



# Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

**Commissioners**  
Manuel Farach, Chair  
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**Interim Executive Director**  
Megan C. Rogers

In Re: Dean Turney

C13-004

## PUBLIC REPORT AND FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

COMPLAINANT, Bart Novak, filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT on January 30, 2013, alleging a possible violation of the Lobbyist Registration Ordinance involving RESPONDENT, Dean Turney. The COMPLAINT alleges that on December 18, 2012, RESPONDENT, Dean Turney, failed to register as a lobbyist, in violation of Section 2-353.

Pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, Section 2-258(a)<sup>1</sup> of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, the Commission on Ethics is empowered to enforce the Lobbyist Registration Ordinance. The ordinance requires that prior to lobbying; all lobbyists shall register with County administration. After obtaining sworn statements from material witnesses and documentary evidence the COMPLAINT was determined by staff to be LEGALLY SUFFICIENT on March 22, 2013.

Information obtained during the inquiry was adopted into the investigation and presented to the Commission on Ethics on April 4, 2013 with a recommendation that probable cause exists to believe that a violation of the Lobbyist Registration Ordinance had occurred. At that time, the Commission conducted a Probable Cause hearing. The Commission reviewed and considered the inquiry and investigative reports, documentary submissions, recommendation of staff, as well as oral statements of the RESPONDENT and ADVOCATE. At the conclusion of the hearing the Commission on Ethics determined that PROBABLE CAUSE exists in this matter.

Accordingly, we find that there are reasonably trustworthy facts and circumstances for the COMMISSION ON ETHICS to believe that the RESPONDENT may have violated Section 2-353 of the Palm Beach County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance.

<sup>1</sup> Article V, Division 8, section 2-258(a). *Powers and Duties*. 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) Countywide Code of Ethics;
- (2) County Post-employment Ordinance; and
- (3) County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance

Therefore it is:

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT PROBABLE CAUSE** exists and the COMPLAINT against RESPONDENT, Dean Turney, will be set for FINAL HEARING within 120 days from this date. Said final hearing date will be coordinated between the parties.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics in public session on April 4, 2013.

Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics,

By:

  
Manuel Farach, Chair