



**Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust**  
**Report of Inquiry**

**Investigator: Sylvia Batista**

<b>Case:</b> PI17-032	<b>Case Name:</b> Jack Kardys,	<b><u>Date Opened:</u></b> <b>CASE</b>	<b><u>Closed</u></b>
<b>Complainant(s):</b> N/A.	<b>Subject(s):</b> Office set up at the Parks Department for former director, Jack Kardys.	<b>08/23/17</b> <b>CLOSED</b> Date: <u>9/28/17</u>	

**Allegation(s):**

The COE received information regarding Jack Kardys (Kardys), the former Director of Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department (the Parks Department). Kardys retired on January 31, 2017. The caller stated that Kardys currently has an office set up for his use in the Parks Department.

The COE initiated a preliminary inquiry to determine whether a violation of the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance may have taken place.

**Relevant Laws:**

The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, Sec. 2-11.1(g) Exploitation of official position prohibited.

No person included in the terms defined in Subsections (b)(1) through (6) and (b)(13) shall use of attempt to use his or her official position to secure special privileges or exemptions for himself or others except as may be specifically

permitted by other ordinances and resolutions previously ordained or adopted or hereafter to be ordained or adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Interviews:**

**08/31/17 – Maria Nardi, Director, Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department -**

Maria Nardi (Nardi) was contacted and asked whether she was aware of office space at the Parks Department that had been set up and designated for the use of the former Parks Director, Kardys. Nardi said that the Parks Department has a space which can accommodate up to eight (8) people, and which is used by people who come in to do work related to the Parks Department. Anyone who goes to the Parks Department and needs to use the space for an appropriate purpose is allowed to use it. An example of those who may use the space are students doing research and consultants. Basically, anybody who needs the space to do work at the Parks Department is permitted to use it. Nardi said that she has seen Kardys use the space, but the office space is not exclusively for his use.

**09/25/17 – Dave Livingstone, Assistant to Director –**

During a visit to the Parks Department, Dave Livingstone (Livingstone) was asked about the space designated for use by interns, students, and consultants. Livingstone directed this investigator to where the space is located, and explained that the space is used mostly by interns and students. Livingstone added that a University of Miami Fellow, an unpaid position, uses the space in his assignment to help with design best practices. High school students and recent college graduates involved in the Fit to Lead Program also use the space. Livingstone said that he is not certain of how many times he has seen Kardys use the space.

**09/26/17 – Alejandro Zizold, PROS Master Plan Manager –**

Alejandro Zizold's (Zizold) office is across from the space which he described as a communal area that is used by anyone who is doing research or any other project involving the Parks Department. Zizold said that Kardys is a consultant assisting with a Joint Use Agreement (JUA), with the school board. They have twelve (12) interns, the Chief of Operations, and, at times, the Assistant to the Chief position which is presently vacant. Zizold said that he has seen Kardys every so often in the building.

**Document Review:**

INQ 17-100 - A few months after his retirement, Kardys requested an ethics opinion from the COE in which he inquired regarding any ethics restrictions that may apply to him as a retiree

from the County's Parks Department.

Kardys' inquiry focused on his service in the County's Future Park and Open Spaces System Task Force (Task Force), his board position in the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, Inc. (the Foundation), which is the fundraising arm of the Parks Department, and on his employment with PROS Consulting, LLC (PROS), a County vendor.

Kardys was advised by the COE that he could only appear before the Task Force advisory board as a representative of the Foundation, but his participation in the Task Force cannot involve advocating, directly or indirectly, on behalf of his private consulting firm or his prospective employer, PROS.

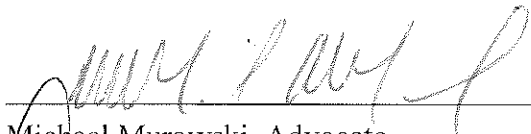
**Conclusion:**

There is no evidence to support the allegation made herein. For that reason, this inquiry can be closed with no further action.

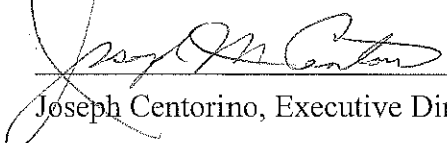
  
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Sylvia Batista, COE Investigator

Date: 9/29/17

Approved by:

  
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Michael Murawski, Advocate

Date: 9/29/17

  
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Joseph Centorino, Executive Director

Date: 9/28/17