

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 04-141

To: Lafortune, Jean (CAA)
Subject: RE: Re: Request for Opinion

Jean,

I reviewed your request and I want you to be aware of the following: 1) You need to consult with the federal agencies that provide funding because the standards/guidelines you wish to adopt may not be consistent with the federal regulations and 2) The proposed conflict of interest guidelines mirror the provisions contained in the County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance.

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers

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

From: Lafortune, Jean (CAA)
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 5:14 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Kyle, Kate (CED) (305) 375-3444
Subject: Re: Request for Opinion

Dr. Meyers,

Miami-Dade CAA and Miami-Dade OCED are requesting an opinion from the Ethics Commission on the following language in relation to the Miami-Dade County Citizen Participation Plan and Guidelines for Office of Community and Economic Development and Community Action Agencies Community Advisory Committees. This is a document that governs the community advisory committees operating under CAA and OCED.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Any member who holds a board position with any agency receiving funds from CAA or OCED shall be able to retain or run for a position on a Community Advisory Committee as long as the following conditions are adhered to:

- **A member must recuse his/herself and physically leave the room while any discussion arises that involves funding decisions related to that agency or any discussion about that agency in general.**
- **The records of the meeting must reflect the above-required actions of the member.**

Any member in violation of conflict of interest will automatically be removed from the Committee by the CAC Chairperson.

An Advisory Committee member whose immediate family receives a financial benefit or serves as a Board member of an organization that may benefit as a result of action before that Advisory Committee will make known that interest and must refrain from voting.

Jean-Robert LaFortune
Interim Director
Citizen Participation Division
Phone (305) 347-4684
Fax (305) 372-8745