

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

K #:K07-060

Date Opened: May 11, 2007

Date Closed: May 14, 2007

Name of investigator: Arthur D. Skinner
.....

Allegation:

This investigation was predicated upon the receipt of information that Jennifer Helms of Global Technology Partners' presented an application before the Homestead City Council and had not registered as a Lobbyist.

A possible violation of Section 2-11.1 of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. (s) Lobbying. (2) All lobbyists shall register with the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within three (3) business days of being retained as a lobbyist or before engaging in any lobbying activities, whichever shall come first. Every person required to so register shall: (a) Register on forms prepared by the Clerk; (b) State under oath his or her name, business address and the name and business address of each person or entity which has employed said registrant to lobby. If the lobbyist represents a corporation, the corporation shall also be identified. Without limiting the foregoing, the lobbyist shall also identify all persons holding, directly or indirectly, a five (5) percent or more ownership interest in such corporation, partnership or trust. Registration of all lobbyists shall be required prior to January 15 of each year, and each person who withdraws as a lobbyist for a particular client shall file an appropriate notice of withdrawal. The fee for annual registration shall be four hundred and ninety dollars (\$490.00). Every registrant shall be required to state the extent of any business or professional relationship with any current person described in Subsection (b) (1). The registration fees required by this Subsection shall be deposited by the clerk

into a separate account and shall be expended for the purpose of recording, transcribing, administration and other costs incurred in maintaining these records for availability to the public. There shall be no fee required for filing a notice of withdrawal and the Board of County Commissioners may, in its discretion, waive the registration fee upon a finding of financial hardship.

Investigation:

On May 11, 2007, Investigator Art Skinner interviewed the Complainant Pat Pascuzzo of 507 SE 23rd Drive, Homestead, Florida 33033-5797, patpascuzzo@msn.com, (305) 230-0163.

Pascuzzo stated that on April 14, 2007, [the Homestead City Council heard an application presented by Jennifer Helms \(jenn@shiver.com\) of Global Technology Partners](#). He claimed that this is a lobbying firm owned by Steve Shiver and Helms had not registered with the City of Homestead as a Lobbyist. On April 19th, 2007, Shiver contacted Pascuzzo and thanked him for pointing out Helm's lobbyist registration issue. Pascuzzo stated that he checked with the Homestead City Clerk and verified that Helms had registered as a lobbyist.

CONCLUSION:

It appears that Helms may have violated Section 2-11.1(s) (2) of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance. However she subsequently registered as a lobbyist.