
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2014 10:14 AM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Harold E. Mathis, Jr., Candidate, Village of El Portal- INQ 14- 221

INQ 14-221

From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 4:54 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: INQ - Harold E. Mathis, Jr., Candidate, Village of El Portal

Harold E. Mathis, Jr., a candidate for elected office in the Village of El Portal, inquired regarding the use of the Village Seal in campaign literature. He asked a)whether a)it would be appropriate to reproduce the Village Seal itself on his campaign literature and b)whether it would be appropriate for him to have a picture of himself wearing a Village shirt on which the Village Seal was visible taken when Mr. Mathis was Vice Mayor of the Village of El Portal. Mr. Mathis is not currently an elected official in El Portal.

Mr. Mathis was advised that under Section 165.043, Florida Statutes, it is a second degree misdemeanor to reproduce a municipal seal without the express permission of the governing body of the municipality. However, he was also advised that the use of a photograph of himself in which the seal may have been visible on an official shirt taken when he was an elected official, where the seal itself is not being reproduced and is only incidental to his appearance in the photograph, and it is not being used to suggest that he is currently an elected official, would not likely be prohibited.

Joseph M. Centorino

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