



## BROWARD OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2021

***Florida Ethics Commission Finds Probable Cause  
That Former Convention and Visitors Bureau Official  
Misused Her County Position to Help Her Boyfriend Get County Business***

The Florida Commission on Ethics (CE) entered an order finding probable cause to believe that Christine Roberts, while Vice President of Convention Sales for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), committed three violations of the state Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees. The CE's action was based on a Broward Office of the Inspector General (OIG) referral and [report](#).

Ms. Roberts now faces trial by an administrative law judge.

The OIG passed on its findings to the CE in September 2018 after its investigation revealed Ms. Roberts corruptly misused her position within the CVB to orchestrate the selection of her boyfriend's event production company for CVB events between 2012, the year she and Mr. Michaud started dating, and 2015, the year he stopped working with the CVB. Ms. Roberts's misconduct benefited Mr. Michaud's company with approximately \$255,570 of county business.

The investigation further found that Ms. Roberts had a conflicting contractual relationship with Mr. Michaud, as the two entered into a loan agreement at the same time the CVB was doing business with him. In addition to the misuse of position and conflicting contractual relationship, the CE found that Ms. Roberts also used or disclosed information not available to the public for her boyfriend's benefit.

The CE's March 10, 2021 order can be accessed [here](#).