



To: William Ortiz, Code Enforcement Director

From: Miriam Soler Ramos, City Attorney for the City of Coral Gables

MSR

RE: Legal Opinion Regarding Soliciting

Date: January 18, 2018

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It is my opinion that a realtor going from door-to-door leaving a business card and letter, offering his services, constitutes soliciting and requires a permit. In CAO 2015-065 (found at the link below), this office opined that a vendor who left a handbill at a resident's door is considered a solicitor under Sec. 50-48 (previously Sec. 46-41) of the City Code and required a permit to do so. Based on the plain reading of the section and consistent with CAO 2015-065, I conclude that the requirement to obtain a solicitor's permit applies to the circumstances at hand.

<http://coralgables.com/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=15460>

This opinion is issued pursuant to Section 2-252(e)(1) and (8) of the City Code, granting the City Attorney's Office the authority to interpret the Code on behalf of the City.

**From:** [Ramos, Miriam](#)  
**To:** [Paulk, Enga](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Question on soliciting  
**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 9:15:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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Please publish.

Thanks,

*Miriam Soler Ramos, Esq., B.C.S.*  
City Attorney  
*Board Certified by the Florida Bar in  
City, County and Local Government Law*  
City of Coral Gables  
405 Biltmore Way, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 460-5218  
(305) 460-5084 direct dial



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**From:** Ramos, Miriam  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 9:09 PM  
**To:** Ortiz, William <wortiz@coralgables.com>  
**Cc:** Suarez, Cristina <csuarez@coralgables.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Question on soliciting

Hi Will,

It is my opinion that a realtor going from door-to-door leaving a business card and letter, offering his services, constitutes soliciting and requires a permit. In CAO 2015-065 (found at the link below), this office opined that a vendor who left a handbill at a resident's door is considered a solicitor under Sec. 50-48 (previously Sec. 46-41) of the City Code and required a permit to do so. Based on the plain reading of the section and consistent with CAO 2015-065, I conclude that the requirement to obtain a solicitor's permit applies to the circumstances at hand.

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Sincerely,

*Miriam Soler Ramos, Esq., B.C.S.*

City Attorney

*Board Certified by the Florida Bar in  
City, County and Local Government Law*

City of Coral Gables

405 Biltmore Way, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

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**From:** Ortiz, William

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018 12:37 PM  
**To:** Ramos, Miriam <[mramos@coralgables.com](mailto:mramos@coralgables.com)>  
**Subject:** Question on soliciting

Hi Miriam:

Does the requirement to obtain a solicitor's permit apply to realtors going door to door? I received a complaint about a realtor that left a business card and a letter on a property and the home owner was away on vacation. The owner was upset because the owner thought it made the house look vacant. Please advise.

Thank you.

William Ortiz  
Code Enforcement Director  
Development Services Department  
City of Coral Gables  
427 Biltmore Way Suite 100  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
Ph: 305-460-5271  
Fax: 305-460-5348



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