



ILLINOIS ETHICS MATTERS

OCTOBER 15, 2010

Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE AGENCIES OF THE ILLINOIS GOVERNOR

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RECENT NEWS

OEIG Updated Website – Now Accepting Online Complaints

The OEIG is proud to announce that, effective immediately, complaints can now be filed online through our updated OEIG website at: <http://www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov/>. Individuals interested in filing online complaints need only to follow the link that states: “To file a secure, encrypted online complaint, click on this form.” Individuals may still file complaints in person, via our hotline number or via facsimile.

A Message from Chief of Staff & General Counsel



With campaign season upon us, it is important to remember that as State employees, we are required to comply with the Ethics Act. The Ethics Act prohibits State officers, employees, or candidates for an executive or legislative branch office to offer anything of value related to State government in consideration for a contribution to a political committee or party, or other entity that provides financial support to candidates for elective office. Anything of value includes, but is not limited to:

- **positions in State government;**
- **promotions;**
- **salary increases or employment benefits;**
- **board or commission appointments or favorable treatment in any official or regulatory matter;**
- **the awarding of any public contract; or**
- **action or inaction on any legislative or regulatory matter.**

Anyone who receives a prohibited offer or promise should report it to our Office immediately. If you are unsure as to whether something constitutes a prohibited offer or promise, please contact the OEIG for guidance.

The Ethics Act, however, does not prevent individuals from making or accepting voluntary contributions to candidates or political entities when those contributions are otherwise lawful.

Sean Ginty, Chief of Staff & General Counsel

Post State Employment – An Ethics Reminder

Did you know that many State employees are restricted, by law, from accepting certain employment offers after leaving their State jobs? These “Revolving Door” restrictions apply to certain employees for up to a year after leaving their State jobs.

The Ethics Act requires our Office to determine **whether you are restricted from accepting your new employment.** If you were personally or substantially involved in a:

- **the awarding of contracts or contract change orders; or**
- **regulatory or licensing decisions involving the prospective employer.**

In some instances, current or former State employees must seek a determination from the OEIG regarding whether they may accept an employment or compensation offer **before they accept an offer.** If you are required to submit Revolving Door Determination forms, please be sure to submit them **before** you accept your new job.

If you are unsure if these employment restrictions apply to you, ask your Ethics Officer. Revolving Door forms are available on the OEIG’s website.

Deborah Ellis, Supervising Assistant Inspector General

<http://www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov/>

Calendar of Events: October 18, 2010—OEIG Staff Sean Ginty, James Bonk, and David Keahl are hosting Eisenhower Fellowship Recipient and prominent Indonesian Attorney Melli Darsa to discuss programs aimed at addressing government corruption. **October 19, 2010**—Ricardo Meza, Acting EIG and David Keahl will be guest speakers at the DHS’ Executive Staff Meeting. **November Veto Session:** Senate — Nov. 16 -18 and Dec. 1-2; House —Nov. 16-18 and 29-30.