

Notes for the Scientific Management Review Board

Gretchen H. Weaver

Senior NIH Ethics Counsel

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Conflicts of Interest

18 U.S.C. § 208

You may not:

- “personally and substantially participate”
- In a “particular matter”
- In which you have a personal or imputed financial interest
- If the matter will have a “direct and predictable” effect on that interest

Emoluments Clause

- Applies to federal members
- Does not apply to non-federal members –

Employment and the performance of services for foreign governmental entities under employment-like circumstances is permitted.

Foreign Gifts and Decorations

(not in exchange for services)

You may accept certain things offered gratuitously by foreign governments:

- Medals, badges, honors associated with awards, orders of merit from chivalric codes
- Tangible gift items valued at less than \$335 (US)
- Educational scholarship or medical treatment
- Travel or expenses for travel occurring entirely outside of US

Other Rules

- Gifts – given to influence you as an SMRB member, or solely because you are an SMRB member, are generally prohibited
- Testimony – need agency permission before testifying as expert for another in a matter in which you participated as an SMRB member
- Charity – can't use title or position, and can't solicit from entity having interests that could be substantially affected by SMRB activities

Lobbying/Politics

- Appropriated funds cannot be used to “lobby” Congress or encourage others to do so.
- The Hatch Act restricts the “political” activities of SGEs while engaged in the performance of official Government business