

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVOCATE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

K #:06-140

Date Opened: December 14, 2006 Date Closed: April 16, 2007

Name of investigator: Arthur D. Skinner
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Allegation:

An e-mail was sent to COE alleging that Ingrid Hunter who's employed by Miami Dade County Aviation Department, Safety and Security Communications Department has outside employment and has not obtained the required approval. Hunter's outside employment is with Emery Worldwide Distribution from 4:00 pm to 1:30 am.

Section 2-11.1 of the Miami Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance (k) Prohibition on outside employment by County personnel and disclosure requirements. Subsection (2) All full-time County and municipal employees engaged in any outside employment for any person, firm, corporation or entity other than Miami-Dade County,.... Shall file, under oath, an annual report indicating the source of the outside employment, the nature of the work being done pursuant to same and any amount or types of money or other consideration received by the employee from said outside employment. Said County employee's reports shall be filed with the supervisor of elections no later than 12:00 noon on July 1st of each year, including the July 1st following the last year that person held such employment.

Investigation:

On **January 5, 2007** Investigator Bielovucic contacted Martha Gonzalez of Miami Dade County Elections Department and confirmed that Hunter had not filed an Outside Employment Statement since her employment with Miami Dade County.

On **January 8, 2007** Investigators Bielovucic and Skinner interviewed Assistant Aviation Director, Lauren Stover at her office at Miami International Airport (MIA), Concourse "E", 4th Floor, (305) 876-7017. Present were: Aviation Security Division Director, Ricardo Fernandez (305) 869-4247 and Ike Wetherill (786) 295-0382 Cellular. All parties were advised as to the purpose of the interview and they offer the following information:

- Hunter works at the airfield gates.
- Every month employees are rotated among the gates in the airfield.
- Hunter is a Shop Stewart with the Union.
- A review of the records revealed that Hunter only has one (1) airport ID.
- Emery Worldwide has not been working at the airport since 2000.
- Hunter's supervisor, Dexter Grant is currently on administrative leave with pay. He is under investigation for driving a County vehicle for personal use.
- Ike Wetherill is Hunter acting supervisor.
- Hunter currently was involved in a fight with Brown, an MIA employee. Management is currently reviewing the incident and will discipline employees accordingly.
- Management is aware that employees do not want to work with Hunter due to her behavior and insulting words towards colleagues. She has been reprimanded for this behavior in the past.

On **January 9, 2007**, Investigators Bielovucic and Skinner interviewed the Manager of MIA Administrative Services/Employee Development, Wallace Madry, Jr. at his office at Bldg. 5A. The purpose of the interview was explained to Madry. He provided the following information:

A review of Hunter's personnel records revealed that a Request for Outside Employment Form has not been filed. It also revealed that Hunter had not file an

Outside Employment Statement indicating the Name and Address of the Source of the Outside Income, Nature of Work Performed, Amount of Money or Compensation Received.

On **January 9, 2007**, Investigators Bielovucic and Skinner interviewed Bobbie Phillips at her office at Bldg. 5A. The purpose of the interview was explained to Phillips. She provided the following information:

Phillips confirmed that Alexis Dominquez had met with her to review Hunter's personnel file. Dominquez explained that in 2005 he reported Hunter for her behavior and insulting words towards him. Subsequently, a DAR was issued to Hunter. Dominquez wanted to verify if the DAR was filed in her personnel file. Phillips reviewed Hunter's file while Dominquez was present and the file did not contain the DAR. Madry later confirmed that the DAR was located, but wasn't filed. Madry could not explain why it wasn't filed.

On **January 9, 2007**, Investigators Bielovucic and Skinner interviewed Ingrid Hunter at the COE office in Bldg. 5A. The purpose of the interview was explained to Hunter. She provided the following information:

Hunter confirmed that she had outside employment with the U.S. Postal Service located at 92nd Avenue NW 19th Street as a mail handler/sorter. She worked during the Christmas season from 11/27/06 through 12/28/06.

Hunter said she completed and submitted the Request for Outside Employment Form to her immediate supervisor Dexter Grant approximately two (2) weeks prior to 12/28/06 for approval. Grant never returned the form to Hunter. Shortly thereafter, Grant was placed on Administrative Leave. Hunter contacted someone, doesn't recall name or date, in Human Resources and asked what she should do. Hunter was told to resubmit the form. As of this interview, Hunter had not picked up a new form.

After asking Hunter several times if she had outside employment prior to 11/06, she confirmed that she had worked for Emery Worldwide (Emery). Hunter didn't recall

the year. Hunter said that Emery was located at 92nd Avenue NW 19th Street, but they have moved and the U.S. Postal Services is currently in the same location. She also worked as a mail handler/sorter during the Christmas season.

On **January 16, 2007**, Investigators Bielovucic and Skinner interviewed Alexis Dominquez, (305) 491-6704 at the COE office at Bldg. 5A. The purpose of the interview was explained to Dominquez. He provided the following information:

Dominquez recalls that in conversation with Brown he learned that Hunter had Outside Employment with Emery. On the day of the fight, didn't recall date, between Hunter and Brown, Hunter worked at Emery until 1:30-2:00AM that morning.

On March 27, 2007 a subpoena was issued to the Florida Department of Revenue for any and all records pertaining to Ingrid Hunter. The subpoena was returned on March 29, 2007, the only employment on record for Hunter was Miami Dade County,

On April 9, 2007, a Public Records Request for Outside Employment Forms was made to the Manager of MIA Administrative Services/Employee Development, Wallace Madry, Jr. A review of the records obtained from Madry revealed that approval for Outside Employment was granted by Miami Dade County Aviation Department Management on February 5, 2007.

CONCLUSION:

Hunter doesn't recall if she had worked for Emery Worldwide Distribution within the last three (3) years. A review of the Subpoena material obtained from the Florida Department of Revenue did not reveal any recent outside employment. Hunter obtained approval for outside employment from the Aviation Department. An Outside Employment Statement for the prior year is not due until July 1, 2007