

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

IND 01-48

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2001 1:17 PM  
**To:** Barreiro, Bruno (DIST5)  
**Subject:** Request for opinion

Commissioner Barreiro,

I wanted to provide you with a written response to your question about whether you have a voting conflict that would preclude you from participating in or voting on a matter that is scheduled to be heard by the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, November 20, 2001. You indicated to me that you own a one and one-quarter acre parcel of land in the Redlands, an unincorporated section of Miami-Dade County. You stated that your parents bought this land for you when you were approximately fifteen and it has been held by you and your family ever since. The matter before the County Commission involves the possible incorporation of the Redlands, an area encompassing sixty-five (65) square miles of which you own one and one-quarter acres.

Based on the facts you have shared with me, there would be no ethical conflict for you to vote on the Redlands incorporation question. Your ownership of property in this area is negligible when one takes into account the percentage of land you own compared to the region under discussion. Moreover, there appears to be no direct benefit to you that can be differentiated from the benefit that the general public were to receive in the event this item passes. Therefore, no conflict of interest exists under the voting conflicts section of the County Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Ordinance.

Please understand that I do not have the statutory authority to provide you with an official advisory opinion. That power rests with the Commission on Ethics and if you wish to have the Ethics Commission review your question, please contact me and I will make the necessary arrangements.

If you have an further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Robert Meyers