



ETHICS AT A GLANCE GIFTS

Commerce employees generally cannot accept a gift from someone who has interests in matters before the Department or if offered because of the employee's Government position or, if a supervisor, from a subordinate, but some exceptions apply.

GIFTS FROM SOMEONE WITH INTERESTS BEFORE COMMERCE

GIFTS FROM SUBORDINATES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plaque or other item of little intrinsic value - a discount for all Federal employees - gift from a friend or relative - meal in connection with a speaking engagement - social invitations if offered because of your Government position from someone with no matters before Commerce - gift from a foreign government of \$375 or less (if more than \$375, can be accepted on behalf of the U.S. Government) 	<p>OK TO ACCEPT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gift of \$10 or less - gift for a major life event (wedding, serious illness, new child, etc.) - personal hospitality at a home - host/hostess gift - food shared in the office
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gift of \$20 or less - a public service award (with approval from an ethics official) - gift based on an outside business - invitation to a "widely-attended gathering" (with supervisor's approval) - business meals overseas (if a non-U.S. citizen is present and less than <i>per diem</i>) 	<p>OK TO ACCEPT IF NOT TO A POLITICAL APPOINTEE FROM A LOBBYIST*</p>	<p><i>* but OK to accept from a lobbyist if it is a 501(c)(3) organization or a media company</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a bribe - payment for performing your Federal duties (unless you are a special Government employee) - a gift that was solicited 	<p>NEVER OK TO ACCEPT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - payment for performing your Federal duties - a loan or on-going financial dealing

Gifts to Commerce. Gifts to the agency can be accepted if they support agency activities and are not from an agency contractor, grantee, licensee, or someone with controversial matters before the agency. Travel gifts cannot be solicited.

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