

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 08-130

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2008 11:16 AM
To: 'E Wright'
Subject: RE: Federal Political Fundraisers

Erica,

Sorry for not responding sooner, but I just returned from vacation. Technically, ethics commissioners are not supposed to campaign for any elective office. (See Section 2-1069(e)(1). Also, Section 2-1069(e)(3) states that ethics commissioners are not supposed to actively participate in or contribute to any political campaign or political action committee.

It would seem to me that unless we have jurisdiction over the person, you should be able to attend a fundraiser and participate in a campaign for federal office. As a general rule, we only have jurisdiction over County and municipal elected officials in Miami-Dade County. The only tricky part is that any candidate, regardless of the office, may agree to be bound by the county's Ethical Campaign Practices Ordinance, which we enforce. If the candidate you wish to support does not have constituents in Miami-Dade County or if the candidate and his/her opponents have not agreed to be bound by the ethical campaign practices ordinance, then I see no reason why you should be barred from attending a fundraiser and participating in the campaign of a person running for federal office.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss the above.

Thanks,

Robert

From: E Wright [mailto:wright_eric@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2008 3:21 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Federal Political Fundraisers

Robert, I have been asked to attend a fundraiser and participate in a campaign for someone seeking a federal elected position. Will my participation either of these efforts be in violation of the ordinance?