



Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

Commissioners

Manuel Farach, *Chair*
Robin N. Fiore, *Vice Chair*
Ronald E. Harbison
Daniel T. Galo
Patricia L. Archer

Executive Director

Alan S. Johnson

In Re: Mike Nelson

C12-014

Public Report Finding No Probable Cause and Final Order of Dismissal

COMPLAINANT, Alan S. Johnson, filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT on November 1, 2012, alleging a possible lobbyist registration ordinance violation involving RESPONDENT, Mike Nelson.

The COMPLAINT alleges that Mike Nelson failed to register as a lobbyist prior to lobbying Village of Wellington staff on a matter that was to be presented to the Village Planning, Zoning and Adjustment Board (PZAB) and, or Village Council, as required by the Palm Beach County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance.

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, §2-258(a)¹ of the Palm Beach County Code, the Commission on Ethics is empowered to enforce the Palm Beach County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance. A person who is employed and receives compensation on behalf of a principal must register on the "Central Lobbyist Registration Site" maintained by Palm Beach County, prior to lobbying.²

On November 1, 2012, the COMPLAINT was determined by staff to be LEGALLY SUFFICIENT. The Memorandum of No Probable Cause and Memoranda of Inquiry and Investigation, adopted by reference, were presented to the Commission on Ethics on December 6, 2012. At that time, the Commission conducted a hearing. The Commission reviewed and considered the Memoranda of Inquiry, Investigation and No Probable Cause, recommendation

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 Art. VIII, § 2-352 *Definitions, Lobbyist, Lobbying*, Art. VIII, §2-353, *Registration and expenditures*

of staff, as well as oral statements of the RESPONDENT and the ADVOCATE. At the conclusion of the hearing the Commission on Ethics found NO PROBABLE CAUSE exists and the COMPLAINT was DISMISSED.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the **COMPLAINT** against **RESPONDENT**, Mike Nelson, is hereby **DISMISSED**.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics in public session on December 6, 2012.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics,

By:


Robin N. Fiore, Vice Chair