

Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2019 4:11 PM
To: tjja@tjja-architects.com
Cc: Arrojo, Jose (COE); District6; District8; Aguirre, Betty (DIST6); Murawski, Michael P. (COE); Perez, Martha D. (COE); Turay, Radia (COE); Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: INQ 19-15, Todd Jonas, President TJAA Architects and Board Member, Miami-Dade CTBQ board (Mom and Pop Grant)
Attachments: INQ 19-15 Jonas.pdf; Mom & Pop Ethics Form.tiff; TJJA Corp Sun Biz.pdf

Dear Mr. Jonas:

Thank you for contacting the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust and requesting our guidance. Attached is INQ 19-15 addressing your question. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or if we may be of further assistance.

Cordially,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
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From: TJJA Main <tjja@tjja-architects.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 3:34 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE) <Gilma.Diaz-Greco@miamidade.gov>
Subject: TJJA Architects, Mom and Pop Grant, District 6

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Gilma

Our firm is seeking a Mom and Pop grant from Commissioner Sosa's office District 6
The grant application is requesting a letter of opinion from your office.

Attached are the request for Opinion form and a pdf of our Sun-biz printout

TJJA Architects has been in business since 2001
We are a past recipient of the Mom and Pop Grant

Please do what you can to expedite this request
The close out date is 10 days from now (February 22, 2019)

Thanks

Todd

Todd Jonas

Architect/President

TJJA Architects

14 Westward Drive
Miami Springs, Florida 33166

Tel:
305.377.4808
tija@tija-architects.com

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Website: ethics.miamidade.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Todd Jonas, President TJJA Architects, and Board Member, Miami-Dade Construction Trade Qualifying Board Division A

FROM: Gilma Diaz-Greco, Staff Attorney
Commission on Ethics

SUBJECT: INQ 19-15, Miami-Dade Code of Ethics Sections 2-11.1(c),(g), and (n)

DATE: 2-14-19

CC: All COE Legal Staff; Office of Miami-Dade Commissioner Rebecca Sosa, District 6, Betty Aguirre, Chief of Staff, District 6; Office of Miami-Dade Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, District 8.

Thank you for contacting the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust and requesting our guidance regarding County board members applying for Mom and Pop Grants which are funded by Miami-Dade County.

Facts:

You serve as the Board Member of the Miami-Dade Construction Trade Qualifying Board Division A (“CTQB”). The CTQB is made up of two divisions (A and B) and is charged with ensuring the competency of local contractors. The Board screens applicants for contractor and tradesmen certification examinations; reviews applications for contractor licenses; reviews and resolves complaints against contractors and tradesmen through formal and informal hearing processes; and may take disciplinary actions against those found guilty of violations of Miami-Dade’s Contractor ordinance.

Mom and Pop Grants are funded by Miami-Dade County. Neighbors and Neighbors Association, a not-for-profit organization, administers and makes recommendation regarding the Mom and Pop Grant applications; funds are distributed by the Commission offices of the 13 County Districts to businesses that meet the requirements of the grants. Your company, TJJA Architects, P.A. (“TJJA”) is applying for a Mom and Pop Grant funded through Commissioner Rebeca Sosa’s District 6 Office.

Issue:

Whether the County Ethics Code would prevent your privately-owned company, TJJA from accepting a Mom & Pop Grant funded through the District 3 Office.

Discussion and Opinion

Your inquiry involves several sections of the County Ethics Code which are analyzed below:

A. Mom and Pop Grant

Section 2-11.1(c)(3) of the County Ethics Code generally permits County Board members to transact business with the County either individually or through the board member's firm. However, pursuant to this section, County board members are prohibited from contracting with any County agency or department subject to the regulation, oversight, management, policy-setting or quasi-judicial authority of the board of which the person is a member

In this instance, the board on which you serve, CTDB, is not involved in any way in processing or administering the Mom and Pop grants. Consequently, TJJA may accept this grant.

