

MG Vera is currently providing inspection services on the Northside Runway project as a subconsultant to Nova Consulting under a miscellaneous contract. Vera is bidding to serve on the Construction Inspection Services for the Northside Runway project.

MG Vera previously did survey work on the Northside Runway project. The data was used in creating the plans for the Northside Runway. As part of the CIS team, Vera will survey the construction to make sure that it meets the specifications in the designs.

The Commission found The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance does not prohibit MG Vera from serving as a member of the Construction Inspection Services (CIS) team. However, MG Vera's work must be limited to survey work only and the firm may not participate in CIS team meetings or make recommendations related to its prior survey work or design modifications.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Please contact the State of Florida Commission on Ethics if you have any questions regarding possible conflicts under state law.

If you have any questions regarding this opinion, please call Ardyth Walker, Staff General Counsel at (305) 350-0616 or the undersigned at (305) 579-2594.

Sincerely Yours,



ROBERT MEYERS

Executive Director



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STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

December 12, 2001

Manuel G. Vera and Associates
13960 S.W. 47th Street
Miami, Florida 33175

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 01-127

Dear Mr. Vera:

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust considered your request for opinion at their meeting on December 11, 2001 and rendered its opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding any conflicts between the firm's current inspection work on the Northside Runway project and serving as a member of the Construction Inspection Services team.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that the Aviation Department recently issued a Request for Proposals for firms to provide construction inspection services for the Northside Runway. The services include administration assistance scheduling, construction phase inspections and final inspections during the closeout phases of construction. The services shall also include project management and coordinating daily inspections. The Construction Inspection Services team should include specialized inspectors including civil, mechanical, electrical (airfield lighting), airfield equipment, drainage and plumbing to perform inspections commencing in January, 2002.