Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)

Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 9:10 AM

To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

Subject: Lorena Neighbor, Chair, City of Miami Community Advisory Board (Sunshine Law) INQ

18-107

INQ 18-107 Neighbor

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE) **Sent:** Friday, April 27, 2018 5:37 PM

To: 'Lorena Ramos' <lorenaneighbor@gmail.com>

Cc: Wysong, George <GWysong@miami-police.org>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha

D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov> **Subject:** RE: INQ 18-107 Lorena Neighbor, Chair, City of Miami Community Advisory Board (Sunshine Law)

Thanks for the clarification, which will be noted. It does not affect my opinion.

From: Lorena Ramos [mailto:lorenaneighbor@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 5:35 PM

To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) < <u>Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov</u>>

Cc: Wysong, George <GWysong@miami-police.org>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Perez, Martha

D. (COE) < <u>Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov</u>>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) < <u>Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: INQ 18-107 Lorena Neighbor, Chair, City of Miami Community Advisory Board (Sunshine Law)

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Thank you, Mr. Centorino, for the immediate and detailed response.

Just a correction, I am the chair of the subcommittee, not the chair for the general board. The board member that I was advised I could speak with directly is a board member of my subcommittee and also of the general board. My apologies if I was a little confusing.

Again, thank you,

Regards, Lorena

"Without a struggle, there can be no progress." Frederick Douglass

Buena Vista Stakeholders Corp. Lorena Ramos, Founder and Board Member 20 NW 45 Street
Miami, FL 33127-2616
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www.buenavistastakeholders.com
lorenaneighbor@gmail.com

On Fri, Apr 27, 2018 at 5:25 PM, Centorino, Joseph (COE) < Joseph. Centorino@miamidade.gov > wrote:

Ms. Neighbor,

You have inquired, in your capacity as Chair of the Community Advisory Board for the City of Miami, as well as the Chair of the Community Policing Subcommittee of that board, regarding the following two issues under the Sunshine Law, Section 286.011, Florida Statutes:

1) Whether you, as a member of a board that is covered under the Florida Sunshine Law, communicate with other members of the board regarding whether they could identify any community organizations with whom you and the board could meet to discuss police issues of concern.

I informed you that the Sunshine Law prohibits communications between board members on matters that would foreseeably come up for consideration by the board. If this is a simple inquiry concerning suggestions for possible outreach events to be arranged by you or your board members, then such communications would not be prohibited by the Sunshine Law. However, given that there is always a potential for an unintentional violation to occur whenever a board member has a private conversation with another board member, I advised against your directly contacting the members. I think the better approach would be to have the individual who serves as clerk or liaison for your board to send emails to the various members asking for their input, and to then provide the information to the full board at its next public meeting. This would avoid a possible inappropriate comment and would also avoid any appearance of impropriety under the Sunshine Law.

2) Whether it would be appropriate under the Sunshine law for your board clerk or liaison to communicate with members of the board to calendar upcoming meetings. You indicate that would like that individual to send emails to the members to determine their availability and schedule meetings accordingly.

I informed you that there would be no prohibition to your having your clerk or liaison work on calendaring meetings and to communicate with members regarding their availability to attend. The Sunshine Law prohibits discussions among board members of matters that would foreseeably come before the board for consideration. The Clerk or liaison is not a member of the board and may freely communicate with them regarding their availability so that the meetings can be appropriately scheduled.

Sincerely,

Joe Centorino

Joseph M. Centoríno

Executive Director and General Counsel

Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

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