

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 10:44 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: INQ 18-205 Dusty Melton, City of Miami Lobbyist (Refresher Course, Section 2-654(b), City of Miami Code)

INQ 18-205 Melton

-----Original Message-----

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2018 11:42 AM
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 18-205 Dusty Melton, City of Miami Lobbyist (Refresher Course, Section 2-654(b), City of Miami Code)

Dusty Melton, City of Miami lobbyist, inquired concerning his obligation to take the refresher course to fulfill his obligations for lobbyist ethics training pursuant to Section 2-654(b) of the City of Miami Code. Under the Code provision prior to the January 2018 revision, the course was required every year, but has since been changed to every two years, consistent with the County requirement under Section 2-11.1(s) of the County Code. Mr. Melton said that the one-year refresher requirement would have expired as of September 27, 2018, and asked for guidance regarding whether he needs to re-take the course by that day to continue to lobby. I advised him that the interpretation of the amended two-year City requirement by the Miami City Attorney and Clerk is that it is prospective and will apply to lobbyists taking the course during 2018. Mr. Melton was advised that he should take the refresher course as of September 27, 2018, that henceforth he would only need to take it every two years under the City of Miami Code provision.

Joseph M. Centorino
Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 579-2594
Fax: (305) 579-0273
ethics.miamidade.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 8:40 AM
To: 'Dusty Melton' <dustymelton@earthlink.net>
Cc: Sibia, Rhonda (COE) <Rhonda.Sibia@miamidade.gov>
Subject: RE: refresher course query

Dusty,

It is correct that the City has adopted the two-year refresher requirement that the County has. However, I am informed that the City's interpretation of its amended ordinance is not applicable retroactively, i.e. it only applies prospectively to those who take the course sometime after its effective date last January. Under this interpretation, you would need to take the refresher course on Sept. 27, but, thereafter, would only need to take it every two years. You are welcome to confirm this with the Miami City Clerk or City Attorney's Office.

Thanks for the inquiry.

Joe

-----Original Message-----

From: Dusty Melton [mailto:dustymelton@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 5:40 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE) <Joseph.Centorino@miamidade.gov>

Subject: refresher course query

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Joe:

Trust all is well at your end. In the past, the City of Miami has required ANNUAL refresher training. Just went to your site and spy that the City is now on the same “every two years” cycle that has been the norm at the County. Just checking the accuracy of your site; otherwise, I would be due to be with you on September 27 for my annual City check-up.

Thanks,

Dusty