

Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 11:47 AM
To: zrr@rinkinsmultimedia.com
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE)
Subject: Mom and Pop Grant Ethics Opinion INQ 14-37
Attachments: IN Q 14-37 Rinkins.pdf

Dear Mr. Rinkins:

Attached is the Mom and Pop Grant Opinion. Please note that it indicates that you ***may accept a grant*** as long as the Miami-Dade Advocacy Trust is not involved in any way in processing or administering the grant. Further, you ***may not lobby for the grant***. (See the County Ethics Code at Secs. 2-11.1 (c) and (m)(1).).

I will send you the original letter via regular mail. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Gilma (Mimi) Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney



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

From: Ethics (COE)
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 1:19 PM
To: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Subject: FW: Ethics Opinion Request: MDC Employee Mom & Pop Grants

Please handle.

From: zrr@rinkinsmultimedia.com [<mailto:zrr@rinkinsmultimedia.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Ethics (COE)
Subject: Ethics Opinion Request: MDC Employee Mom & Pop Grants

Greetings:

Please see the attached document requesting an opinion from the Commission on Ethics Acquiring Financial Interest.

Please review the document forward your opinion to both me and Mr. Leroy Jones, the executive director of the Neighbors and Neighbors Association, Inc.

My contact information is as follows:

Zachary Rinkins
786-391-7296
zrr@RinkinsMultimedia.com
2499 N.W. 86 Street
Miami, Florida 33147

Sincerely,
Zachary Rinkins

MIAMI-DADE COMMISSION ON ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

COMMISSIONERS

Charlton Copeland, CHAIRMAN
Nelson Bellido, VICE CHAIR
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Judge Lawrence Schwartz



EXECUTIVE STAFF

Joseph M. Centorino
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GENERAL COUNSEL
Michael P. Murawski
ADVOCATE
Miriam S. Ramos
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

Via First Class Mail
and email at zrr.rinkinsmultimedia.com

February 18, 2014

Zachary Rinkins
Rinkins Multimedia Ventures, LLC
2499 N.W. 86 Street
Miami, FL 33147

Re: INQ 14-37, Mom & Pop Grant

Dear Mr. Rinkins:

You asked if the County Ethics Code would prevent your privately owned company, Rinkins Multimedia Ventures, LLC, from accepting a Mom & Pop Grant funded through Commissioner Jean Monestime's District 2 Office. You are employed by the Miami-Dade County Economic Advocacy Trust as an Administrative Officer II.

Briefly, your company may **accept a grant** as long as the Miami-Dade Advocacy Trust is not involved in any way in processing or administering the grant. Further, you **may not lobby for the grant**. (See the County Ethics Code at Secs. 2-11.1 (c) and (m)(1).)

Be advised that the County Ethics Commission has interpreted lobbying very expansively when applied to County employees. This means that you may not contact anyone within the County, or anyone working on behalf of the County, in an attempt to influence his/her decision about the grant you are seeking.

This opinion construes the Miami-Dade Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance only and is not applicable to any conflict under state law. Inquiries regarding possible conflicts under state law should be directed to the State of Florida Commission on Ethics.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gilma Diaz-Greco".

Gilma Diaz-Greco
Staff Attorney

Copies: Leroy Jones
Executive Director
Neighbors and Neighbors Association, Inc.
180 NW 62nd Street
Miami, FL 33150

Commissioner Jean Monestime
Stephen P. Clark Center
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, Florida 33128



Request for Opinion from Commission on Ethics Acquiring Financial Interest

I, Zachary Rinkins, the owner or president of
(Owner or President Name)
Rinkins Multimedia ventures, LLC, whose business address is
(Business Name)
2499 N.W. 86 Street Miami, FL 33147
(Business Address, City, State, Zip)

Are you currently an employee of Miami Dade County? Yes: _____ No: _____
If yes, what Department? Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

I am being considered for funding through the Mom and Pop Small Business Grant Program and request the clearance from the Commission on Ethics. Please review my request and forward to Neighbors And Neighbors Association, Inc. to the attention of Leroy Jones, Executive Director, 180 NW 62nd St., Miami, FL 33150 or fax (305) 756-6008. Thank you in advance for your attention to this very important matter.

This page must be fully completed