

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

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2012 JUL 25 PM 12: 08

In re: PASCUZZO v. BATEMAN

C 12-10, -11, -12, -14

PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL DISMISSAL ORDER

Patrick Pascuzzo, a private citizen, filed the above-referenced complaints against Steven Bateman, Mayor of the City of Homestead.

The complaints alleged that during the campaign season of 2011, while Mayor Bateman was the incumbent seeking reelection in Homestead, he comingled City funds and resources with his campaign funds to produce a campaign video.

These allegations, if true, may violate Sec. 2-11.1 (g) of the County Ethics Code, Exploitation of official position prohibited, and also Sec. 2-11.1 (u), Prohibition on business transactions except at arm's length.

Pursuant to the Code of Miami-Dade County at Sec. 2-1068, the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission extends "to any person required to comply with the County or municipal Code of Ethics Ordinances...." The County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1(a) extends the jurisdiction of the County Ethics Ordinance to municipal elected officials.

In public session on June 26, 2012, the Advocate for the Ethics Commission reported that an investigation into these matters did not uncover any evidence that Respondent Bateman improperly used public funds or resources to produce a campaign video. Consequently, the Ethics Commission found no probable cause to charge respondent with exploitation of his official position or entering into business relationships not at arm's length.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the above-cited complaints against Steven Bateman are hereby dismissed for lack of probable cause.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on June 26, 2012.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:

Chair

Signed on this date:___

7/20/2012