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Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics And Public Trust

Memo

To: Mike Murawski, ethics advocate
From: Breno Penichet, ethics investigator
Date: March. 10, 2010
Re: K10-025 North Miami Code Enforcement Board/ K. Newman

Background: This Investigation was predicated on information received from Kenneth Newman who called the COE on Feb. 5, 2010 alleging that he was mistreated by the Code Enforcement Board of the City of North Miami.

Findings: COE Investigator B. Penichet contacted Mr. Newman who advised that he was cited by the code enforcement department for having a blue tarp on his roof as a result of a leak. Newman further stated that he appeared in front of the Board and they were rude and abusive, and also mistreated him. Newman further advised that he was not allowed to question witnesses. COE investigator Penichet requested that Newman obtain a copy of the meeting in order to see what actually occurred.

COE Investigator Penichet reviewed the DVD and it appeared that the Board acted in the proper manner and allowed the process to proceed according to accepted practice. The only time the Board Chairman stepped in was when it appeared that the questioning by Newman became irrelevant.

Conclusion: Accordingly, it is recommended that the above-cited be closed. It does not appear that any Ordinance within our jurisdiction has been violated.