

Albert P. Massey, III
Chair
Charles Lydecker
Vice Chair
Michael W. Brown
Cheryl Forchilli
Latour "LT" Lafferty
Roy Rogers
Thomas P. Scarritt, Jr.



State of Florida
COMMISSION ON ETHICS
P.O. Drawer 15709
Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709

3600 Maclay Blvd., South, Suite 201
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Philip Claypool
Executive Director

Virindia Doss
Deputy Executive Director

(850) 488-7864 Phone
278-7864 Suncom
(850) 488-3077 (FAX)
www.ethics.state.fl.us

11/1/07
Agenda
October 18, 2007

Mr. Dale Williams
Columbia County Manager
P.O. Drawer 1529
Lake City, FL 32056-1529

Re: Columbia County Industrial Development Authority- Financial Disclosure - "Local Option"

Dear Mr. Williams:

The statutory definition of who is a "local officer" for purposes of financial disclosure has been amended in recent years, and in the process of developing the annual list of filers, our staff has determined that there are boards on the list who should no longer be on it. We have identified the Columbia County Industrial Development Authority as one such board.

In CEO 03-5, the Commission opined that members of a dependent special district were not "local officers" for purposes of financial disclosure because Section 112.3145(1)(a)2, Florida Statutes, lists only "independent" special districts and not "dependent" special districts. Therefore, members of the dependent special district in CEO 03-5—a health facilities authority—were not required to file the annual statement of financial interests (CE Form 1). Our staff believes that the rationale of CEO 03-5 is applicable to the Columbia County Industrial Development Authority with the same result: its members are not required to file financial disclosure.

However, as referenced in CEO 03-5, Section 112.3145(1)(a)2.g, Florida Statutes, contains a "local option" that the appointing authority can exercise to require members of the Columbia County Industrial Development Authority to file financial disclosure. Essentially, it expands the definition to "local officer" to include:

Any other appointed member of a local government board who is required to file a statement of financial interests by the appointing authority or the enabling legislation, ordinance, or resolution creating the board.