

**Meyers, Robert (COE)**

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** Cave, Linda (COC)  
**Subject:** RE: Form 4A

Linda:

Per your e-mail, the important facts are that Steve Sauls is an employee and lobbyist for Florida International University (FIU) and he was recently appointed to the DERM Wetlands Advisory Board. The applicable sections of the County's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance involve the following:

- 1) Voting conflicts – board members with a special relationship with a party appearing before advisory boards where board members are directly affected by the action taken by the advisory board have voting conflicts;
- 2) Appearances – members of County advisory boards are not permitted to appear before their boards on behalf of third parties;
- 3) Transacting business with the County – advisory board members are not allowed to enter into contracts with departments when their boards interface with the County departments transacting business with the board members.

In the case of Mr. Sauls, a voting conflict would exist for him only if the DERM Wetlands Advisory Board were taking action on an item involving FIU and he stood to directly benefit from the Board's action. With respect to the appearances prohibition, Mr. Sauls is barred from lobbying his advisory board on behalf of FIU, but he can lobby other boards and the County Commission on behalf of FIU. Finally, if FIU were to enter into a contract with Miami-Dade County, a conflict of interest would not be created for Mr. Sauls as an advisory board member because he does not own a controlling financial interest in FIU.

Based on the above, Mr. Sauls can serve on the DERM Wetlands Advisory Board and lobby the County for FIU (his employer) without violating the County ethics ordinance provided he does not lobby the DERM board.

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

Thanks,

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

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**From:** Cave, Linda (COC)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 25, 2011 12:02 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Cc:** Agrippa, Christopher (COC)  
**Subject:** RE: Form 4A

Thank you for your assistance Robert. I'll wait for your opinion.

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

**From:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2011 3:45 PM  
**To:** Cave, Linda (COC)  
**Subject:** RE: Form 4A

Hi Linda:

Mr. Sauls does not need a waiver to sit on the DERM Wetlands Advisory Board. It's a simple

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conflict of interest question for the Ethics Commission to consider and not a matter that has to be presented to the BCC. I will provide you and Mr. Sauls with an opinion by the end of this week.

Thanks,

Robert Meyers

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**From:** Cave, Linda (COC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2011 12:51 PM  
**To:** Meyers, Robert (COE)  
**Cc:** Agrippa, Christopher (COC)  
**Subject:** FW: Form 4A  
**Importance:** High

Hi Robert,

Please see attached request for conflict of waiver and copy of Form 4A from Mr. Steve Sauls who was recently appointed to the DERM Wetlands Advisory Board, but who also is an employee and lobbyist for FIU.

Is a waiver needed for Mr. Sauls to serve on the Wetlands Advisory Board; and if so, should this matter be placed on a BCC agenda as a waiver?

~Linda Cave  
Clerk of the Board  
305-375-3543

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

**From:** Moore, Shania (COC)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2011 1:14 PM  
**To:** Bofill, Carmen (Elections); Cuadra, Guillermo (Office of the Chair)  
**Cc:** Cave, Linda (COC)  
**Subject:** Form 4A  
**Importance:** High

Please be advised of Mr. Steve Sauls form 4A which he has file with this office, due to his appointment on the DERM Wetlands advisory board.

Regards,

*Shania L. Moore*  
County Boards Coordinator  
**Clerk of the Board Division**  
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[shaniam@miamidade.gov](mailto:shaniam@miamidade.gov)