

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 3:59 PM
To: 'loretta@thechildrenstrust.org'
Cc: Meyers, Robert (COE); Thompson, Robert A. (COE)
Subject: Trust employees to serve on boards (INQ 10-193)

Ms. Duvall,

In an email to our office on November 16, 2010, you asked if a change in the policy of The Children's Trust to allow its staff members to serve on local boards, including agencies that are funded by The Trust, conflicts with the Miami-Dade County Code of Ethics. Service by these employees would be allowed only if certain criteria were met and written approval was obtained from the President/CEO of The Trust.

The Ethics Commission staff finds that The Trust's change in policy does not violate the County Ethics Code based on the criteria for service that you have established.

The following limitations, in particular, insure that the County Ethics Code is not violated at Sec. 2-11.1 (e), *Gifts*; Sec. 2-11.1 (g), *Exploitation of official position*; and Sec. 2-11.1 (h), *Disclosure of confidential information*:

1. The employee is recruited to a board based on his/her professional qualifications, not his/her status with The Children's Trust.
2. The employee will receive no compensation nor be tasked with fundraising for the organization.
3. The employee will not be involved with administration and/or payments of contracts to board providers.
4. The employee will not be eligible to review or rate any applications for funding from The Trust.
5. The employee will agree in writing to maintain the integrity of confidential or nonpublic information on the availability of upcoming funding from The Trust.
6. The employee will not be granted any leave or modification of his/her routine work schedule to serve as a board member.

Also note that all members of County advisory boards are required to attend ethics training provided by the County Ethics Commission. For additional information regarding board ethics training, please contact Robert Thompson at 305 350-0630 or robthom@miamidade.gov.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics
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