

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 1:01 PM
To: 'Pepe, Thomas F.'
Cc: Steven J. Alexander; Stoddard, Philip K.; Centorino, Joseph (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: Architects on review boards (INQ 13-217)

Mr. Pepe,

In response to your question below, an architect has no conflicts of interest under the County or City ethics codes to serve on a review board under the following circumstances:

- the architect, through his architectural firm, has a subcontract with a developer that is building a project in the city, but
- the project by the developer has already received final approval from the review board in question and thus will not go before that board again.

Because the developer has no matters that will come before the review board in the future, a conflict will not be created between the architect's private interests (through the subcontract with the developer) and the public interest. See Miami-Dade County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (l) and South Miami Code of Ethics at Sec. 8A-1 (k).

Sincerely,

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From: Pepe, Thomas F. [<mailto:TPepe@southmiamifl.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2013 10:56 AM
To: Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Cc: Steven J. Alexander; Stoddard, Philip K.
Subject: Conflict of Review Board Member and Re-appointment

It is difficult to find experienced and licensed architects, including landscape architects, who are able and willing to serve on the city's review boards. Therefore, it is with deep regret that these architects are forced to resign when they obtain a job with an entity that is building in the city.

Can an architect accept an appointment by the City Commission to a review board, or be re-appointed after resigning because of a potential conflict, if:

1) the architect, or a firm in which the architect has a financial interest, has a subcontract with company X, which is building a project in the city, and

2) the project by company X has already received final approval from review board in question and thus will not go back before that board again.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Thomas F. Pepe

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