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December 8, 2003

Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle
111 N.W. First Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128-1963

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 03-182

Dear Commissioner Rolle:

You requested an advisory opinion regarding any conflicts of interest related to your proposal of a resolution. Specifically, the resolution directs the County Manager to conduct a feasibility determination for the placement of a police substation at the City Inn Hotel.

In your letter to the Ethics Commission you advise that a staff member, prior to joining your office, provided legal representation to the owners of the City Inn Hotel. The staff member does not presently work with or provide any representation to the owners of City Inn Hotel.

The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance does not prohibit you from proposing the above-mentioned resolution. Your staff member's prior employment history with the City Inn Hotel does not establish a prohibited conflict under the Code of Ethics. In addition, pursuant to the voting conflicts provision outlined in Section 2-11.1 (d), you indicate that this proposed resolution creates no distinct benefit to you, nor do you have any of the enumerated relationships with the owners of City Inn Hotel, which include, officer; director; partner; of counsel; consultant; employee; fiduciary; beneficiary; stock holder; bondholder; debtor or creditor.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade County 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 should you have any questions regarding possible conflicts under state law.

If you have any questions regarding this opinion, please call Christina Prkic, Staff Attorney at (305) 350-0615 or the undersigned at (305) 579-2594.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Meyers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ROBERT MEYERS
Executive Director