



MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Nichole Arguelles, President, Alli Solutions LLC.

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

SUBJECT: INQ 20-65

DATE: 6-25-20

CC: COE Legal Staff

Thank you for contacting the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust and requesting our guidance regarding relatives of Miami-Dade County employees applying to become County vendors.

Facts:

You advise that you are not a County employee, but that your mother, is employed as a School Psychologist with the Miami-Dade County Public School Board (“MDCPS School Board”). You would like to contract with Miami-Dade County through your privately-owned business, Alli Solutions LLC (“Alli”), a Florida limited liability corporation.

Issue:

Whether the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance (“County Ethics Code”) would prevent your privately-owned company, Alli, from contracting with the County.

Discussion and Opinion

Section 2-11.1(c) of the County Ethics Code provides that relatives of County employees may enter into contracts with the County provided that the County employee is not involved in the oversight or administration of the contract which the relative is seeking. However, this section does not apply to you because employees of the MDCPS School Board do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Miami-Dade Ethics Commission. Only Miami-Dade County elected officials and employees, and their immediate family members, are required to obtain ethics opinions from the Ethics Commission as part of contracting with Miami Dade-County. Therefore, the County Ethics Code would not limit you from seeking to contract with Miami-Dade County.

Although you do not fall within the jurisdiction of the County Ethics Code, as an employee of the Miami-Dade Public Schools, you are subject to the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees. For an opinion regarding Florida ethics law, please contact the Florida Commission on Ethics, P.O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317, phone number 850 488-7864 or <http://www.ethics.state.fl.us/>

This opinion is limited to the facts as you presented them to the Commission on Ethics.

Please submit this memorandum to the Procurement Department. The Ethics Commission does not submit it 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.