



Office of Chief Public Defender
Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual
"The Leading Force for Equal Justice"

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RECEIPT OF GIFTS

POLICY

Restriction on Gifts to Employees of the Division of Public Defender Services

This policy, which is more restrictive than the "gift policy" in the statutory Code of Ethics found in Section 105 of this manual, prohibits the acceptance of gifts by employees under the circumstances set forth below, even though absolutely nothing is expected of the employee in return.

GENERAL INFORMATION

No employee shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly any gift or gifts from any person or entity the employee knows or has reason to know: (1) is doing business with or seeking to do business with the Division; (2) is engaged in activities, including the practice of law, that are directly regulated by the Judicial Branch or the Division; or (3) has financial interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's official duties. No employee shall knowingly give, directly or indirectly, any gift or gifts in violation of this policy.

'Gift' as used in this policy means anything of value, which is directly or personally received, unless something of equal or greater value is given in return. For purposes of this policy (as distinguished from the Code of Ethics), the only exclusions from the definition are the following: (1) anything received from an employee's spouse, fiancée, the parent, brother or sister of such spouse or of such employee or the child of such employee or the spouse of such child; (2) anything of value provided by any other relative, close personal friend or Division employee, provided gifts from registered lobbyists may not be in violation of the statutory Code of Ethics; (3) a certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award (e.g. trophy) costing less than one hundred dollars; or (4) a political contribution, volunteer services, commercially reasonable loans, goods and services provided to the state and a rebate, discount or promotional item available to the general public, as more fully described in C.G.S. Section 1-79 (e)(1),(2),(3),(5) and (7).