

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

K #: 07-041 WAYNE SLATON

Date Opened: March 23, 2007

Date Closed: April 25, 2007

Name of investigator: Karl Ross
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Allegation:

An anonymous letter alleged Miami Lakes Mayor Wayne Slaton improperly used his city car by giving it to his wife for her personal use and, additionally, that Slaton did not put in the minimum required hours to receive his \$18,000 salary.

The allegations, if true, could pose a violation of Section 2-11.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, the county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance as it relates to *exploitation of official position* in part (g).

Investigation:

On April 19, 2007, COE obtained a copy of Ordinance No. 2001-06 regarding the town mayor's benefits, including salary and car allowance. A review of said ordinance did not indicate any restrictions on the mayor's use of these benefits. By virtue of his office, Mr. Slaton is entitled to a yearly salary of \$18,000 paid bi-weekly. He is also entitled to a monthly car allowance of \$600. There are no further provisions as to how the mayor should spend the car allowance, nor minimum work requirements.

On April 25, COE spoke to Town Manager Alex Rey, who provided his interpretation of the ordinance, and, according to which, there appears to be no misconduct by Mayor Slaton regarding his benefits. Mr. Rey stated that there is no expectation that Slaton would work full-time as mayor, nor any requirement that he use his car allowance in any fashion distinct from his current practice.

Mr. Rey said, moreover, that the mayor does not receive a “city car,” as alleged in the anonymous letter.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the above findings, it was decided by the Office of the Independent Advocate of the Miam-Dade ethics commission this case should be closed.