

Frigo, Victoria (COE)

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2013 10:56 AM
To: Palacio, Vanessa (Office of the Chair)
Cc: Castro, Vivian (Office of the Chair); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO); Frigo, Victoria (COE)
Subject: INQ - Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa (Educational Classes for Juveniles in Correctional Institutions)

Ms. Palacio:

You have inquired whether Chairwoman Sosa would have a prohibited conflict of interest if she were to vote or otherwise participate in Item No. 131382 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AFFILIATING AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL CLASSES FOR JUVENILES IN THE CUSTODY OF THE MIAMI-DADE CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR THE COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE THE RENEWAL AND CANCELLATION PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN. This is a continuation of a longstanding program during the 2013-2014 school year, whereby juvenile inmates in the custody of the Corrections Department who do not possess a high school diploma may avail themselves of educational opportunities. There is no cost to Miami-Dade County and the program is reimbursable by the State of Florida.

You have asked this question in light of Chairwoman Sosa’s fulltime employment with the Miami-Dade Public Schools at the Lindsay-Hopkins Technical Education Center. Based upon my review of the resolution and supporting information, it does not appear that this program would affect the Chairwoman’s position in the schools, and that she does not stand to benefit personally in any way from the adoption of the resolution. As an employee of a government agency, Chairwoman Sosa’s employment does not create any prohibited relationship under Section 2-11.1(d) that would prevent her from participating in this matter. She also does not stand to profit, directly or indirectly, from the program.

Accordingly, it is my opinion that Chairwoman Sosa has no prohibited conflict on interest in regard to this matter, and that she may vote on or otherwise participate in this item when it comes before the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners.

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

From: Palacio, Vanessa (Office of the Chair)
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2013 2:48 PM
To: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Cc: Castro, Vivian (Office of the Chair)
Subject: Request for Conflict of Interest Opinion for Item No. 131382 (from Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa)

Good afternoon, Mr. Centorino:

I am writing on Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa’s behalf. The Chairwoman wanted to know whether she has a prohibited conflict of interest regarding the following resolution:

131382 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AFFILIATING AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL CLASSES FOR JUVENILES IN THE CUSTODY OF THE MIAMI-DADE CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY

MAYOR OR THE COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE THE RENEWAL AND CANCELLATION PROVISIONS CONTAINED THEREIN

A copy of the resolution is attached. Please let me know if you have questions or need more information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,

Vanessa Palacio, Esq.

Legislative Aide

Office of Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa

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