Environmental Protection Agency

§ 3.104 Other general standards of conduct.

(a) Use of Government property. Employees must not use or allow the use of Government-owned or leased property for other than official purposes. Employees have a duty to protect and conserve Government property, especially equipment, supplies and other property entrusted to them.

(b) Indebtedness. Indebtedness of EPA employees is essentially a private matter. EPA generally does not act as a collection agency or determine the validity or amount of debts. However, employees are expected to honor just financial obligations and Pub. L. 93-647 provides for garnishment of employees' wages for nonpayment of alimony or child support. In addition, the Debt Collection Act of 1982 at 5 U.S.C. 5514 authorizes agencies to recover employees' debts to the United States through installment deductions from salaries.

(c) Gambling, betting, and lotteries. Employees must not gamble on Government property or while on Government duty. Gambling includes operating a gambling device, conducting a lottery or pool, playing a game for money or property or selling or purchasing a numbers slip. However, employees may participate in federally sponsored fund-raising activities under section 3 of Executive Order 10927 of March 18, 1961, or in similar officially approved activities.

(d) General conduct prejudicial to the Government. Employees must not engage in criminal, infamous, dishonest, immoral or disgraceful conduct, or any other conduct prejudicial to the Government.

(e) Statutory prohibitions relating to gifts and decorations.

(1) Employees must not solicit contributions from other employees for gifts to official superiors or accept gifts from employees receiving less salary than themselves. 5 U.S.C. 7351. However, small voluntary gifts on special occasions such as marriage, illness, death or retirement are permitted.

(2) Employees may not accept gifts, presents or decorations from foreign governments unless authorized by 5 U.S.C. 7342.