

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

JNQ 07-13

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2007 4:40 PM  
**To:** Maes, James (Seaport)  
**Subject:** RE: nato Advanced Research Workshop on piracy and maritime terrorism

James,

The county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance prevents vendors, bidders, service bidders, lobbyists from paying travel and travel-related expenses of County officials and employee. It isn't clear to me which organization is offering to pay travel expenses, but I will assume for purposes of this opinion that the underwriter does not fall into any of the abovementioned categories. Therefore, no ethics violation exists if this party covers the expenses associated with the conference.

Another issue to tackle is whether the County employee who attends has to report the trip as a gift. Our opinions have held that employees who attend conferences in their official capacities are not receiving gifts and have nothing to report. However, an employee who extends his/her stay or does not actually attend the conference (other than speaking at the conference) would be required to report a portion of the travel as a gift.

If you have any question or wish to discuss in greater detail, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
 Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
 (305) 350-0613

**From:** Maes, James (Seaport)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 20, 2007 3:15 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Cc:** Johnson, Bill (Seaport); McCarty, Jess (CAO); Morin, Mayda (Seaport); Minakowski, Denise (Seaport)  
**Subject:** FW: nato Advanced Research Workshop on piracy and maritime terrorism  
**Importance:** High

Robert, this seems like a pretty unique opportunity to raise the visibility of the Port of Miami on an international scale. Is it within the scope of the ethics guidelines to accept their offer to pay expenses (e.g., flights, hotel, accommodations) in return for having one of us speak at the conference? Regards,  
 James Maes  
 (305)347-4901

**From:** Silvia Ciotti [mailto:criminologia@ispri.org]  
**Sent:** Tue 1/16/2007 1:06 PM  
**To:** Maes, James (Seaport); Minakowski, Denise (Seaport); Ruiz, Fernando (Seaport)  
**Subject:** nato Advanced Research Workshop on piracy and maritime terrorism

Dear friends and colleagues,

The University Centre for International and Strategic Studies (CSSI) of the University of Florence, in cooperation with another academy institution to be defined, is organizing a NATO Advanced Research Workshop in the city of Praia (Cape Verde Islands), on the topics of piracy and maritime terrorism, port and harbours security and security and protection of vessels and ships. The workshop is scheduled for October, 2007; please find in attachment the project, with

1/23/2007

the preliminary description of the goals and aim of the seminar. We would be honoured to have you all as key speakers: as usual, all the expenses (flights, hotel accommodations, and so on) will be paid by the workshop organisation.

We have to complete our key speakers draft list before 24th January, 2007; so, please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in the workshop, so we can start working in a more coordinate and "serious" way. You can contact me by e mail (crimetime@iol.it or criminologia@ispri.org ) or by phone (0039 339 6014082); you can also contact directly the CSSI at the 0039 055 5061217. I wait to hear from you soon!!!! Best regards

Silvia Ciotti

Doctor at Law - Criminologist

Adjunct Professor at the University for Foreigners - Perugia (Italy)

Former Judge at the Penal Court of Florence (Italy)

Director and senior member of EuroCrime

Researcher at the I.S.P.R.I. (Institute of Forecasting Studies and International Research) - Florence

Researcher at the C.S.S.I. (University Centre for Strategic and International Studies) - University of Florence

Member of the American Society of Criminology

Member of the European Society of Criminology

Member of the Italian Society of Criminology