

Centorino, Joseph (COE)

INQ 12-67

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:52 PM
To: San Martin, Marcos (DIST6)
Subject: RE: SOSA - COI Review Request

Mr. San Martin:

Commissioner Rebeca Sosa has asked for our opinion concerning her voting on two items appearing on the INLUC Committee agenda for tomorrow, April 11, 2012: 1) a resolution accepting a conveyance of property located at 19010 NW 37 Avenue together with authorization for a construction access agreement between the county and the grantor of the property, Miami-Dade Public Schools; 2) resolution accepting a conveyance of property located at 13990 SW 264 Street together with an authorization for a construction access agreement between the county and the grantor of the property, Miami-Dade Public Schools. The purpose of both resolutions and both agreements is to permit improvements to rights-of-way bordering on properties owned by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. I understand that Commissioner Sosa is a fulltime employee of the Miami-Dade Public Schools, at Lindsey Hopkins Technical Education Center. Commissioner Sosa represents and resides within District 6. Neither of the proposed projects lies within District 6. She has no personal or business interest in either of these projects.

Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(d) of the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, no member of the Board of County Commissioners may vote on or participate in any way on a matter presented to the board if said Commissioner is employed by any of the persons or entities which would be directly or indirectly affected by that matter, if in any instance the transaction or matter would affect that Commissioner "in a manner distinct from the manner in which it would affect the public generally." Under the circumstances reflected above, that Commissioner Sosa will not be directly or indirectly affected by either of these matters "in a manner distinct from the manner in which it would affect the public generally." Commissioner Sosa in no way stands to benefit personally from either project. Therefore, Commissioner Sosa may vote on and otherwise participate in each of the aforesaid matters.

The Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance represents a minimal standard of ethical conduct for all public servants in Miami-Dade County government or its constituent municipalities. Every person covered by the Code should consider for himself or herself whether or not take an action that may not be prohibited by the Code, but which may raise ethical issues for that person.

Please feel free to contact me if you or the Commissioner has any questions.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino, Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
305-350-0613

From: San Martin, Marcos (DIST6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:26 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Cc: Barroso, Hiram (DIST6); Aguirre, Betty (DIST6); Castro, Vivian (DIST6)
Subject: SOSA - COI Review Request
Importance: High