

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 3:08 PM
To: 'Aldo Reyes'
Subject: Two-year prohibition on lobbying (INQ 11-17)
Attachments: RQO 04-33 Danger.pdf

Mr. Reyes,

This is in response to your question today about ways in which the local Ethics Codes limit your ability to lobby the City of Miami for two years following your retirement from City employment. Both the City of Miami Code at Sec. 2-612 (a) and (c) and the Miami-Dade County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (q) apply.

It is our understanding that you retired as a Manager and Information Supervisor from the Office of Zoning in the City of Miami on September 24, 2010. Since then, you have established a private consulting business to advise clients on the City's zoning codes and processes. Toward this end, you would like to meet with City employees on behalf of your clients. You stated that you will not be speaking before any City Boards.

REGARDING CITY EMPLOYEES. You are prohibited from attempting to influence City employees on behalf of third parties for two years following your retirement. This means that any written or oral communication that attempts to persuade City employees to take a particular course of action or to make some determination would be considered lobbying. Making routine requests is permissible.

REGARDING PUBLICLY NOTICED BOARD MEETINGS. Attendance at public meetings is permissible as long as you do not speak on behalf of your clients or hold yourself out as a representative of your clients.

Please be advised that, depending on the circumstances, the Ethics Commission has interpreted lobbying to include many more activities than the dictionary definition of the word would suggest. Attached is an ethics opinion given to the County Building Department Director, Charlie Danger, that discusses in greater detail the types of activities that may be prohibited.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics
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From: Aldo Reyes [mailto:aldovreyes@ymail.com]

2/1/2011

Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 11:16 AM
To: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Subject: question on post employment from a municipality

Good morning Ms Frigo,

Thank you for taking the time in directing me today, in my Conflict in Interest Question of making sure that I wont be breaking any Rule of The Code of Ethics Ordinance.

I'm a former Employee of the City of Miami, I recently retire on September 24, 2010.

My question is a clarification regarding to the (2) year prohibition period before doing business with the City of Miami is the following;

- I have now decided that based on my experiences and knowledge of City Government, can I act as an Adviser or Consultant to clients that may contact me as far as opinions of The Codes of Ordinance of the City of Miami , submitting Certificate of Use , beer and wine licensing occupational and other process of the City Government etc. At such period I may be meeting with former employees, I will meeting not be speaking at any meetings or City Board but rather directing or advising Clients on how resolve City issues.

Therefore, I'm respectfully requesting your opinion. Again thanking you in advance on this matter.

sincerely,
Aldo Reyes
786-683-4701