

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 01, 2009 5:16 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Subject:** Inquiry

I received a telephone call from Matthew Mandel on March 26, 2009, an attorney with the Weiss Serota law firm, and he explained that his firm has been selected to handle legal work for an insurance company that is attempting to break into the South Florida municipal market. The insurance firm apparently competes with the insurance services offered by the League of Cities. Mr. Mandel, calling on behalf of Nina Boniske, asked what the parameters were for scheduling meetings with the municipalities that are represented by Weiss Serota and those which are not. I advised Mr. Mandel that the insurance company should call the municipalities directly and Weiss Serota should not help schedule the meetings with the key personnel in the municipalities where they are legal counsel. This could possibly amount to exploitation of official position or improper lobbying. If the company scheduled its own meetings and Weiss Serota is called about the firm, comments could be offered as long as there is disclosure of the fact that Weiss Serota has an agreement with the insurance company. For municipalities not retaining Weiss Serota, there is no issue if Weiss Serota attorneys were to contact personnel they know in these cities and attempt to schedule meetings involving the three parties (city personnel, Weiss Serota representatives and insurance company representatives).

Robert Meyers, Executive Director  
April 1, 2009

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