

## Frigo, Victoria (COE)

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 16, 2013 5:05 PM  
**To:** 'Siegel, Darcee'  
**Cc:** Frigo, Victoria (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ - Councilman Tony DeFillipo (Chamber President)  
**Attachments:** RQO 10-18 Libbin.pdf

Darcee:

You have inquired generally regarding possible conflicts of interest or other ethical issues that could arise from the appointment of Councilman Tony DeFillipo as President of the North Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. While there is no outright prohibition attached to a local elected official's assumption of such a position, there are obvious limitations that this may place on his activities, particularly fundraising activities on behalf of the Chamber. Councilman DeFillipo should be careful not to use his official authority to benefit a private organization of which he is chief executive officer. Additionally, where the City budget contains an expenditure item which involves the Chamber, it would be inappropriate for Councilman DeFillipo to participate in or vote on such a matter should it come before the board as a separate item. See Section 2-11.1(d) of the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance regarding voting conflicts. We have generally not extended that to votes taken on an entire budget, where the one matter connected to the voting official is a miniscule portion of the budget, but rather to situations which directly deal with that expenditure.

Attached is a copy of the RQO addressed to Miami Beach Commissioner Jerry Libbin who faced almost the identical issue several years ago. Please review. If you feel that it adequately addresses the issues regarding Councilman DeFillipo's position you may want to forward it to him. If you feel that there are other issues that need to be explored, or if you feel a more direct communication with Councilman DeFillipo is necessary, we would be happy to do so.

Joe

*Joseph M. Centorino*

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