

§ 251.35

(1) A listed arbitrator may accept unsolicited gifts having an aggregate market value of \$20 or less per occasion, as long as the aggregate market value of individual gifts received from any one source does not exceed \$50 in a calendar year, or

(2) A listed arbitrator may accept a gift given under circumstances in which it is clear that the gift is motivated by a family relationship or personal friendship rather than the potential of the listed arbitrator to decide a future proceeding.

(c) A gift that is solicited or accepted indirectly includes a gift—

(1) Given with the arbitrator's knowledge and acquiescence to the arbitrator's parent, sibling, spouse, child, or dependent relative because of that person's relationship to the arbitrator, or

(2) Given to any other person, including any charitable organization, on the basis of designation, recommendation, or other specification by the arbitrator.

§ 251.35 Outside employment and other activities.

(a) From the time of selection to the time when all possibility of being selected to serve on a court-ordered remand is ended, no arbitrator shall—

(1) Engage in any outside business or other activity that would cause a reasonable person to question the arbitrator's ability to render an impartial decision;

(2) Accept any speaking engagement, whether paid or unpaid, related to the proceeding or sponsored by a party that would be affected by the outcome of the proceeding; or

(3) Accept any honorarium, whether directly or indirectly paid, for any appearance, speech, or article related to the proceeding or offered by a party who would be affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

(b) Honoraria indirectly paid include payments—

(1) Given with the arbitrator's knowledge and acquiescence to the arbitrator's parent, sibling, spouse, child, or dependent relative because of that person's relationship to the arbitrator, or

(2) Given to any other person, including any charitable organization, on the basis of designation, recommendation,

37 CFR Ch. II (7-1-10 Edition)

or other specification by the arbitrator.

§ 251.36 Pre-arbitration and post-arbitration employment restrictions.

(a) The Librarian of Congress will not select any arbitrator who was employed at any time during the period of five years immediately preceding the date of that arbitrator's selection by any party to, or any person, organization or entity with a financial interest in, the proceeding for which he or she is being considered. However, a listed arbitrator may disclose on the record the past employment causing disqualification and may ask the parties to consider whether to allow him or her to serve in the proceeding, in which case any agreement by the parties to allow the listed arbitrator to serve shall be unanimous and shall be incorporated into the record of the proceeding.

(b) No arbitrator may arrange for future employment with any party to, or any person, organization, or entity with a financial interest in, the proceeding in which he or she is serving.

(c) For a period of three years from the date of submission of the arbitration panel's report to the Librarian, no arbitrator may enter into employment with any party to, or any person, organization, or entity with a financial interest in, the particular proceeding in which he or she served.

(d) For purposes of this section, "employed" or "employment" means any business relationship involving the provision of personal services including, but not limited to, personal services as an officer, director, employee, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor, general partner or trustee, but does not include serving as an arbitrator, mediator, or neutral engaged in alternative dispute resolution.

§ 251.37 Use of nonpublic information.

(a) Unless required by law, no arbitrator shall disclose in any manner any information contained in filings, pleadings, or evidence that the arbitration panel has ruled to be confidential in nature.

(b) Unless required by law, no arbitrator shall disclose in any manner—