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## Commission on Ethics & Public Trust

**Miami-Dade County** 

## Memorandum

To: File

- Cc: Joseph Centorino, Executive Director Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust
- Cc: Michael Murawski, Advocate Office of the Independent Advocate
- Cc: Breeyze Telfair. Assistant State Attorney Dade County State Attorney Office
- Cc: Louis O. Rodriguez, PCIB Detective Miami-Dade Police Department

From: Kennedy Rosario, Investigator OIA

Re: K11-060 Myron Rosner

During the course of this investigation the following information was uncovered:

Mayor of North Miami Beach Myron Rosner (Rosner), during his re-election campaign, consulted with an entity known as Quantum Results Inc. Quantum Results' Registered Agent and sole Director is Albert Lorenzo (Lorenzo).

Lorenzo is widely known as a local political campaign consultant.

Citizens United for Protection of Our Community (Citizens) is a duly registered political committee "constituted to influence the outcome of certain elections" according to sworn testimony by Citizen's Chairman Frank Roger May, II (May).

The Campaign Super Store Inc. (Store) engages in, among other endeavors, direct mailings for candidates seeking elected office and entities such as Citizens.

Date: November 5, 2010

Charles A. Safdie (Safdie) is the Store's President and only employee.

In a sworn statement Safdie acknowledged that the Store "did his printing and direct mail" referring to Rosner's re-election campaign.

May, in his sworn testimony, stated that "I was asked to form this committee by Mr. Al Lorenzo who was a well-known political consultant".

May also acknowledged that the Store, as a vendor, was paid for the production of signs authorized by Citizens, and these signs were posted in the North Miami Beach area during the City's mayoral campaign.

Safdie, during his sworn testimony, stated that any profits the Store (Safdie) made for either the Rosner re-election campaign or the Citizens campaign would result in the Store paying Quantum (Lorenzo) fifty percent (50%) of the Store's profit.

It is of note and publicly known that Lorenzo was also acting as a campaign consultant for Kathy Rundle's re-election campaign for Dade County State Attorney.

On February 1, 2012 a meeting was held at the SAO attended by Chief Assistant for Special Prosecutions Jose Arroyo, Division Chief for Organized Crime and R.I.C.O Howard Rosen, Assistant State Attorney Breeyze Telfair, MDPD Pubic Corruption Investigations Bureau Sgt. Marisol Garbutt, Detective Louis Rodriguez, Financial Analyst Maggie Amaya-Rivas, Commission on Ethics Investigator Breno Penichet and Investigator Kennedy Rosario.

The meeting produced a consensus between all parties that the SAO could not continue as the prosecution agency due to a possible conflict of interest involving Lorenzo.

It remained inconclusive whether or not the actions of Lorenzo, in requiring and accepting a 50% payment from the Safdie (whose payments emanated from campaign contributions duly reported as itemized expenditures from both the Rosner campaign and the Citizens PAC), constituted violations of Florida election statues.

However, it was mutually decided that the Lorenzo information/investigation would be bifurcated until such time as the Rosner investigation reached a conclusion. The question of possible Florida election violations would then be addressed through consultation with the Florida Elections Commission.

Rosner, via an Arrest Warrant, was arrested on September 20, 2012.

Soon thereafter Detective Rodriguez, Investigators Penichet and Rosario contacted the Florida Elections Commission and engaged its Executive Director Eric Littman in a telephonic conversation seeking guidance concerning the Lorenzo-Safdie information. Littman directed the inquiry to Florida Department of State Assistant General Counsel Gary Holland.

Subsequently, Investigator Rosario spoke with Holland. Holland decided that he needed to inquire and discuss the issue with the General Counsel.

On November 1, 2012 Holland left a voice mail on Investigator Rosario's direct COE office telephone line in which he stated that he "inquired and discussed the issue with the General Counsel" and both determined that "there was no violation as to the campaign consultant (Lorenzo) the candidate (Rosner) or the PAC (Citizens)" and was "not a matter that concerns an election violation".

A CD-R recording of Holland's voice mail has been made a part of the investigative file and distributed to the SAO and PCIB.