

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2009 1:56 PM
To: 'aduran@miamigov.com'
Cc: 'OLAGJR@aol.com'; 'Ason, Maria'
Subject: Conflict of Interest Determination (INQ 09-130)

Mr. Duran,

This email is in response to one we received from Oliver L. Gross of the Urban League of Greater Miami, Inc., on August 3, 2009. Mr. Gross wrote on behalf of Marshall Pryor, who is both an employee of the Covenant Palms Apartment (which is owned by an affiliate of the Urban League) and a resident of the Meek Manor Apartments (which was developed in part by the Urban League using HOME funds).

As we discussed today, the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics does not have jurisdiction to provide ethics opinions to employees of private nonprofit or for-profit entities.

The applicability of the County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance is limited to the following individuals—

... all County personnel ... and all municipal officials and officers, autonomous personnel, quasi-judicial personnel, advisory personnel, departmental personnel and employees of municipalities in the County insofar as their individual relationships with their own municipal governments are concerned. References in the section to County personnel shall therefore be applicable to municipal personnel who serve in comparable capacities to the County personnel referred to. Miami-Dade County Code at § 2-11.1 (a).

I'm sorry we cannot be of service to you in the above-referenced case, but please feel free to contact us in the future regarding matters involving municipal officials and personnel.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade Co. Commission on Ethics
Direct Phone: 305.350.0601
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19 West Flagler St., Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130

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From: OLAGJR@aol.com [mailto:OLAGJR@aol.com]

8/6/2009

Sent: Monday, August 03, 2009 3:08 PM

To: Meyers, Robert (COE)

Cc: Frigo, Victoria (COE); twfaIR@BELLSOUTH.NET; FGudorf@aol.com; Mason@ci.miami.fl.us; rlgaiter@bellsouth.net; aduran@miamigov.com

Subject: Conflict of Interest Determination

Mr Robert Myers
Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 West Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, Florida 33130

Re: Marshall Pryor/Meek Manor Apartments

Dear Mr. Myers:

On behalf of Marshall Pryor, an employee of an affiliate entity of the Urban League of Greater Miami (The League) and a resident of a recently completed affordable housing project, we are hereby requesting a conflict of interest determination from your office pursuant to HOME Regulations 24 CFR Part 92, Section 356. As a matter of background, The League was a co-sponsor of the Meek Manor Apartments, a USHUD Section 202 project located in the Overtown community. The project has 71 units and is designated for those 62 years old and over. The project was funded in part, with HOME funds provided by the City of Miami.

Mr. Pryor is employed as a janitor by the Covenant Palms Apartments, which is owned by the Urban League Housing Corporation, an affiliate entity of the The League. Mr Pryor has been employed since 1996 in this position and has no direct or indirect role in any decision making regarding HOME funds or the administration of the same.

Further, as a result of the tenant selection process Mr. Pryor was selected to reside in one of the units which is considered a HOME assisted unit (all of the units are considered HOME assisted). During a recent monitoring visit by the City we were advised that Mr. Pryor's residency constituted a conflict of interest relative to the aforementioned regulations. However, in light of Mr. Pryor's role and responsibilities, we are requesting a determination/waiver of this conclusion.

If you require any additional information please don't hesitate to contact me and I look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Oliver L. Gross

CC:

Victoria Frigo

T. Willard Fair, Urban League of Greater Miami, Inc

Frank Gudorf, Jubilee CDC

Maria T. Ason, City of Miami Department of Community Development

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