



May 28, 2003

ETHICS COMMISSIONERS

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Octavio J. Arana
14239 S.W. 10th Street
Miami, FL 33183

ROBERT A. MEYERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION 03-83

MICHAEL P. MURAWSKI
ADVOCATE

Dear Mr. Arana:

ARDYTH WALKER
STAFF GENERAL COUNSEL

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 AEO II with the Aviation Department. You 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.

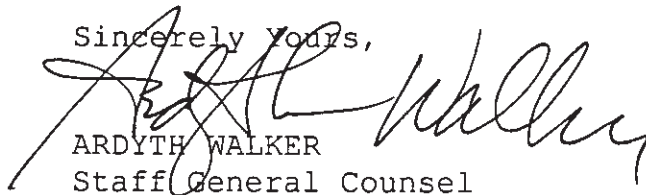
You may contract with the Miami-Dade Housing Agency to provide Section 8 housing. Section 2-11.1 (c) provides that " Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary herein, subsection (c) and (d) shall not be construed to prevent any employee...from entering into any contract, individually or through a 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 forbearance. Since your job duties with the Aviation Department do not require you to be involved in any aspect of the contract, you 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.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ardyth Walker", written over the typed name and title.

ARDYTH WALKER
Staff General Counsel