

## Frigo, Victoria (COE)

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**From:** Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2012 4:14 PM  
**To:** 'rlh\_hgill@bellsouth.net'  
**Cc:** Schreiber, Susan (MPO); Thompson, Robert A. (COE); Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Subject:** Board Member's Contract with County (INQ 12-26)

Mr. Hernandez,

As we discussed on the phone today, your board service with the Transportation Aesthetics Review Committee (TARC) does not prohibit you from contracting with the County as long as TARC has no oversight over your County contracts.

You have stated that you are a part owner of Hershell Gill Consulting Engineers, Inc., a structural engineering firm that is an approved County vendor. The firm has done several projects for the County in the past.

The County Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (c)(3) prohibits a County board member from entering into a contract with the County if the board on which he serves would oversee the contract. Sec. 2-11.1 (m)(2) prohibits a County board member from making a presentation or seeking any benefits for himself or others from the board on which he serves. Sec. 2-11.1 (v) prohibits a County board member from voting on a matter if he would be directly affected by the vote and he has an enumerated relationship with the entity before the board.

Since TARC would not be involved in any aspect of the contracts your firm enters into with the County, you have no ethics conflicts under the County Ethics Code based on the facts you presented.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Inquiries regarding possible conflicts under state law should be directed to the State of Florida Commission on Ethics.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

**VICTORIA FRIGO, STAFF ATTORNEY**

Phone: 305 350-0601

Fax: 305 579-0273



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

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**From:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** 'rlh\_hgill@bellsouth.net'  
**Cc:** Schreiber, Susan (MPO); Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Subject:** FW: Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training

Greetings,

Regarding question #1, there is a form on the Elections website that is approved for financial disclosure. In regards to question #2, I'm forwarding your question to Ms. Victoria Frigo. Thanks for your patience and understanding. Please provide us our office with a phone number where you can be reached as Ms. Frigo may have some questions.

Robert Thompson

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**From:** Roberto L. Hernandez [[mailto:rlh\\_hgill@bellsouth.net](mailto:rlh_hgill@bellsouth.net)]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 4:53 PM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert A. (COE)  
**Subject:** FW: Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training

Mr. Thompson –

I am a current TARC committee member and attended your training last week. I have a couple of questions that hopefully you can help me with:

1. Regarding the financial disclosure information that we must submit, is there a form that is approved and provided by the County that we can use for this?
2. I am part owner of a structural engineering firm that is an approved firm to work for County projects. We have done several miscellaneous projects for the County. In one of the documents that you gave us it states that members of advisory boards may do business with their governments but not through a company in which the board member has an ownership interest. Does this mean that our firm can no longer respond to any County work solicitation?

Thank you,  
Robert Hernandez

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**From:** Schreiber, Susan (MPO) [<mailto:SUSANS@miamidade.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 4:28 PM  
**To:** Roberto L. Hernandez  
**Subject:** RE: Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training

Yes here it is: [ROBTHOM@miamidade.gov](mailto:ROBTHOM@miamidade.gov)

Thanks for attending!

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**From:** Roberto L. Hernandez [[mailto:rlh\\_hgill@bellsouth.net](mailto:rlh_hgill@bellsouth.net)]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 4:26 PM  
**To:** Schreiber, Susan (MPO)  
**Subject:** RE: Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training

Hi Susan –

I attended this seminar held recently and have a couple of questions to ask the presenter Robert Thompson but I did not get his email. Can you provide this to me?

Thank you,  
Robert Hernandez



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**From:** Schreiber, Susan (MPO) [<mailto:SUSANS@miamidade.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 12:40 PM  
**To:** [alex@belldavid.com](mailto:alex@belldavid.com); [cpeaford@bellsouth.net](mailto:cpeaford@bellsouth.net); [JackieGenard@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:JackieGenard@miamibeachfl.gov); [jal@kttlaw.com](mailto:jal@kttlaw.com); [jgreene@mdx-way.com](mailto:jgreene@mdx-way.com); [jmartinez@hialeahfl.gov](mailto:jmartinez@hialeahfl.gov); [jcrespi@archinternational.com](mailto:jcrespi@archinternational.com); [JMKanter@lan-inc.com](mailto:JMKanter@lan-inc.com); Ken Gardner; Luis Revuelta; [meganmcla@gmail.com](mailto:meganmcla@gmail.com); [rlh\\_hgill@bellsouth.net](mailto:rlh_hgill@bellsouth.net); [stevepinna@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepinna@hotmail.com); [TRENT@zyscovich.com](mailto:TRENT@zyscovich.com); [vhnieves@gmail.com](mailto:vhnieves@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training  
**Importance:** High

Good afternoon TARC members,

**For any TARC member who has not attended ethics training either at a TARC meeting or at the County Commission on Ethics, please note that you are required to do so in order to remain a TARC member.** Most training sessions (about 1 hr.) take place either at 8:30 am. or 12:00 p.m. (noon). Below is a **special opportunity** to attend one in the late afternoon **tomorrow** at the Government Center with other members of MPO citizen committees. Please see information below and **let me know by return e-mail if you plan to attend this session!**

Thank you very much.

*Susan Schreiber*

Transportation Analyst  
Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
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**From:** Rockwell, Elizabeth (MPO)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 3:17 PM  
**To:** Foutz, Larry (MPO); Schreiber, Susan (MPO); Henderson, David (MPO)  
**Cc:** San Roman, Irma (MPO); Rockwell, Elizabeth (MPO)  
**Subject:** Special Class - Ethics & Sunshine Law Training  
**Importance:** High

Robert Thompson from the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics (COE) has agreed to hold a **special training** for any of our advisory committee members who have not taken the **Mandatory Ethics/Sunshine Law Training**.

The class will be held on **Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM in the CITT Conference Room on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor.**

If you can, please let me know which of your members will be attending so we can get an approximate head count.

Thank you.

**Elizabeth Rockwell**, Public Involvement & TD Manager  
**Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 920, Miami, FL 33128

305-375-1881 Phone     305-375-4950 Fax

[www.miamidade.gov/mpo](http://www.miamidade.gov/mpo)

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