be considered "gifts under \$100" that one wouldn't have to claim? Is an employee in violation of Ethics rules if Vizcaya ends up booking a performer that gave an employee complimentary tickets because that could be misinterpreted as "the performer bribing the employee to book them"?

Please let me know what you think. Thank you very much.

Kyndal Campbell, Intergovernmental Affairs Director
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens
 305.860.8450
miamidade.gov
 "Delivering Excellence Every Day"

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