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**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST**

**In re: VALERIE NEWMAN**  
\_\_\_\_\_ /

**C 09-28**

**PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER**

Charles Ruiz de Castilla, a private citizen, filed the above-referenced Complaint contending that Respondent Valerie Newman, a City Commissioner in the City of South Miami, violated the City of South Miami Ordinance No. 27-99-1701, *Prohibited campaign contributions by vendors*. In pertinent part, the ordinance states, “No candidate...for the offices of mayor or commissioner...shall solicit or receive any campaign contribution from a person who is a vendor to the city....”

The Complaint alleged that Respondent Newman, while a candidate for city office in 2008, accepted a campaign contribution from Ron Stroyne, whom the Complainant claimed was a City of South Miami vendor. Ms. Newman’s Campaign Treasurer’s Report of February 4, 2008, listed a campaign contribution of \$164 from Ron Stroyne.

Pursuant to the Code of Miami-Dade County at § 2-1068, the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission extends “to any person required to comply with the County or municipal Code of Ethics Ordinances....” On November 18, 2009, the Ethics Commission staff found the Complaint to be Legally Sufficient. Subsequently, an Ethics Commission investigation revealed that Mr. Stroyne was not a City of South Miami vendor at the time the above-referenced campaign contribution was made.

On December 9, 2009, the Ethics Commission accepted the recommendation of the Assistant Advocate that the Complaint be dismissed for lack of Probable Cause.

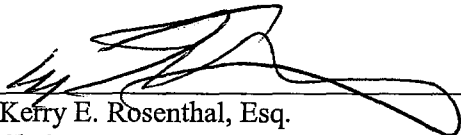
Therefore it is:

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT** Complaint C 09-28 is hereby dismissed.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on December 9, 2009.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON  
ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:



Kefry E. Rosenthal, Esq.  
Chairman

Signed on this date: 12/16/09