

INV 03-134

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

---

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2003 5:12 PM  
**To:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Subject:** FW: Opinion

Lucien,

Based on the facts you have provided me, the tickets can be accepted, but you would be report the tickets as a gift and file a gift disclosure form by the end of the next quarter to be in compliance with the County Code of Ethics Ordinance.

If you have any other questions about this matter, please contact me directly.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers

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

**From:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2003 3:46 PM  
**To:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Cc:** Meyers, Robert (COE); Walker, Ardyth (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion

Please advise.  
RT

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

**From:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2003 9:00 AM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion  
**Importance:** High

Robert,

Could you please see how much longer the answer will take? I have to let her know today if I will be able to accept the tickets. The tournament is next week and she has to give the tickets to someone else if I can't use them. I appreciate your help.

Thanks, Lucien

Lucien W. Hope III  
Manager, Credit and Collections  
Miami-Dade County Finance Department  
(305)375-5217  
(305)679-7803 fax

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

**From:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2003 4:16 PM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion

The only reason I need an answer relatively quickly is that she said there are a limited number of tickets, and I don't want her to hold them for me if I can't use them. I would rather just tell her "thanks, but no thanks" if you think it will take several days.

Thanks, Lucien

Lucien W. Hope III  
Manager, Credit and Collections  
Miami-Dade County Finance Department  
(305)375-5217  
(305)679-7803 fax

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

**From:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2003 3:34 PM  
**To:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion

The Executive Director makes the decision as to whether or not it is an issue. He then forwards it to the appropriate individual in our office for action as deemed necessary. This is a part of the process. Lastly, if you need an answer in a hurry, please let us know in the request for opinion. There is no trouble in submitting a request for opinion.

Robert A. Thompson

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

**From:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2003 12:28 PM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion

Thank you. Is it standard practice that the Executive Director gets involved in every one of these? I didn't mean to be so much trouble. How long do the reviews normally take? By the way, will you be able to take action on the other item based on the information I put in the e-mail? I hope that was helpful; I seem to recall that was what you said you needed from us to get started.

Thanks, Lucien

Lucien W. Hope III  
Manager, Credit and Collections  
Miami-Dade County Finance Department  
(305)375-5217  
(305)679-7803 fax

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

**From:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2003 2:43 PM  
**To:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Subject:** RE: Opinion

Greetings,

I have sent your request for opinion to our Executive Director for action. You should be hearing from our organization in the future.

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

**From:** Hope, Lucien (FIN)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2003 5:26 AM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Cc:** Patterson, Willis (FIN)  
**Subject:** Opinion

Robert,

I recently attended the Ethics Awareness Training class that you helped to teach, and I wanted to thank you again for your involvement and insights. It's not hard to see why people sometimes have issues with this area since even the rules are so ambiguous. And, as we discussed, the definition of "immediate family" in the actual Code of Ethics Ordinance was apparently changed without much thought as it is certainly not representative of a reasonable definition of "immediate family". Perhaps you can suggest some changes to this, as we talked about?

On another matter, you suggested we contact you to get an opinion when we are offered gifts or things of possible value, and I would like to take advantage of that, please. Because of the fact that my Section collects money on debts owed to the County, we often accept credit cards for payment of the debt. Recently, we piggy-backed on a State of Florida contract with Discover Cards and are now accepting those cards as a means of payment. The sales representative with whom I have been dealing informed me that they help sponsor a golf tournament to be held in the Miami area in February and she said she may be able to get a couple of tickets for me. However, I don't know what the value would be. They are probably in the sponsor's tent which would include food. What do you think?

Thanks, Lucien

Lucien W. Hope III  
Manager, Credit and Collections  
Miami-Dade County Finance Department  
(305)375-5217  
(305)679-7803 fax