

Case Number: K08-129 ARMANDO RUBIO

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Mr. Simber and Yeon Kim from the EPA's forensic audits division spoke with CEO via teleconference to discuss their recent audit of the Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department's scandal involving abuse of cellular phones and theft by a mail room employee. While in Miami, EPA auditors said they learned that at least two WASD employees – Chief of Construction Armando Rubio and Construction Manager Wayne Flickinger – admitted to having a close, friendly relationship with multiple departmental contractors and possibly accepting gifts from them in the form of meals and other offerings. Mr. Simber said his team did not keep detailed notes because this was not the focal point of their audit. However, they did think the admissions were serious enough to refer to local authorities. Simber recalled that Rubio named executives at several local firms including the "Delgado brothers," presumably from Delant Construction, as being among his "best friends" and stated he also attended political or charitable fund-raising events with them. Simber said Rubio also told them WASD inspectors regularly have lunch with employees at the companies they oversee and that, on occasion, contractors will pick up the tab for the inspectors' lunches. Rubio did not seem to be concerned about whether this was an appropriate practice, according to the EPA officials. Simber said he would supply COE with a four-page memo summarizing their findings. He said the memo is being reviewed by EPA lawyers and would likely be directed to COE Executive Director Robert Meyers.

Name & Signature:	Kart Ross, Investigator	Date: Item #:
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