



email at blalockplumbing305@yahoo.com

October 30, 2012

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DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

Dennis D. Blalock, President
Blalock Plumbing & Engineering, LLC
1391 NW 18th St.
Homestead, FL 33030

Re: INQ 12-182, Limitations on Doing Business with the County

Dear Mr. Blalock:

On October 29, 2012, you asked about limitations in doing business with the County through your privately owned company, Blalock Plumbing & Engineering, LLC. You are employed as a plumbing supervisor with the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Department.

Although we note that your private employment could possibly conflict with your duties to the County, permission to engage in outside employment as a plumbing contractor is at the discretion of your supervisor.

If granted permission to engage in outside employment, the County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (c)(2) allows your company to enter into a contract with Miami-Dade County as long as the contract does not interfere with the full and faithful discharge of your duties to the County. This includes the condition that you may not participate in determining the contract requirements or in awarding the contract. Additionally, none of your job responsibilities and job descriptions may require you to be involved in the contract in any way including, but not limited to, its enforcement, oversight, administration, amendment, extension, termination or forbearance. Finally, you may not work in any County department that would enforce, oversee or administer your contract. In your case, this means that **Blalock Plumbing & Engineering, LLC, may not enter into contracts with the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Department.**

Additionally, you **may not lobby for a County contract.** This means that you may not contact anyone within the County in an attempt to influence his/her decision about the contract you are seeking. (See the County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (m)(1).)

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade County Ethics Code as it applies to County employee-vendors at Secs. 2-11.1 (c)(1) and (m)(1) only. It is not applicable to any conflicts under other sections of the County Code or to issues related to state or federal laws.

If any of the facts you have presented change or if you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at 305 350-0601.

Sincerely,


VICTORIA FRIGO
Staff Attorney

This letter does not grant you permission to engage in outside employment. You must obtain permission to engage in outside employment annually from your supervisor and file related financial disclosure forms every year.