

Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)

From: Diaz-Greco, Gilma M. (COE)
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 4:34 PM
To: Suarez, Dennise (FIN)
Cc: Centorino, Joseph (COE); Singer, Miriam (ISD)
Subject: Conflcit of Interest Opinion INQ 14-45

Ms. Suarez:

You have inquired whether there would be a conflict of interest for you to serve on a selection committee for RFP 881, where the brother of coworkers of yours at the County, works for a subcontractor of a company (ATS) that is a bidder in that RFP. You do not directly supervise the county employees that are siblings of the subcontractor; however, you assign and review some of their work. You also advise that you do not personally know the subcontractor that works for ATS.

Under the facts presented here, the Ethics Code would not prohibit you from voting in a selection committee in this case. Neither you nor your immediate family members have a financial interest in this case. Further, you have no direct supervisory relationship with the relatives of the subcontractor. *See 2-11.1 Secs. (g),(n),(v)*

Please be advised that under the Cone of Silence, selection committee members may not have oral communications with any County Staff until a recommendation is made.

In an abundance of caution, if possible, it would be advisable for you to avoid contact with the County employees that are siblings to the subcontractor during the time of the selection process. If this is not possible, you may want to consider having an alternate selection committee member serve on this selection committee.

Best regards,

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
gdiazgr@miamidade.gov
www.facebook.com/MiamiDadeEthics

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.

From:
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 2:55 PM
To: Ethics (COE)

Cc: Singer, Miriam (ISD); Simmons Jr., Fred (ISD)

Subject: RE: RFP 881 - possible conflict

Good afternoon,

Per our telephone conversation, this email will provide more specific information.

RFP- 881 Red Lights Camera is an RFP requesting respondents to provide services for "Miami-Dade County Police Department, is soliciting proposals from qualified and experienced vendors to provide a "turnkey" Red Light Camera Program ("Program)". This program includes the financial component of billing and collecting fines. One of the team members on the ATS proposed team, one of the applicants in the RFP, is Rick Gomez, brother of Gerardo Gomez and Sara Vallazza

I with Gerardo Gomez, Special Projects Administrator for the Tax Collector's Division. The Tax Collector's Division reports to the Deputy Finance Director and Finance Director, I at times, am required to provide directives or follow-up requesting information for such things as constituent complaints and budgets.

I also work closely with Sara Vallazza, for the employee suggestion program responses.

I do not have a personal relationship with Rick Gomez.

Would I have a conflict being a voting member on this RFP knowing the information above?

Please advise. Thank you.

Dennise Suarez, MBA, CQA

Executive Assistant to the Finance Director

Miami Dade County Finance Department

111 N.W. 1st Street - Suite 2550

Miami, FL 33128-1929

Phone: (305) 375-4667

Fax: (305) 375-5659

www.miamidade.gov/finance

"Delivering Excellence Every Day"

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.

From: Suarez, Dennise (FIN)

Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2014 11:59 AM

To: Ethics (COE)

Cc: Singer, Miriam (ISD); Simmons Jr., Fred (ISD)

Subject: FW: RFP 881 - possible conflict

Importance: High

Good morning,

Please provide an opinion on the scenario below as to whether I have a conflict serving as a voting member on a selecting committee for RFP 881.

If you need additional information, please call me at my office number below or my personal cell 305.213.0999

Thank you

Dennise Suarez, MBA, CQA

Executive Assistant to the Finance Director
Miami Dade County Finance Department
111 N.W. 1st Street - Suite 2550
Miami, FL 33128-1929
Phone: (305) 375-4667
Fax: (305) 375-5659
www.miamidade.gov/finance

"Delivering Excellence Every Day"

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.

From: Suarez, Dennise (FIN)
Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2014 11:52 AM
To: Simmons Jr., Fred (ISD)
Cc: Singer, Miriam (ISD); Clerk of the Board (COC)
Subject: RFP 881 - possible conflict
Importance: High

Good morning,

In reviewing the last couple of RFP submissions, I found one of the team members of ATS is the brother of a staff member at the Tax Collector.

Please reference the ATS submission, page 53. I do not directly supervise his brother, however, I work closely with him and often relay requests or mandates.

Also, as an aside, I do not supervise his sister who works in CIAO but I work with her when responding to the Employee Suggestion Programs relating to Finance.

I will submit the scenario to the Commission on Ethics for an opinion, however, in the meantime, please advise how to proceed since our first meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

Thank you.

Dennise Suarez, MBA, CQA
Executive Assistant to the Finance Director
Miami Dade County Finance Department
111 N.W. 1st Street - Suite 2550
Miami, FL 33128-1929
Phone: (305) 375-4667
Fax: (305) 375-5659
www.miamidade.gov/finance

"Delivering Excellence Every Day"

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.