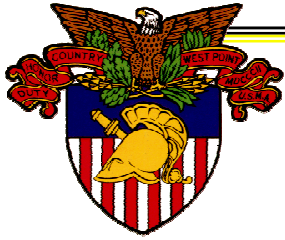


West Point Parents' Club Information Session



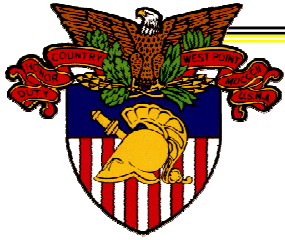
**CPT Nick Strasser
Ethics Counselor**

**This Briefing Is
Unclassified**



Agenda

- **Ethics Principles**
- **Gifts**
- **Private Organizations**
- **Information Release**
- **Questions**

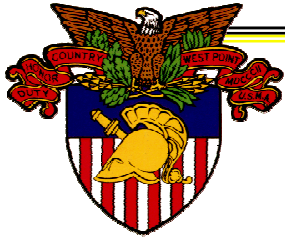


Ethics Principles

- **Why are there ethics rules?**

- **To ensure we perform the mission with the public interest in mind**
- **To preserve public trust**
- **To place loyalty in the Constitution, laws, and ethical principles over private gain**



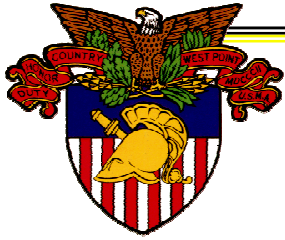


Gifts



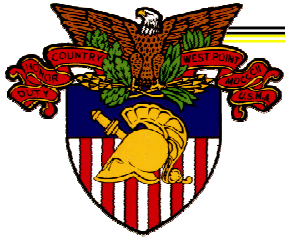
- **General Rule - Can't accept gifts:**
 - **From a prohibited source**
 - **Those seeking business with the Army**
 - **Whose activities are regulated by the Army**
 - **Those seeking official action by the Army**
 - **Or if offered to you because of your official position**

BUT THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE



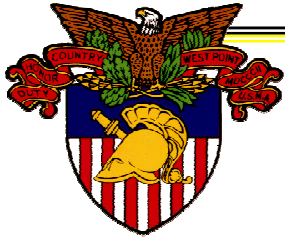
Gifts

- **Some common gift acceptance exceptions:**
 - **\$20 or less value (NO CASH)**
 - **No more than \$50/year** from same source
 - **Gift based on personal relationship**
 - **Personal hospitality at residence**
 - **Offered to a class/group of Gov't employees**
 - **E.g., discount for anyone showing Gov't ID**
 - **Awards for public service or achievement**
 - **If award > \$200, requires Ethics Counselor approval**
 - **Modest non-meal food items (coffee, doughnuts)**



Gifts

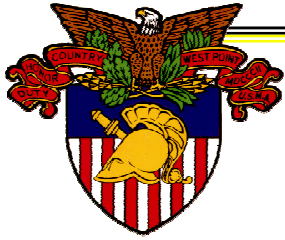
- **What to do with improper gifts:**
 - Decline the gift
 - Return the gift
 - Pay the giver the gift's fair market value
 - Can't merely pay excess over \$20
 - If gift perishable, can donate to charity



Private Organizations

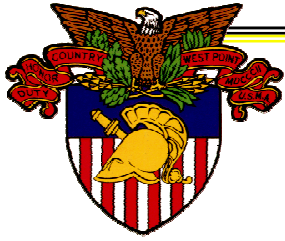
A Private Organization is any organization that is outside the Federal government, to include:

- American Legion**
- VFW**
- AUSA**
- West Point Parents' Clubs**



Information Release

- **USMA cannot give private information about Cadets to Private Organizations, to include Parents' Clubs.**
- **However, Cadets can sign a release with the Admissions Department to allow their contact information to be released to Parents' Clubs.**



Conclusion

Questions???