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August 15, 2011

Mayor and Council
Miami Springs, FL 33166

Re: Budget Consideration

Dear Mayor and Council,

For some time, through my former law firm and current law firm of Kravitz and Talamo, LLP, I have represented various companies and business interests of Mr. Raul Rodriguez. In January of 2011, Mr. Rodriguez became an equity partner in the Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC which as you know represents our City. In February, my firm and I were retained to represent the Fuentes Consulting Group, LLC (now doing business as the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group) to handle ongoing corporate, commercial, administrative and labor legal matters. This representation was undertaken in consultation with our City Manager and City Attorney.

Because the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group is a client of my law firm, it is not appropriate for me to vote on its retention as a representative of our City. As such, I plan to excuse myself from upcoming budget discussions that will be had by Mayor and Council on whether to allocate city funds towards its contract, as well as to recuse myself from any vote that might retain the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group as the City's representative. After consultation with our City Attorney, I have been instructed to request that the Council consider and vote upon whether to retain the Fuentes Rodriguez Consulting Group and to fund its contract in an agenda item on a Regular Council Meeting prior to the votes on the budget, so that I may properly recuse myself.

Should you have any questions, feel free to ask me on the dais or through other appropriate channels "in the Sunshine." Thank you for your time. I look forward to tackling this budget with all of you and to continuing our work on the Council for Miami Springs. God bless.

Sincerely,

Dan Espino
Councilman, Group II

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