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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Barbara Sharief

FROM: Rocio Blanco Garcia, Assistant County Attorney

DATE: October 16, 2018

RE: **Opinion on Campaign Contributions, Candidate Endorsements, and Attendance at Campaign Fundraising Events**
CAO File: 18-12(E)

You have asked whether attendance at political fundraisers, donations to candidates, and/or endorsing particular candidates requires that you file a Campaign Fundraising for Other Candidates Disclosure Form. For purposes of this inquiry, you would not be serving on an event's host committee nor would you be asking other individuals or organizations to donate to a particular candidate.

The issue is governed by Section 1-19(c)(5)(b)(3) of the Broward County Code of Ethics for Elected Officials ("Code"), which in applicable part provides:

Elected officials who solicit campaign contributions for other candidates for public office shall disclose [. . .] the name of the candidate for whom they are soliciting, the location and date of any associated event, and both the name and contribution amounts of any individuals who provided contributions, directly or indirectly, to the Elected Officials for subsequent delivery to the candidate.

It is our opinion that no disclosure is required based solely on donating, endorsing a candidate, and/or attending a campaign fundraiser. However, should you become a member of a host committee or ask others to donate to a particular candidate, the disclosure requirements in Section 1-19(c)(5)(b)(3) would apply.

Please contact the County Attorney, Neil Sharma (ext. 7118), or me (ext. 8640) if we may be of further service on this matter.



Rocio Blanco Garcia
Assistant County Attorney

cc: Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney