

## Frigo, Victoria (COE)

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**From:** Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 02, 2013 4:33 PM  
**To:** 'TPepe@southmiamifl.gov'  
**Cc:** 'RLanda@southmiamifl.gov'; Centorino, Joseph (COE); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Subject:** Police Chief on Non-Profit Board (INQ 13-241)

Mr. Pepe,

Major Rene Landa, while serving on the Board of Directors of the South Miami Drug Free Coalition, cannot use his official position as acting Police Chief to secure special privileges for the Coalition. Consequently, we recommend that Major Landa delegate the authority to determine how drug forfeiture funds are to be dispersed to the City Manager, the City Commission, or to a department director within the city who can exercise independence of judgment in making the decision. *See* Miami-Dade County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (g).

We understand that the Police Chief in the City of South Miami has the discretion to choose recipients for the forfeiture-fund donations, and in the past the funds have been donated to the South Miami Drug Free Coalition, a nonprofit entity.

Also note that if the City Commission acts as the decision-maker in this case, Vice Mayor Liebman would be required to recuse himself from participating since he also serves as a Board Member of the South Miami Drug Free Coalition. *See* Miami-Dade County Ethics Code at Sec. 2-11.1 (d).

Sincerely,

**VICTORIA FRIGO, SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY**

Direct Phone: 305 350-0601  
Main Number: 305 579-2594  
Fax: 305 579-0273



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

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**From:** Pepe, Thomas F. [mailto:TPepe@southmiamifl.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 01, 2013 1:27 PM  
**To:** Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Cc:** Landa, Rene  
**Subject:** Acting Police Chief on Non-Profit Board

Major Landa, the acting police chief for the City of South Miami, has been invited to be on the board of the [South Miami Drug Free Coalition](#), a tax exempt not for profit corporation. The "police chief" has authority to donate forfeiture funds to this corporation, and the prior police chief has done so in the past. Is it a violation of the ethic's code for Major Landa to be on that board?

Very truly yours,

*Thomas F. Pepe*

City Attorney  
City of South Miami  
1450 Madruga Avenue, Ste 202,  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146  
Tel: (305) 667-2564  
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**From:** Landa, Rene  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2013 5:21 PM  
**To:** Pepe, Thomas F.  
**Subject:** FW: Board Election Results

Mr. Pepe: I have been selected as a board member of the South Miami Drug Free Coalition. Can you let me know if my participation violates any type of Sunshine laws.

**Major René Landa**  
**Operations Major, SMPD**  
**FBINA 206**



6130 Sunset Drive  
South Miami, FL 33143

305.663.6310 office  
305.663.6353 fax  
305.663.6301 main line

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**From:** Steven J. Alexander  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2013 5:17 PM  
**To:** Landa, Rene  
**Subject:** Re: Board Election Results

Great!  
Please check with Pepe to determine if sunshine laws effect your actions on that board if you don't already know  
Thanks

Steven Alexander  
City Manager  
City of South Miami

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**From:** <Landa>, Rene <[RLanda@southmiamifl.gov](mailto:RLanda@southmiamifl.gov)>  
**Date:** Monday, September 30, 2013 5:15 PM  
**To:** Steve Alexander <[salexander@southmiamifl.gov](mailto:salexander@southmiamifl.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Board Election Results

Mr. Manager: Just to let you know while I was gone my name was submitted as a possible board member of the South Miami Drug Free Coalition. The voting took place last week and I was selected as one of the five (5) members. We had our first meeting today from 1200 to 145. Just for info Vice Mayor Liebman was also voted in as a board member.

