Ethics and the IG: An Overview of Florida's Ethics Laws

Sponsored by:

The Chief Inspector General and the Florida Chapter of the Association of Inspectors General

The Commission's role

- Nine member Legislative Branch Entity
- > Investigates and reports on complaints
- Renders advisory opinions
- Administers financial disclosure laws

Financial Disclosure

- Form 1 must be filed within 30 days of employment/appointment
- Annual disclosure due July 1
- Automatic fines for late filing

Conflicts of Interest

- Prohibitions on self-dealing Section 112.313(3), Florida Statutes
- Prohibitions on certain kinds of contractual or employment relationships Section 112.313(7), Florida Statutes

Voting Conflicts

A voting conflict exists when the measure at issue inures to the special private gain of the official or his/her relative, principal, or business associate

Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes

Misuse of Office

Section 112.313(6), Florida Statutes prohibits the corrupt use or attempted use of position or the resources of position for personal benefit or to benefit another

Nepotism

A public official may not hire or promote a relative, or advocate for such hiring or promotion

Section 112.3135, Florida Statutes

Gift Laws

- ▶ 112.313(2): Solicitation/Acceptance
- > 112.313(4): Unauthorized Compensation
- ▶ 112.3148: Gift Reporting/Prohibited Receipt
- > 112.3149: Honoraria & Honorarium Event Related Expenses
- ➤ 112.3215: Executive Branch Lobbyist Expenditures

Post-employment Restrictions

- Prohibitions on representing entities before your former agency
 Section 112.313(9), Florida Statutes
- Prohibitions on working in connection with contracts you dealt with as a public employee Section 112.3185, Florida Statutes
- Prohibition on use of "inside information" gained by reason of your public position Section 112.313(8), Florida Statutes

Questions?

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