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Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

Memo

To: Michael Murawski, Advocate
From: Manuel W. Diaz, Investigator
Date: December 20, 2011
Re: K11-135

I contacted Miami Beach Commissioner Deede Weithorn. I explained that the COE had initiated an investigation to determine who had mailed out anti-Weithorn campaign flyers during the 2011 Miami Beach general election. I explained that Miami Beach City Attorney Smith had referred the activity to the COE.

Commissioner Weithorn advised that Smith was concerned with a pre-election burglary to her residence and reports that she had been stalked by unknown persons. She advised that both crimes were being investigated by the Miami Beach Police Department. According to Weithorn, Smith wanted to know if the crimes and the campaign flyers were somehow related.

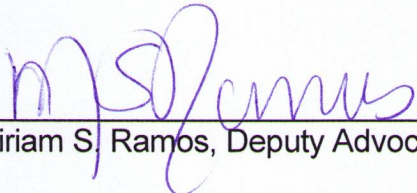
The Commissioner advised that she saw no reason for pursuing the COE to continue pursuing the investigation. She had discovered that the flyers were mailed by a PAC managed by political strategist Dario Moreno. She advised that she had

already expressed her sentiments to Mr. Moreno. The Commissioner felt that the distribution of the flyers and the crimes reported to the police department were not related.

Neither Commissioner Weithorn nor her opponent in the election had signed the Voluntary Fair Campaign Practices Statement.

Conclusion:

Given the Commissioner's position and the fact that neither candidate was bound by the Voluntary Fair Campaign Practices Ordinance, the instant case is closed without further action.



Miriam S. Ramos, Deputy Advocate

12/22/11
Date