

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 3:39 PM
To: 'Vila, Albert'
Subject: RE: reality TV (INQ 11-19)

Lt. Vila,

As I discussed on the phone with you and Lt. Schillaci, the County and City of Miami Ethics Codes do not prevent you from appearing as contestants in a television program called "Take the Money and Run." Ultimate approval, however, resides with your department supervisor.

Because the County Ethics Commission has no authority to interpret State law, please contact the State Ethics Commission at 850 488-7864 if you would like an opinion regarding the State Ethics Code.

Sincerely,

Victoria Frigo, Staff Attorney
Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics
Direct Phone: 305 350-0601
Fax: 305 579-0273



19 West Flagler St., Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.

From: Vila, Albert [mailto:Albert.Vila@miami-police.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 2:38 PM
To: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Subject: reality TV

Victoria, It was a pleasure speaking with you. The gist of the question is can police officers be contestants on a reality TV show (take the money and run) that will represent them as detectives in a competition to solve a crime – competing against civilians for a \$100,000 prize.

We will not be representing our department or any department or the City of Miami. We will be off duty on our own time and will not be in uniform or wear an insignia identifying our department or the City. We will be identified as law enforcement officers but the department will not be identified .

The producers are the same company that produced the Amazing Race and also Disney and ABC are involved

in the production.

We would like to have an opinion if we would be violating any ethics rules, ordinances or State Statutes -
Thanks for your help!

Lt. Albert J. Vila

**Commander
Strategic Planning & Performance
City of Miami Police Department
400 NW 2nd Avenue
Miami, Fl. 33128
Phone- (305) 603-6139
Fax- (305) 579-6166
E-Mail- Albert.Vila@Miami-Police.org**