

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 07-88

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 3:37 PM
To: Lievano, Maria (DIST12)
Subject: RE: request for opinion

Hi Maria,

How is motherhood treating you? Just remember, the older they get, the harder it gets.

As far as your question is concerned, I feel I am missing something. Are the sports commission and tourist development council both county boards? The relevant facts seemingly are that the Miami-Dade Sports Commission has a grant application before the Tourist Development Council and Commissioner Diaz serves on both boards. Even assuming that Commissioner Diaz was involved in the decision as a co-chair of the Sports Commission to seek funding from the Tourist Development Council, no conflict of interest is created. As long as Commissioner Diaz does not benefit from the grant award to the Sports Commission, he can participate in the discussions and vote on the application as the chair of the Tourist Development Council. The only other prohibition worth mentioning is that Commissioner Diaz cannot present the application on behalf of the Sports Commission to the Tourist Development Council. If such a presentation is required, staff or another board member should handle it.

If I have misunderstood your question or misstated some of the facts, please get back to me at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,

Robert

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

From: Lievano, Maria (DIST12)
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 12:52 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Vega, Olga R. (DIST12); Diaz, Jose "Pepe" (DIST12)
Subject: request for opinion

Hello, Robert. I hope you are well. I have a conflict question for you. Commissioner Diaz is the co-chair of the sports commission and the Chair of the Tourist Development Council. Please read the email below and let me know if the commissioner can vote on the grant request.

Thanks,

Maria

Maria Lievano Cruz, Esq.
Director of Policy and Legislation
Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz (District 12)
(305) 375-4343
Fax (305) 372-6109

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

From: Vega, Olga R. (DIST12)
To: Lievano, Maria (DIST12)
Sent: Tue Jun 12 12:46:32 2007
Subject: Fw: Tourist Development Grant

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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

From: Mike Sophia <mwsophia@miamisports.org>
To: Diaz, Jose "Pepe" (DIST12); Talbert, Bill (GMCVB)
Cc: Vega, Olga R. (DIST12); Helena Orozco <horozco@miamiandbeaches.com>; Heather Wasek <HWasek@miamisports.org>
Sent: Tue Jun 12 10:34:35 2007
Subject: Tourist Development Grant

Gentlemen,

I just wanted to give you both a heads up prior to your meeting on Thursday, we have a grant request in through the Cultural Affairs Department's Tourist Development Grant this quarter for the US Fencing Nationals to be held at the end of this month. We are seeking \$25,000 in funds for this event which will bring in more than 15,000 athletes, coaches, officials, family members, and other visitors over a 10-day period this summer, and we expect the event to generate more than \$23 million.

As you know, this type of business during the summer is incredibly valuable, and we appreciate your support.

I am sure you have received copies of the application, but please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Mike Sophia

Executive Director

Miami-Dade Sports Commission

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