
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 3:47 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Ethics Opinion Walter Harris, Vice Mayor, City of South Miami INQ 14-117

INQ 14-117

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2014 2:28 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ - Walter Harris, Vice Mayor, City of South Miami

Vice Mayor Walter Harris of the City of South Miami inquired whether it would be permissible for a candidate for public office to make a political contribution out of his or her own personal funds to another political candidate. Vice Mayor Harris was advised that, while under Section 104.071(1)(c), Florida Statutes, it is illegal to "Give, pay, expend, or contribute any money or thing of value for the furtherance of the candidacy of any other candidate," this prohibition applies to contributions made by a candidate from his or her campaign account. Section 104.071(2) provides that, "A candidate may give his or her own personal or business funds to another candidate, so long as the contribution is not given in exchange for a promise or expectation that the recipient will directly or indirectly do anything to aid or promote the candidacy of the contributor which the recipient would not have otherwise done."

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
19 W. Flagler Street, Suite 820
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 579-2594
Fax: (305) 579-0273
ethics.miamidade.gov

