

## Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2018 1:48 PM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ 18-163 Lewis Velken, Chief, North Bay Village (Prohibited gifts)

INQ 18-163 Velken

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 29, 2018 3:54 PM  
**To:** 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:** INQ 18-163 Lewis Velken, Chief, North Bay Village (Prohibited gifts)

Chief Lewis Velken of the North Bay Village Police Department inquired concerning whether it would be permissible under the Ethics Code for two of his police detectives to accept a \$500 payment from the family of a missing individual who was located through their efforts. Apparently, the family members were so pleased with the police efforts in regard to finding their relative, that they wished to reward the detectives for their outstanding work.

I informed Chief Velken that the police detective could not accept the reward. The reward would amount to a prohibited gift under Section 2-11.1(e)(3) of the Ethics Code insofar as it would gift made to a public servant under our jurisdiction for an official action taken or legal duty performed in the course of their official duties in the police department. Additionally, it would also amount to compensation for their services as officers in North Bay Village from a source other than the Village, in violation of Section 2-11.1(k)(1) of the Code.

I informed Chief Velken that he could inform the grateful family members that they were free to make a contribution to the Police Department, if that was their intent, but not to any individual in the Police Department. I also suggested that he could provide special recognition to the detectives for their outstanding work, if that is something he thought appropriate.

### *Joseph M. Centorino*

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