

Meyers, Robert (COE)

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2004 5:03 PM
To: 'Jesus'
Subject: RE: For Council Member Jesus Rodriguez

INQ
04-123

Mr.. Rodriguez,

Thank you for your e-mail and I wanted to respond accordingly. As you know, former county officials and employees are barred from lobbying the county for a period of two years after they leave county serve. Based on this rule, you wish to know whether certain activities that you have been asked to handle fall within this two-year ban. Some of the examples you have provided me are easier to answer than others. The two year rule would not prohibit you from attending zoning hearing and participating at this hearings. This may include presenting the case or assisting the individual presenting the case. Similarly, the task of filing an application would not be considered lobbying either. However, research that is presented to the county staff that is prepared in an effort to persuade might very well be lobbying. If you are researching the law and not presenting your findings directly to county staff, then it is probably permissible. Finally, meetings with county staff are generally considered to be a form of lobbying and would not be allowed until you separate from the county for two years.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers

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

From: Jesus [mailto:jesus@malca-amit-mi.com]
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2004 8:51 AM
To: rmeyers@miamidade.gov
Subject: For Council Member Jesus Rodriguez

Good Morning Mr. Meyers.

Persuant to our conversation yesterday afternoon, I wish to obtain your opinion as to what participation I may have in preparing, and/or presenting Community Council Zoning Cases. I served on Community Council 10 for eight years and have resigned as of 4 months ago.

As we both know, Council members are prohibited by the Sunshine Law from discussing cases outside a proper forum; i.e. a sanctioned council meeting. What I would like to do is to be able to prepare for such cases. This would include the filing of applications, researching supporting evidence, meet with county staff, etc.

In addition, I would also like to participate at the zoning hearing. I would like to be able to present cases, or assist in the presentation of a case at these meetings.

Thank you in advance for all your help.

Respectfully yours,
Jesus Rodriguez
(305)-519-1305