

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 08-87

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2008 11:55 AM
To: 'Alvaro Fernandez'
Subject: RE: Question on seminars

Mr. Fernandez,

Thank you for your question. The County has a policy that vendors, bidders and services providers are prohibited from paying travel or travel-related expenses for County employees. Among other things, travel-related expenses can include registration fees and meals. Due to the fact the prohibition is linked to travel, the Ethics Commission has consistently held that County employees who attend local conferences are not subject to the same restrictions. In other words, if you attend a seminar in Miami and a County vendor pays for your meals, you have not violated the ban on vendors covering travel expenses for employees. In effect, the rule only applies to out-of-town travel.

If you have any other questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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

From: Alvaro Fernandez [mailto:fernandeza@mdpls.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 3:32 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Martha Sanchez
Subject: Question on seminars

Hi Sir,

We meet today regarding a local seminar attendance in which they may include lunch or a similar meal or beverage without any disclosures on a price value.
Can you please clarify this for us? Thanks in advance for you time.

Respectfully,

Alvaro Fernandez, Network Manager II
Miami-Dade Public Library System
305 375-5219, www.mdpls.org
www.miamidade.gov

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5/16/2008