



United States
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

April 7, 2006
DT-06-009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Designated Agency Ethics Officials

FROM: Carolyn W. Chapman
Associate Director for Education

SUBJECT: Dallas Regional Ethics Symposium

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics will conduct an ethics symposium in Dallas, TX, May 9-11, 2006. This symposium is being offered to ethics officials in and around the Dallas area. The symposium consists of plenary courses. Please disseminate the attached symposium announcement and agenda to your ethics officials as soon as possible.

Attachments



U. S. Office of Government Ethics FY 06 Ethics Training

Dallas Regional Ethics Symposium May 9-11, 2006

Symposium Overview

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics is pleased to invite you to attend a three-day ethics symposium in Dallas, TX on May 9-11, 2006. The symposium is intended for ethics officials in and around the Dallas area and consists of plenary sessions that will provide you with an understanding of the ethics rules and regulations.

Course Descriptions

Analyzing Gift Issues

This course helps ethics officials determine whether employees may accept or give gifts to each other or accept gifts from outside sources. Participants also identify instances where gift exceptions may be applicable. Course format includes lecture, practical exercises, brainstorming, discussion, independent reading, and case studies.

Financial Interests: Is There a Conflict? Parts I and II

This Part 1 session explains how to identify disqualifying financial interests as identified in 18 U.S.C. § 208. The course uses examples to illustrate concepts and real-world exercises to increase skills. The second part explains how to handle disqualifying financial interests by suggesting remedies to resolve conflicts, referring cases to the Inspector General and/or the Department of Justice, and notifying OGE of referrals.

Fundraising

Fundraising in the Federal workplace raises a number of issues. This session will examine the interplay of regulations promulgated by the Office of Personnel Management involving the Combined Federal Campaign, regulations by the General Services Administration regarding soliciting in Federal buildings, and regulations by the Office of Government Ethics on fundraising issues. A question and answer session to discuss actual situations will assist ethics practitioners in understanding the complex issues.

Hatch Act

While most Federal employees may engage in political activity while they are off-duty, the Hatch Act continues to prohibit employees from running for public office in partisan elections, from raising money for partisan candidates, and from engaging in political activity while on duty. This session provides information on how employees may be politically active without violating the Hatch Act.

Impartiality–In Whose Eyes?

It isn't enough that employees avoid conflicts of interest under 18 U.S.C. § 208. They also must avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest. This session examines the various factors that ethics officials should consider when determining whether a reasonable person would question an employee's impartiality. Participants learn why it is important that they determine whether the employee's participation in a particular matter is defensible. They also examine the circumstances under which they can authorize an employee's participation despite an appearance problem.

Post Employment

This session provides an overview of the post-employment statute, 18 U.S.C. § 207, as well as a step-by-step methodology for analyzing post-employment situations. Session format includes lectures and practical exercises.

Prohibited Personnel Practices: A Primer on the Do's and Don'ts of Supervising Employees

An introduction to the elements of Prohibited Personnel Practices (PPP) and the relevant questions that will help identify times when supervisors or Ethics Counsel should seek additional guidance.

Widely Attended Gatherings (WAG)

This session helps participants analyze invitations under the widely attended gatherings gift exception.

Please see attached agenda.

Symposium Location

Adams Mark Hotel
400 North Olive Street
Dallas, TX 75201
TEL: 214-922-8000

The Adams Mark Hotel will accept the local Government per diem rate of \$95, if reservations are made before Friday, April 14, 2006. To ensure that you receive this rate, please mention that you are attending the Dallas Regional Ethics Symposium. There is no guarantee of room availability or Government rate after Friday, April 14, 2006.

Registration Information

To register for the Dallas Regional Ethics Symposium, please visit the Training Workshops and Seminars section of OGE's website at www.usoge.gov and complete the online [Registration Form](#).

The registration deadline is five (5) days before the symposium or until the event is full, whichever occurs first. E-mail confirmations are sent to registrants prior to the symposium.

For information regarding the registration process or about general OGE course information, please contact:

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Education Training Specialist
E-mail: ktcunnin@oge.gov
Phone: 202-482-9228



Dallas Regional Ethics Symposium
May 9-11, 2006
Adams Mark Hotel

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

8:00 – 8:15	<i>Welcome</i>
8:15 – 11:30	Conflicting Financial Interest (Parts I and II)
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
12:30 – 1:45	Conflicting Financial Interest (Parts I and II) cont.
1:45 – 2:00	<i>Break</i>
2:00 – 3:45	Hatch Act

Wednesday, May 10

8:00 – 11:30	Post Employment
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
12:30 – 1:45	Impartiality
1:45 – 2:00	<i>Break</i>
2:00 – 3:30	Prohibited Personnel Practices

Thursday, May 11

8:00 – 9:15	Fundraising
9:15 – 9:30	<i>Break</i>
9:30 – 12:00	Gifts
12:00 – 1:00	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00 – 2:00	WAG
2:00 – 2:15	<i>Closing Remarks</i>