

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 09-139

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2009 4:01 PM
To: Calzadilla-Fiallo, Elizabeth (MDFR)
Subject: RE: Contract

Ms. Calzadilla-Fiallo:

Thank you for your e-mail. Since Rhino will be transacting business with Miami-Dade County, specifically the Fire Rescue Department, the question I have is whether the MDFR firefighter who works for Rhino as a cameraman has a controlling financing interest in the company. Assuming he does not have a controlling finance interest in Rhino, it would not be a violation of county's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance for the parties to enter into the attached agreement.

Another issue is whether the firefighter who has outside employment as a cameraman has permission to do so from the Fire Chief. Without permission, he is violating the county ethics ordinance. Not only must he receive permission to engage in such outside employment, he must file an income statement, reporting the income he generates from these activities on an annual basis.

Lastly, and this really isn't an issue for the Ethics Commission, but I am assuming the County Manager has no objection to the company shooting footage of MDFR to be used potentially for commercial purposes.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert Meyers, Executive Director
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

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

From: Calzadilla-Fiallo, Elizabeth (MDFR)
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2009 12:03 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Cc: Frastai, Daniel (CAO)
Subject: FW: Contract

Good morning Mr. Meyers,

Danny Frastai of the CAO advised me to speak to you about regarding a question we have.

The attached contract comes to MDFR from a local company called Rhino Productions. They want to shoot a pitch/sales reel on the department in the hopes of selling their reality show concept to a major television network. My question is simple: is there a conflict of interest here given the person making the proposal on behalf of the Rhino is an MDFR firefighter who works for them as a cameraman? This is a for-profit venture.

Please let me know. As always, thanks for all your guidance.

Warm regards,

Elizabeth Calzadilla-Fiallo, Manager

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"Delivering Excellence Every Day"

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

From: jasondmiami [mailto:jasondmiami@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2009 4:09 PM
To: Calzadilla-Fiallo, Elizabeth (MDFR)
Cc: jasondmiami
Subject: Contract

Elizabeth,

A copy of the contract is attached to this e-mail. Let me know if this works for you?