

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2006 10:51 AM
To: Gillman, Henry (Airport)
Subject: RE: Authorization To Solicit Sponsorships For Art Program

INA 06-41

Henry,

I agree with your assessment that such solicitations are permitted; however, we have consistently stated that the exemption to the no solicitation rule is applicable only where it can be shown that a formal resolution, directive or order from the BCC or the Administration identifies such activities as official County business.

If you wish to discuss in greater detail, please contact me at your convenience.

Thanks,

Robert

From: Gillman, Henry (Airport)
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2006 10:03 AM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: FW: Authorization To Solicit Sponsorships For Art Program

Robert,

Miguel Southwell, MDAD's Assistant Director for Business Development has inquired whether he and his staff can solicit sponsorships for art exhibits at MIA. Since Section 2-11.1(e)(2)(e) of the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance provides that the prohibition on soliciting gifts does not apply if the gift is solicited by County employees or departmental personnel on behalf of the County in performance of their official duties for use solely by the County in conducting its official business, I believe MDAD personnel may solicit sponsorships for art exhibits in accordance with the above section. Please advise if you agree and whether there are any other ethical rules to consider on this issue.
Thanks.

Henry N. Gillman
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Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office
Phone (305) 876-7040
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-----Original Message-----

From: Miguel Southwell
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2006 8:18 PM
To: Henry N. Gillman
Cc: Sari Koshetz; Yolanda Sanchez; Deborah Mastin
Subject: Authorization To Solicit Sponsorships For Art Program

Hi Henry:

You may recall some time ago I asked your assistance to determine if there are any County Contracting or Ethics rules that prevents MDAD from soliciting sponsors/donors to support the art program at MIA. You asked me to check with Michael Spring in Cultural Affairs, as it would be great if we don't have to "reinvent the wheel". I met with Michael and he said that his division had sought such sponsorships only once. In that case, there was an RFP issued to hire a firm to do the solicitation, a contract which ended recently.

But he could not answer my question which was, can we (MDAD) solicit and secure the sponsorships directly from the sponsors?

Background: The airlines (and subsequently MDAD's management) have made a decision not to fund art projects (outside of Art-In-Public-Places), related to rotating art exhibits in the terminal at MIA. In the future therefore, we plan to solicit funding from the general public. One example is the proposed children's museum for which we already have a sponsorship, estimated at \$300,000, from the George Bachelor Foundation. Another example is the immediate need to convert the gallery on Concourse E behind security checkpoint into unmanned display cases. We are confident we can also secure a sponsor for this project, estimated at \$125,000. This display case will serve as a model and will be repeated throughout the terminal. The benefit to the sponsor will be to simply and discretely display a plaque that may read:

This display case
made possible by:
Henry Gillman

Can we secure these sponsors by simply developing a list of prospects and going after them? I have copied Deborah as she has historically worked on art issues at MIA. I have also asked Sari Koshetz to assist with researching this answer so she may also be contacting your office. I apologize for having to return to you for an answer as nobody out there appears to have an answer. Thanks for your consideration.

Miguel Southwell
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