

## Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018 11:05 AM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ 18-231, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, Board of County Commissioners , District 6 (Voting Conflict)

**Importance:** High

INQ 18-231 Sosa

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**From:** Arrojo, Jose (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018 10:49 AM  
**To:** Fernandez, Alejandro J. (DIST6) <Alejandro.Fernandez2@miamidade.gov>  
**Cc:** Perez, Martha D. (COE) <Martha.Perez2@miamidade.gov>; Turay, Radia (COE) <Radia.Turay@miamidade.gov>; Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>; Murawski, Michael P. (COE) <Michael.Murawski@miamidade.gov>; Aguirre, Betty (DIST6) <Betty.Aguirre@miamidade.gov>; Castro, Vivian (DIST6) <Vivian.Castro@miamidade.gov>  
**Subject:** INQ 231, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, Voting Conflict  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

Greetings and thank you for seeking guidance from the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust on behalf of County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa (District 6) regarding an upcoming vote of the Board of County Commissioners, Government Operations Committee (GOC). You have specifically inquired whether Commissioner Sosa would have a voting conflict of interest under Section 2-11.1(d) of the Miami-Dade County Ethics Code, in voting or otherwise participating in Agenda Item # 182286 appears on the agenda on today's GOC.

The item consists of a recommendation by the County Mayor to the Board of County Commissioners to approve the terms of a second amendment to the lease agreement with MKMIA,LLC and clarifies the establishment of a school of the arts as a secondary or ancillary use of the property. The property location is 1175 N.W. South River Drive, Miami, Florida. The prime use of the property is anticipated to be the headquarters of the Naeem Khan brand and for related creative industries. Naeem Khan is an Indian-American fashion designer with an international clientele and reputation. The school would operate as a magnet program of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools that would afford young students the opportunity to study an work in real world environment alongside MKMIA, LLC creative, manufacturing, and marketing staff.

Your inquiry is predicated on the fact that Commissioner Sosa is employed as Curriculum/Program Facilitator at Lindsey Hopkins Technical Center, an adult educational facility, which is part of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS).

In the past, the Commission on Ethics has opined that Commissioner Sosa's employment with MDCPS does not create an automatic voting or participation conflict for her on BCC items affecting that government agency. The issue of a voting conflict on such matters is more narrowly described as whether Commissioner Sosa might, directly or indirectly, profit or be enhanced by the item in question. Our review of Item #182286 did not present any likelihood that Commissioner Sosa would, personally or professionally, be affected in any way by the

item. More specifically, Commissioner Sosa's position with the public schools at an *adult* educational facility would not be affected by the adoption of this resolution which seeks to examine the feasibility of MDCPS partnering with elements of the international fashion industry to afford *young students* the opportunity to experience real-world fashion industry elements, and she would not profit or be enhanced personally in any way in the event this resolution is passed and the partnership ensues.

Under the details provided to me concerning this program, I do not believe that Commissioner Sosa would profit or be enhanced by the program, and, therefore, I do not believe that she is not prohibited under Section 2-11.1(d) from participating or voting on this item.

Sincerely,

**Jose J. Arrojo**

Executive Director

Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

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