



# Acquisition Directorate

## Ethics Statement

The Coast Guard's Standards of Ethical Conduct, described in COMDTINST M5370.8 (series), inform and strengthen the character of our business practices within the Acquisition Directorate. These standards reflect the principles of conduct that are implicit in the relationships we build among ourselves, our leadership and, most importantly the American public.

- 1 Public service involves uncompromising trust, requiring each of us to place our loyalty to the Constitution, laws and ethical principles above private gain.
- 2 We shall not hold financial interests that conflict in any way with the conscientious performance of acquisition and contracting duties.
- 3 We shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.
- 4 We cannot, with some limited exceptions, solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by the Coast Guard, or have interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the employee's duties.
- 5 We shall put forth honest effort in the dedicated performance of our duties.
- 6 We shall not knowingly make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.
- 7 We shall not use public office for private gain.
- 8 We shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.
- 9 We shall protect and conserve Federal property and not use it for other than authorized activities.
- 10 We shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that are in conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities.
- 11 We shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.
- 12 Each of us shall satisfy, in good faith, our obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those – such as Federal, State, or local taxes – that are imposed by law.
- 13 We shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that we are violating the law or the ethical standards set forth herein.
- 14 We will bring problems forward as soon as they are identified, and not attempt to misrepresent our errors or evade their consequences. We must always own our mistakes, and demonstrate good faith in our efforts to learn from them.

**Essentially, the principles outlined here amount to strengthening our commitment to live by the highest principles of the Coast Guard's core values –honor, respect, devotion to duty. Our ethical conduct will build stakeholder and public confidence in the integrity of the Coast Guard's acquisition enterprise. Any questions or concerns about the ethics of this organization should be referred to the Coast Guard's Headquarter Ethics Attorney, Mr. William Lucas (CG-0944), at (202) 372-3764.**