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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 01, 2014 9:05 AM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** EThics Opinion - Eli Tourgeman, Vice Mayor, Town of Surfside (Voting Conflict) INQ 14-111

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2014 2:19 PM  
**To:** 'etourgeman@townofsurfsidefl.gov'  
**Cc:** Linda Miller ([lmiller@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:lmiller@townofsurfsidefl.gov)); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Subject:** Eli Tourgeman, Vice Mayor, Town of Surfside (Voting Conflict)

Vice Mayor Tourgeman:

You have inquired regarding whether it would be a prohibited conflict of interest under the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance for you to vote or otherwise participate in a matter coming before the Town of Surfside Commission involving the expansion of The Shul. As Vice Mayor of the Town of Surfside you are a voting member of the Commission. You have indicated that, although there may be a perception among some persons that you are a member of The Shul, in fact, you have never been a member or director of The Shul, although you have occasionally attended functions or services at The Shul.

You do not have any of the relationships enumerated in Section 2-11.1(d) that would in itself create a conflict of interest in voting on such an item. Moreover, you do not stand to profit, directly or indirectly, or to be enhanced by any action on such a matter by the Surfside Commission that would trigger the abstention requirements under that section. The fact that there may be a public perception of further involvement by you does not amount to a conflict of interest pursuant to the County Code. I do suggest, however, that you make it clear on the record during any discussion of this matter that you have no such association, in order to dispel any incorrect perceptions among members of the public.

Based upon the foregoing, I have concluded that you may participate and vote on the matter of the expansion of The Shul.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

**From:** Eli Tourgeman <[etourgeman@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:etourgeman@townofsurfsidefl.gov)>  
**Date:** April 7, 2014 at 4:08:04 PM EDT

**To:** "[centorini@miamidade.gov](mailto:centorini@miamidade.gov)" <[centorini@miamidade.gov](mailto:centorini@miamidade.gov)>

**Subject:** Need your advise

Dear mr. Centorini:

Further to our conversation of this afternoon I need your advise and direction as a newly elected official as vice mayor for the town of surfside, regarding issues that may come before me to vote on the expansion of the Shul in Surfside

Although there may be a perception that I am associated as a member of The Shul, I have never been a member or director of The Shul. I do attend function on an occasional basis as well as I do attend the services during Jewish holidays.

I would like to know if I have any conflict of interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Eli tourgeman  
Vice-Mayor

305-849-2788

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NOTE: Florida Public Records Law provides that most written communications to or from Municipal employees regarding town business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.