## Major René Landa

Operations Major, SMPD

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**From:** Margaret Sotham [<mailto:MSotham@informedfamilies.org>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 28, 2013 4:11 PM  
**To:** [anne@cremiami.com](mailto:anne@cremiami.com); [hans@footworksmiami.com](mailto:hans@footworksmiami.com); Stout-Tate, Maria; 'Vivian Conterio'; Joe MendezATT; Amy Donner ([amy@communitynewspapers.com](mailto:amy@communitynewspapers.com)); Brodie Rooney ([rooneyb@baptisthealth.net](mailto:rooneyb@baptisthealth.net)); Pierre Edouard; Daisy A. Harrell; [shivabey@gmail.com](mailto:shivabey@gmail.com); Bonce, Gilberto D.; Lidia Dania; Beasley, Brian; Hickey Raquel; Ray Estefania; Guzman, Henry; Mary Scott Russell; 'Diane Landsberg'; McCants, James; [kjones@sfcbsa.org](mailto:kjones@sfcbsa.org); [ej@powerpizzeria.com](mailto:ej@powerpizzeria.com); [pansygraham@bellsouth.net](mailto:pansygraham@bellsouth.net); [josephine502@CS.com](mailto:josephine502@CS.com); [southmiamichldr@bellsouth.net](mailto:southmiamichldr@bellsouth.net); Joyce Price; Ana Marie Moreiras; Lopez-martin, Katyna D.; [cdoscher@dadeschools.net](mailto:cdoscher@dadeschools.net); michaelmiller; [mmiller657@aol.com](mailto:mmiller657@aol.com); Romanach, Yvette; Evonne Alvarez; Levi Kelly ([annettabkelly@yahoo.com](mailto:annettabkelly@yahoo.com)); Kinlaw, Marcus; [csabater1@dadeschools.net](mailto:csabater1@dadeschools.net); [PRLevy@dadeschools.net](mailto:PRLevy@dadeschools.net); [marilyncorreaco@gmail.com](mailto:marilyncorreaco@gmail.com); [jes\\_somi@att.net](mailto:jes_somi@att.net); Adrian Lopez; Keri-lyn Coleman ([kcoleman@collaborateandgrow.com](mailto:kcoleman@collaborateandgrow.com)); Anna Price; Landa, Rene; Arelis Ferro; [omar.hernandez@fellowshipchurch.com](mailto:omar.hernandez@fellowshipchurch.com); [justin.gould@fellowshipchurch.com](mailto:justin.gould@fellowshipchurch.com); [risa@behip.org](mailto:risa@behip.org); Micah Robbins; [davidvi@baptisthealth.net](mailto:davidvi@baptisthealth.net); Bridget Miller-Burse; Bridget Miller-Burse; [outsidethehuddle.leslie@gmail.com](mailto:outsidethehuddle.leslie@gmail.com); [rodneymbjamesp@yahoo.com](mailto:rodneymbjamesp@yahoo.com); [huddleup39@gmail.com](mailto:huddleup39@gmail.com)>; [josh@marathonman.us](mailto:josh@marathonman.us); Laurie L Kahn; Joanna Cornide; Dr. Janet Block; Lamazares-Romero, Rosa M; Witty, Helen; [ltruby@dadeschools.net](mailto:ltruby@dadeschools.net); Juan Carlos Boue; Gary Silverman; [sorgie@aol.com](mailto:sorgie@aol.com); Woodley, Lorenzo; [elks1676@bellsouth.net](mailto:elks1676@bellsouth.net); Paul Merker; [giselearmour@aol.com](mailto:giselearmour@aol.com); MartinezdeCastro, Orlando; jeremy goldbach; Tiffany Morris; annick sternberg; [tompkins@dadeschools.net](mailto:tompkins@dadeschools.net); Alita Patterson; Isabel Solis; Margaret Sotham; [msotham@me.com](mailto:msotham@me.com); [prose1223@gmail.com](mailto:prose1223@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Board Election Results

Coalition Partners,

Thank you for your participation in electing the Coalition's Board. They are:

Raquel Hickey  
Major Rene Landa  
Diane Landsberg  
Pat Levy  
Vice Mayor Josh Liebman

My gratitude to everyone who stepped forward for consideration. I'm looking forward to working with our leadership, our membership and our supporters to make the coming years the most successful yet in serving youth in the community. The first Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, so if you have any items you feel should be considered, please contact me first thing Monday morning. Thank you!

m.

Margaret Prinzavalli Sotham  
Director, South Miami Drug-Free Coalition  
Chair, Statewide Marijuana Task Force  
305.962.5606 cell  
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**FIND US ON FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/DrugFreeCoalition](http://www.facebook.com/DrugFreeCoalition)**