
From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 3:52 PM
To: Sanchez, Rodzandra (COE)
Subject: Pablo Acosta, Lobbyist (Lobbying, MDC Section 2-11.1(s)) INQ 14-274

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From: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 9:51 AM
To: 'pablo@acostagovlaw.com'
Cc: Jorge Luis Lopez (JorgeLuis@lopezgovlaw.com); Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE); Sanchez, Gerald (CAO)
Subject: INQ - Pablo Acosta, Lobbyist (Lobbying, MDC Section 2-11.1(s))

Mr. Acosta,

You have inquired concerning your registration responsibilities as a lobbyist in connection with activities that you and your law partner, Jorge Luis Lopez, expect to be undertaking to promote a County government solution to the problem of the deteriorating downtown Miami-Dade Courthouse at 73 W. Flagler Street. You and Mr. Lopez were active in the recent referendum campaign for approval of a bond issue to build a new courthouse, which failed at the polls. You and Mr. Lopez expect to continue to work for a solution by meeting with and helping to persuade County officials to come up with an alternative solution. It is my understanding that you have not been retained by any third party to do this, but that you and Mr. Lopez are doing this pro bono; and that you have not been paid nor do you anticipate being compensated or reimbursed by any other party for these services. You and Mr. Lopez are both registered lobbyists in the County. However, in this instance you and he are speaking for yourselves as private citizens on a matter of public importance.

Section 2-11.1(s)(3)(b) provides, in part, that, "Any person who only appears in his or her individual capacity for the purpose of self-representation without compensation or reimbursement, whether direct, indirect or contingent, to express support of or opposition to any item, shall not be required to register as a lobbyist." Accordingly, I find that under the circumstances related above, that neither you nor Mr. Lopez need to take any special action in connection with your lobbyist registration because you are both speaking as private citizens and not being compensated or reimbursed by any other party.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Centorino

Executive Director and General Counsel
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