



# Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

**Commissioners**  
Edward Rodgers, Chair  
Manuel Farach, Vice Chair  
Robin N. Fiore  
Ronald E. Harbison  
Bruce E. Reinhart

**Executive Director**  
Alan S. Johnson

In Re: Channell Wilkins

C10-008

## Public Report and Final Order of Dismissal

The Commission on Ethics found there was no violation of the Code of Ethics. The complainant relied on an outdated website, which investigation revealed was factually incorrect.

COMPLAINANT, Tara Y. Harper, a Palm Beach County employee, filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT on December 28, 2010, alleging a possible ethics violation involving RESPONDENT Channell Wilkins, Palm Beach County Director of the Office of Community Development.

The COMPLAINT alleges that Director Wilkins, on or about September, 15, 2010, misused his position and authority by hiring an employee of his outside employer, Application Link, Inc. (ALI) as a consultant for the Palm Beach County Head Start Program.

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, Section 2-258(a)<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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



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On February 8, 2011, the COMPLAINT was determined by staff to be LEGALLY SUFFICIENT. The matter was investigated and presented to the Commission on Ethics on March 3, 2011 with a recommendation of no probable cause.

The Commission on Ethics reviewed the investigative report, determined that the investigation provided no reasonably trustworthy facts and circumstances for the Commission to conclude that RESPONDENT, Channell Wilkins, violated sec. 2-443(a) of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, and DISMISSED the COMPLAINT on March 3, 2011, due to NO PROBABLE CAUSE.

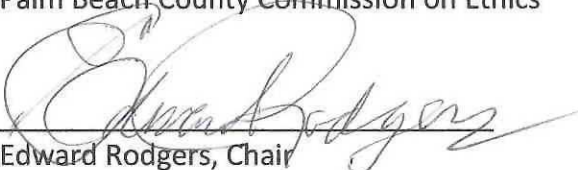
Therefore it is:

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT** the COMPLAINT against RESPONDENT Channell Wilkins is hereby DISMISSED.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics in public session on March 3, 2011.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

By:

  
Edward Rodgers, Chair

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.

(4) An outside employer or business of his or hers, ... or someone who works for such outside employer or business;

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