

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

K #: 08-108 Oscar Alfonso

Date Opened: 10/22/2008

Date Closed: 02/20/2009

Name of investigator: Arthur D. Skinner & Breno Penichet
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Allegation:

This matter was predicated upon a complaint from North Bay Village Mayoral Candidate Penelope Friedland. Friedland alleged that she and other campaign workers observed campaign workers for the North Bay Village Mayoral Candidate Oscar Alfonso pass out what appeared to be absentee ballots to Hispanic residents in the Treasure Island area of the City of North Bay Village.

Section 2-11.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, the County's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance.

Investigation:

A copy of the Absentee Voter list for the City of North Bay Village was requested from the Miami Dade County Elections Department. An analysis of the list did not reveal any pattern of requests by Hispanic voters for absentee ballots. There were 462 absentee votes of which 162 were Hispanic voters (North Bay Village has 40% registered Hispanic voters). In the November 4th election, Friedland received more absentee votes than Mayor Oscar Alfonso. Alfonso won the election with the overall popular vote.

CONCLUSION:

The matter is closed as the COE does not have jurisdiction in this matter.