

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

K #: 09-088 Zachary Hoskin

Date Opened: July 28, 2009

Date Closed:

Name of investigator: Arthur D. Skinner

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Allegation:

This matter was predicated upon the receipt of information that Miami Dade County Transit Department Bus Hostler Zachary Hoskin is working in his private home improvement business while out on Workman's Compensation Leave from the County. The anonymous letter stated that Hoskin injured himself while working in the home improvement business, and reported to the County that he injured himself while working at the N.E. Transit Department Bus Depot.

Section 2-11.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, the County's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. (k) *Prohibition on outside employment.* (1) No person included in the terms defined in Subsections (b)(5) [departmental personnel] and (6) [employees] shall receive any compensation for his or her services as an officer or employee of the County, from any source other than the County except as may be permitted by Section 2-11 of this Code of Ordinances. (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, or the respective municipality, or any of their agencies or instrumentalities, 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. Municipal employee reports shall be filed with the clerk of their respective municipalities. Said reports shall be available at a reasonable time and place for inspection by the public. The County Manager or any city manager may require monthly reports from individual employees or groups of employees for good cause.

Investigation:

July 31, 2009, contacted the Human Resources Department and the Elections Department neither department has any record of either a request for outside employment or a report of income statement from Hoskin.

Contacted the Miami Dade County Risk Management Department talked with Claims Adjuster Lucy DeVera, there is no open fraud case on Hoskins. The anonymous letter was forwarded to DeVera.

A record check with the Florida Department of Corporations revealed that Hoskin formed a corporation called Zachary Enterprises in 2005. The corporation was deactivated for lack of annual report 2006.

On August 21, 2009, Claims Adjuster Lucy DeVera was interviewed in her office in the 111 Building. DeVera stated that there was now an open fraud investigation on Mr. Hoskins. The Fraud Investigator assigned to the case is Yvette Robainas. DeVera did not know the status of the investigation. Around October 15, 2009, Mrs. DeVera contacted the COE Investigator to report that the Risk Management Department Fraud Unit had been disbanded.

On November 6, 2009, Mrs. DeVera was interviewed by telephone. DeVera stated that Robainas had suddenly left her position with the County with no explanation. The unit supervisor told her that there was no case file on Mr. Hoskins. Mrs. DeVera said that she was requesting authorization to hire a private investigator agency to follow Mr. Hoskins.

On November 17, 2009, Mr. Eddie China of Miami-Dade Transit was interviewed in his office at 360 NE. 185th St., North Miami Beach, Florida. Mr. China stated that Hoskins was a Bus Hostler who worked the 7 PM to 3 AM shift fueling buses. The Superintendent of bus maintenance is Woodrow Scott, cell phone number: 305-301-2743. Mr. Scott is Hoskins third line supervisor.

On November 18, 2009, Mrs. DeVera was interviewed by telephone. Mrs. DeVera stated that on Monday evening November 16, 2009, Mr. Hoskins went to the emergency room at a local hospital complaining about a severe headache. Mr. Hoskins is again out on workers compensation until December 11, 2009. Mrs. DeVera is sure that Mr. Hoskins is abusing the system and working on his personal construction business. Mr. DeVera said she had received authorization to hire a private investigation agency to follow Mr. Hoskins during the day.

CONCLUSION:

This matter is closed pending the results of the investigation by the Risk Management Division.