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**From:** Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 11, 2014 10:38 AM  
**To:** Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)  
**Subject:** Carlos Delgado, P.E., Miami-Dade County Transit (Travel Expenses)

INQ 14-211

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**From:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 10, 2014 1:21 PM  
**To:** Delgado, Carlos (MDT)  
**Cc:** Shields, Fred (MDT); Guishard, Armorel (MDT); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)  
**Subject:** INQ - Carlos Delgado, P.E., Miami-Dade County Transit (Travel Expenses)

Mr. Delgado:

You have inquired regarding whether it would be permissible for employees of Miami-Dade County Transit Department to participate in an out-of-town training session on products used by the County in transit buses. The training is being provided by Allison Transmission Company, the manufacturer of the products in question, which are purchased by the County through approved distributors of Allison products. Allison would be paying for travel and lodging expenses for the County employees. You have indicated that no products or services are purchased by the County directly from Allison, and that any existing contract for the purchase of Allison products occurs solely through the distributors. Allison is available to answer questions and provide assistance concerning the use of its products, but does so without any charge and without any contract for same with the County.

Section 2-11.1(w) of the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics provides that no county official or employee "shall accept, directly or indirectly, any travel expenses, lodging, meals, registration fees and incidentals from any County contractor, vendor, service provider, bidder or proposer." Under the circumstances recited above, it appears that Allison Transmission Company does not fall within the parameters of this ordinance since it is not a County contractor, vendor, service provider, bidder or proposer. Therefore, I have concluded that employees of your department may attend the training session being provided by Allison where certain travel and lodging expenses are being borne by Allison. I would caution you, however, that if any portion of the expenses for this event are being borne by any of the distributors of Allison products that do business with the County, or by any other company having a contract with the County for the provision of products or services, then this opinion would likely be different.

Please call me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino  
Executive Director and General Counsel  
Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust  
305-579-2594

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**From:** Delgado, Carlos (MDT)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2014 4:41 PM  
**To:** Centorino, Joseph (COE)  
**Cc:** Shields, Fred (MDT); Guishard, Armorel (MDT)  
**Subject:** FW: Allison Transmission's Product Training for Transit Fleets: Registration Confirmation

Hello Mr. Centorino,

We would like to obtain a ruling regarding participation in product training offered to transit properties by the Allison Transmission company. Specifically, Allison has invited staff from transit properties across the country to attend product training at their corporate facilities at no expense to the transit properties. The training involves hands on familiarization with transmissions and hybrid drive systems used in transit buses. Allison makes all the travel arrangements and provides lodging. Allison does not sell products directly to the County. The County purchases Allison products and services through a local distributor, Florida Detroit Diesel Allison.

Fred Shields and I are responsible for development of technical specifications for transit buses and provide technical for bus maintenance. The product training would be useful for us in performing our work for the County.

Please let us know if you need additional information.

Thank you,

**Carlos M. Delgado, P.E.**  
**Miami-Dade Transit**  
305-637-3709  
[miamidade.gov](http://miamidade.gov)  
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**From:** Guishard, Armorel (MDT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 04, 2014 4:48 PM  
**To:** Shields, Fred (MDT); Delgado, Carlos (MDT)  
**Subject:** FW: Allison Transmission's Product Training for Transit Fleets: Registration Confirmation

Hi Fred/Carlos,

Just spoke with Bruce on the below and he said we need to send this to the Ethics and have them give you a ruling on this.

**Armorel C. Guishard**  
Transit Administrative Coordinator  
Miami-Dade Transit  
701 NW 1st Court, Suite 1700, Miami, Florida 33136  
786.469.5467 Phone 786.469.5584 Fax  
email: [acg1@miamidade.gov](mailto:acg1@miamidade.gov)

[www.miamidade.gov/transit](http://www.miamidade.gov/transit)  
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**From:** Shields, Fred (MDT)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 02, 2014 11:58 AM  
**To:** Guishard, Robert (MDT)  
**Cc:** Delgado, Carlos (MDT)  
**Subject:** FW: Allison Transmission's Product Training for Transit Fleets: Registration Confirmation

Hi Armorel,

Please see below the attached registration for Allison's Product Training on September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Allison flies attendees to Indianapolis and provides lodging at no cost to the County. This training is offered to technical and maintenance personnel at transit agencies across the country. They handle the reservations and ticketing.

Here is the link to the training event page:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/allison-transmission-s-product-training-for-transit-fleets/event-summary-ec24edf1c8bb48abae620af3d40732e9.aspx>

Please advise as to what we need to do in order to attend.

Thanks,

**Fred Shields**

**Miami-Dade Transit**

305-637-3741

[miamidade.gov](http://miamidade.gov)

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**From:** [info@cvent.com](mailto:info@cvent.com) [<mailto:info@cvent.com>] **On Behalf Of** Fred Shields

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 02, 2014 11:45 AM

**To:** Shields, Fred (MDT)

**Subject:** Allison Transmission's Product Training for Transit Fleets: Registration Confirmation

## General Options

**Name:**

Fred Shields

**Title:**

Special Projects Administrator

**Address:**

3300 NW 32 Ave

Miami, Florida 33142

USA

**Number of People Registered:**

1

**Event Title:**

Allison Transmission's  
Product Training for Transit Fleets

**Location:**

Renaissance Hotel

11925 N Meridian Street

Carmel, Indiana 46032

USA

**Phone:**

877-200-0283

**Date:**

09/17/2014

**Time:**

5:00 PM

## Current Registration Details

## Fred Shields

### Agenda Items

#### Registration Item

Event Registration

### Housing Information

#### *Renaissance Indianapolis North Hotel*

**Address:**

11925 N. Meridian St.  
Carmel, IN 46032 US

**Phone:**

317-816-0777

**Fax:**

317-816-0430

**URL:**

<http://marriott.com/INDBR>

Room Type	Check-In Date	Check-Out Date	Rate Per Night	Qty	ADA Accessible	Rewards Code
Standard	09/17/2014	09/18/2014	159.00	1	no	

### Air Information

**Name:**

Fred Shields

#### *Departure Flight*

Departing From	Arriving At	Date	Time
Miami International Airport (MIA)	Indianapolis International (IND)	09/17/2014	Morning

#### *Return Flight*

Departing From	Arriving At	Date	Time
Indianapolis International (IND)	Miami International Airport (MIA)	09/18/2014	Evening

#### *Flight Information*

Ticket Type	Seating
Economy/coach	Aisle

#### *Airline Preference*

1st Airline Name	Rewards Number
American Airlines	5UB3502

2nd Airline Name	Rewards Number
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**3rd Airline Name**

**Rewards Number**

US Airways

**Payment Details**