OGE 2011 Annual Conference – Online Training Tools

PART ONE: Getting Started with Xtranormal.com

Step One: Pick an ethics topic (WAG, Outside Activities, Gifts, etc...) What are the rules that you want to cover? Or what is this year's theme for training?

Step Two: Pick a set: (usually an office -- see "SUITZ" set collection).

Step Three: Pick 1 or 2 actors (cartoon characters) and make notes about them.

Actor one (name, relationship with others, how does the character feel? what does it want? what does it need to do to get what it wants?).

Actor two (name, relationship with others, how does the character feel? what does it want? what does it need to do to get what it wants?).

Step Four: Story (dialogue). Write dialogue so that the characters answer the questions above, and bring up the applicable ethics rules. Answer one question: How does the character get what it wants?

Step Five: Edit the dialogue; add gestures, pauses between sentences to allow for laughter, etc...

Step Six: Publish to xtranormal.com's own site (what I do) or youtube.com or elsewhere.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Reference your office – be specific.

Be super clean in language – no EEOC violations please.

No Jokes – unless you know what you are doing or if they are really bad but presented ironically.

Let the ethics rule dictate the "story".

Shoot for about 5 minutes long.

Plan on spending more time editing and especially cutting dialogue.

Don't worry about "plot" consistency.

GET STARTED -- HOW TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT:

Go to www.xtranormal.com and click on Movie Maker Product (not the product entitled Slate).

Create educational account.

Await email response from Xtranormal.

Xtranormal will approve your educational status and they will send you back an email giving you points.

Xtranormal works on points system: actors, sets and publishing all cost points.

Otherwise: all new accounts get 300 points.

Enough for 3 movies of unlimited length.

PART TWO: OTHER ONLINE TOOLS

(1) Teach-nology.com. Example -- ethics bingo cards:

http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/materials/bingo/

(2) armoredpenguin.com: Example -- ethics word search.

http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/

(3) Online relevant ethics news clips:

http://news.discovery.com/tech/robot-makes-ethical-decisions.html

- (4) Ujam.com: Make custom music without any musical talent.
- (5) Microsoft SharePoint -- Survey employees after ethics training.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to contact me:

Greg Walters, Attorney, HUD Region VIII, Gregory.S.Walters@hud.gov, (303) 672-5377