

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2004 2:14 PM
To: 'Tara L. Gould'
Subject: RE: Gift Disclosure

ING 04-46

Tara,

Sorry I haven't responded sooner. I have gone on record as stating that local public officials who accept gifts from long time social friends need not disclose these gifts as long as following conditions are met: 1) there has been a regular pattern of gift-giving that pre-dates the recipient assuming public office; 2) the value of the gift has remained relatively constant throughout the friendship and 3) the donor has no item in front of that municipal government. As you pointed out, an analysis of state law might yield a different result, but our office has no jurisdiction to interpret state law.

Feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss the above in more detail.

Robert Meyers

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

From: Tara L. Gould [mailto:Tgould@wsh-law.com]
Sent: Friday, May 07, 2004 11:29 AM
To: rmeyers@miamidade.gov
Cc: David M. Wolpin
Subject: Gift Disclosure

Hello -

My name is Tara Gould and I work with David Wolpin at Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Guedes Cole & Boniske, P.A.

Mr. Wolpin suggested that I seek confirmation from you as to whether or not under Sec. 2-11.1(e), Miami-Dade County Code, a gift to a council member from a long time social friend, in a friendship which pre-dates the council member's qualification for office, would be subject to gift disclosure if the donor had no interest or involvement in any municipal matter in the council member's city, under any currently accepted interpretations of the county code. We recognize that disclosure of a social gift may nonetheless be required under Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.

Thank you for your assistance.

Tara L. Gould, Esq.

Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Guedes Cole & Boniske, P.A.

2665 South Bayshore Drive, Suite 420

Miami, Florida 33133

Telephone: (305) 854-0800

Facsimile: (305) 854-2323

Email: tgould@wsh-law.com

This message, together with any attachments, is intended only for the addressee. It may contain information which is legally privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, use or any action or reliance on this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone at (305) 854-0800 or by return email and delete the message along