

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 02-36

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2002 9:13 AM
To: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

It applies to all full-time County employees.

Robert

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

From: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2002 8:16 AM
To: Birdwell, Ruth (AMS)
Cc: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

Everyone, I believe, but will ask Robert to confirm.

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

From: Birdwell, Ruth (AMS)
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 10:20 AM
To: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

Judi - Do you know how far down the line the reporting of gifts goes? Does the gift policy apply to ALL County employees, or just top eschelon?

Ruth

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

From: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Sent: Tuesday, July 09, 2002 3:46 PM
To: (MetroNet) All Users
Subject: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

The Ethics Commission has created a revised gift disclosure form, which should be used when reporting gifts and an instructions sheet that should help answer some of the more common questions we receive about gifts and the reporting of gifts.

The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance mandates that all County officials and personnel must report all gifts received, with a few exceptions, if the value of the gift exceeds \$25. If a series of gifts from any one person or entity in one quarter totals more than \$25, these gifts need to be reported as well (e.g., three lunches @ \$10/lunch during the same quarter by the same donor). The original disclosure forms must be filed with the Clerk of the Board no later than the end of the quarter following the quarter when the gift was received. Copies should be filed with the Secretary of State.

Please understand that failure to comply with this rules is a violation of a County ordinance, giving the Ethics Commission and the State Attorney's Office jurisdiction over these cases. Rather than taking punitive action, the Ethics Commission would prefer to issues opinions and hold sessions to better explain the gift policy. If you feel your department or unit would benefit from some additional training on this subject or if you have specific questions about accepting, reporting or soliciting gifts, feel free to contact me at (305) 579-2594 or via e-mail.

Please find online the gift disclosure rules and form: http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/ethics/gift_disclosure.htm

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Robert Meyers, Executive Director
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2002 1:35 PM
To: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

The person receiving the gift should document the fact that he/she gave it away. Technically, this person would not have to report the gift as he/she never enjoyed the benefit of the gift.

Robert

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

From: Zito, Judi (eGov)
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2002 11:34 AM
To: Van Meter, Bill (MDFR)
Cc: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

I believe it does, but will copy Mr. Meyers on this for clarification.

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

From: Van Meter, Bill (MDFR)
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2002 10:41 AM
To: Zito, Judi (eGov); (MetroNet) All Users
Subject: RE: Sent on behalf of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust re: Gift Policy

Does this include the Mayor and his staff as well as the BCC and their staffs even for such miniscule gifts such as let's say cases of wine from contractors even if they swear that they never drank a sip of the stuff and simply gave away the libations to others who may then owe them a favor? Just trying to clarify the rules.

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