

## Frigo, Victoria (COE)

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 26, 2013 9:03 AM  
**To:** Wolfe III, Donald (DIST7); Suarez, Xavier (DIST7)  
**Cc:** Sanchez, Gerald (CAO); Frigo, Victoria (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ - Commissioner Xavier Suarez (District &) re: Fountainsbleau

Commissioner Suarez:

You have requested an opinion concerning whether you have a prohibited conflict of interest in voting on item 3(D) of the Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee, which involves designation of historic status on a matter involving the Fountainsbleau Hotel, which would provide certain tax advantages to the owners thereof. The basis for this request is that your brother, Fred, is an employee of Turnberry Associates, a company that shares some common ownership with the Fountainsbleau Hotel. Your brother is low-level, non-management employee of Turnberry, has no ownership interest in Turnberry, and does not stand to profit or be enhanced in any way by the vote that is the subject of this inquiry. You yourself have no personal interest in this matter whatsoever.

It is my opinion that there is no prohibited conflict of interest under these circumstances and that you may vote on or otherwise participate in the item in question, since you do not have any relationship with the affected party and you do not stand to profit or be enhanced, directly or indirectly by the vote.

Sincerely,  
Joseph M. Centorino  
Executive Director and General Counsel  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
305-579-2594

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**From:** Wolfe III, Donald (DIST7)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 26, 2013 8:19 AM  
**To:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Subject:** Opinion - Potential Conflict of Interest

Good morning Executive Director,

As per our conversation last week, Commissioner Suarez kindly requests your opinion on whether he would be able to vote on item 3(D) of the Cultural Affairs and Recreation Committee.

4441 Collins Ave (better known as the Fountainsbleau Hotel) is owned by An entity that is owned by an entity in which Don Soffer has an interest. The Commissioner's brother, Fred Suarez, is an employee of a company (Turnberry Associates) in which Don Soffer has an interest. It should be noted that Fred is not a principal of the company and in no way profits or receives compensation from the entity that owns the Fountainsbleau.

The Commissioner understands that this request gives your office short notice and greatly appreciates any guidance you can provide before this afternoon meeting.

Regards,

Donald Wolfe

Donald F. Wolfe III, Esq.  
Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Commissioner Xavier Suarez, District 7  
Miami-Dade County  
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