B. Actions Prohibited where Financial Interests Involved and Exploitation of Official Position

The County Ethics Code prohibits a County board member from exploitation of their official position and from participating in any official action directly or indirectly affecting a business in which he or any member of his immediate family has a financial interest. This means that you may not contact anyone within the County (or anyone working on behalf of the County) in an attempt to influence his/her decision about the grant; and you may not use your County position to secure **special privileges or exemptions** with respect to participating in the Mom and Pop Grant to which you are applying. *See* County Ethics Code §§2-11.1(g) and (n).

This opinion is limited to the facts as you presented them to the Commission on Ethics and is limited to an interpretation of the County Ethics Code only and is not intended to interpret state laws. Questions regarding state ethics laws should be addressed to the Florida Commission on Ethics.

Please submit this opinion to Neighbors and Neighbors Association, Inc. The Ethics Commission does not submit this letter on your behalf.

INQs are informal ethics opinions provided by the legal staff after being reviewed and approved by the Executive Director. INQs deal with opinions previously addressed in public session by the Ethics Commission or within the plain meaning of the County Ethics Code. RQOs are opinions provided by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust when the subject matter is of great public importance or where there is insufficient precedent. While these are informal opinions, covered parties that act contrary to the opinion may be referred to the Advocate for preliminary review or investigation and may be subject to a formal Complaint filed with the Commission on Ethics and Public Trust.

Request for Opinion from Commission on Ethics Acquiring Financial Interest

1. Todd Jonas, President _____, the owner or president of

(Owner or President Name)

TJJA Architects _____, whose business address is

(Business Name)

14 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, FL 33166

(Business Address, City, State, Zip)

305.377.4808

TJJA@TJJA-Architects.com

(Phone #)

(Email)

Include a short description of the type of business operating _____

TJJA Architects is an Architects Office practicing Architecture and Interior Design

Are you currently an employee or board member of any Miami Dade County Board?

Yes No

If yes, what Department or Board? _____ Construction Trade Qualifying Board Division A

If yes, are you seeking to contract with Miami Dade County? Yes No: _____

I am being considered for funding through the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant

Program and request the clearance from the Commission on Ethics. Please review my

request and forward to Neighbors And Neighbors Association, Inc. to the attention of

Leroy Jones, Executive Director, 5120 NW 24th Ave., Miami, FL 33142 or fax (305) 756-

6008. Thank you in advance for your attention to this very important matter.

Rebeca Sosa

1000 SW 57th Avenue, Suite 201

Miami, FL 33144

This page must be completed.



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Detail by Entity Name

Florida Profit Corporation

TJJA ARCHITECTS P.A.

Filing Information

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FEI/EIN Number 65-1078531
Date Filed 03/21/2001
State FL
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Last Event REINSTATEMENT
Event Date Filed 01/28/2005

Principal Address

14 Westward Drive
Miami Springs, FL 33166

Changed: 02/10/2017

Mailing Address

14 Westward Drive
Miami Springs, FL 33166

Changed: 02/10/2017

Registered Agent Name & Address

Jonas, Todd Jay
14 Westward Drive
Headquarters Annex
Miami Springs, FL 33166

Name Changed: 02/10/2017

Address Changed: 02/10/2017

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title President, Director, Secretary

Jonas, Todd Jay
 14 Westward Drive
 Miami Springs, FL 33166

Title Director, Treasurer

Jonas, Chandra
 14 Westward Drive
 Miami Springs, FL 33166

Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2016	03/07/2016
2017	02/10/2017
2018	03/22/2018

Document Images

03/22/2018 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
02/10/2017 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/07/2016 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/06/2015 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/07/2014 -- AMENDED ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/05/2014 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/19/2013 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/13/2012 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/27/2011 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/26/2010 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/16/2009 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/29/2008 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/02/2007 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/12/2006 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
01/28/2005 -- REINSTATEMENT	View image in PDF format
10/29/2004 -- DEBIT MEMO DISSOLUTI	View image in PDF format
07/12/2004 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/28/2003 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/04/2002 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/21/2001 -- Domestic Profit	View image in PDF format