

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chairman Robert H. Newman, Vice Chairman Gail Dotson Dawn Addy Elizabeth M. Iglesias

ROBERT A. MEYERS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI

ARDYTH WALKER STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL May 16, 2003

Ana Molina 111 N.W. First Street Suite 1470 Miami, FL 33128

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 03-80

Dear Ms. Molina:

I considered your request for an advisory opinion and I am rendering my opinion based on the facts stated in your letter.

You requested an opinion regarding your ability to contract with the county to provide Section 8 housing.

In your letter, you advised the Commission that you are an Information Coordinator with Team Metro. Your mother would like to contract with the Miami-Dade Housing Agency to provide Section 8 housing. Section 8 is a federally-funded program which subsidizes landlords who rent to low-income tenants.

Your mother may contract with the Miami-Dade Housing Agency to provide Section 8 housing. Section 2-11.1 (c) provides that "Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary herein, subsection (c) and (d) shall not be construed to prevent any employee....from entering into any contract, individually or through a firm, corporation, partnership or business entity in which the employee or any member of his or her immediate family has a controlling financial interest, with Miami-Dade County or any person or agency acting for Miami-Dade County as long as 1) entering into the contract would not interfere with

the full and faithful discharge by the employee of his or her duties to the County, 2) the employee has not participated in determining the subject contract awards or awarding the contract, and 3) the employee's job responsibilities and job description will not require him or her to be involved with the contract in any way, including but not limited to its enforcement, oversight, administration, amendment, extension, termination or forebearance. Since your job duties with Team Metro do not require you to be involved in any aspect of the contract, your mother may contract with the Housing Agency to provide Section 8 housing.

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 Robert Meyers at (305) 579-2594 or the undersigned at (305) 350-0616.

X DAY

ARDYTH WALKER

Staff General Counsel