



# Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

**Commissioners**

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In Re: KAREN MARCUS

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C10-001

## Public Report and Final Order of Dismissal

COMPLAINANT, Dr. Philip Kilmer, a private citizen, filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT on June 11, 2010, alleging possible ethics violations involving RESPONDENT Karen Marcus, a Palm Beach County Commissioner.

The COMPLAINT contended that Commissioner Marcus used her position and authority with the Building and Zoning Department to delete complaints involving code violations concerning COMPLAINANT'S neighbor. The COMPLAINANT further alleged that Commissioner Marcus retaliated and harassed the COMPLAINANT by having code enforcement officers inspect his property.

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, Section 2-260.6<sup>1</sup> of the Palm Beach County Code, jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission extends to violations "committed on or after the effective date of the ordinances." The allegations contained in the COMPLAINT involve activities alleged to have occurred on or prior to December 15, 2009.

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, Section 2-260.6. Prospective Jurisdiction: "The Commission on Ethics shall be empowered to consider alleged violations within its jurisdiction committed on or after the effective date of the ordinances set forth in Section 2-258(a), as each may be amended from time to time. Any alleged violation committed before the effective date of any such ordinance or amendment shall be governed by the applicable law in effect at the time of the alleged violation."

Because the alleged behavior predates the <sup>May</sup> March 1, 2010 effective date of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, the Ethics Commission DISMISSED the COMPLAINT on August 5, 2010, due to LACK OF LEGAL SUFFICIENCY.

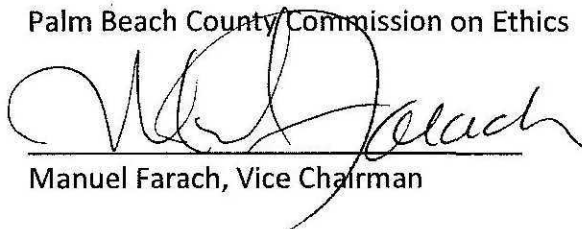
Therefore it is:

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT** the COMPLAINT against RESPONDENT Karen Marcus is hereby DISMISSED.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics in public session on August 5, 2010.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

By:



Manuel Farach, Vice Chairman