



Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

Commissioners

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In Re: Priscilla Taylor

C10-004

Public Report and Final Order of Dismissal

COMPLAINANT, Crystal Mathews, a Palm Beach County employee, filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT on September 13 2010, alleging a possible ethics violation involving RESPONDENT Priscilla Taylor, a Palm Beach County Commissioner.

The COMPLAINT alleges that Commissioner Taylor misused her position and authority to have Complainant, the daughter of a political opponent, disciplined for allowing political material to be distributed at a county function on June 12, 2010.

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, Section 2-258(a)¹ of the Palm Beach County Code, the Commission on Ethics is empowered to enforce the county code of ethics. Misuse of public office for financial benefit is prohibited pursuant to Article XIII, sec. 2-443(a) of the Palm Beach County Code.²

¹ Article V, Division 8, section 2-258. Powers and duties. (a) The commission on ethics shall be authorized to exercise such powers and shall be required to perform such duties as are hereinafter provided. The commission on ethics shall be empowered to review, interpret, render advisory opinions and enforce the;

- (1) County Code of Ethics;
- (2) County Post-Employment Ordinance, and
- (3) County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance.

² Article XIII, sec.2-443. Prohibited conduct.

- (a) Misuse of public office or employment. An official or employee shall not use his or her official position or office, or take or fail to take any action, or influence others to take or fail to take any action, in a manner which he or she knows or should know with the exercise of reasonable care will result in a financial benefit, not shared with similarly situated members of the general public, for any of the following persons or entities.

On September 24, 2010, the COMPLAINT was determined by staff to be LEGALLY SUFFICIENT. The matter was investigated and presented to the Commission on Ethics on October 7, 2010 with a recommendation of no probable cause. At that time, the Commission ordered further investigation by staff. On October 29, after further investigation, staff determined that the additional investigation provided no reasonably trustworthy facts and circumstances for the Commission on Ethics to conclude that RESPONDENT, Priscilla Taylor, should be charged with violating sec. 2-443(a) of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics and recommended that the Ethics Commission find no probable cause to believe that a violation has been committed.

The Commission on Ethics reviewed the investigative report and recommendation of staff and DISMISSED the COMPLAINT on November 4, 2010, due to NO PROBABLE CAUSE.

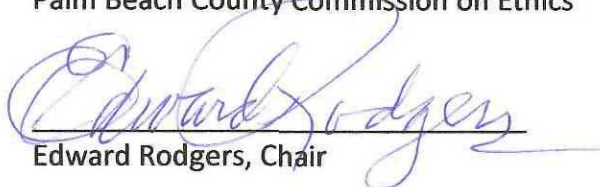
Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the COMPLAINT against RESPONDENT Priscilla Taylor is hereby DISMISSED.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics in public session on November 4, 2010.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

By:


Edward Rodgers, Chair