

§ 805.735-2

49 CFR Ch. VIII (10-1-11 Edition)

§ 805.735-2 Definitions.

As used in this part.

Executive order means Executive Order 11222 of May 8, 1965 (30 FR 6469).

Members and employees means the Board Members and employees of the National Transportation Safety Board (Board) and active duty officers or enlisted members of the Armed Forces detailed to the Board, but does not include special Government employees.

Person means an individual, a corporation, a company, an association, a firm, a partnership, a society, a joint stock company, or any other organization or institution.

Special Government employee means an employee of the Board who is retained, designated, appointed, or employed to perform temporary duties, with or without compensation, for a period not to exceed 120 days during any period of 365 consecutive days, on either a full-time or intermittent basis.

[54 FR 10332, Mar. 13, 1989]

§ 805.735-3 Policy.

(a) The maintenance of unusually high standards of honesty, integrity, impartiality, and conduct by its Members and employees and special Government employees is essential to assure the proper performance of the Board's business and the maintenance of confidence by citizens in their Government. Therefore, the Board requires that its Members and employees and special Government employees adhere strictly to the highest standard of ethical conduct in all of their social, business, political and other off-the-job activities, relationships, and interests, as well as in their official actions.

(b) All Members and employees and special Government employees shall avoid situations which might result in actual or apparent misconduct or conflicts of interest.

(c) Members and employees shall avoid any action, whether or not specifically prohibited by the regulations in this part which might result in, or create the appearance of:

- (1) Using public office for private gain;
- (2) Giving preferential treatment to any person;

(3) Impeding Government efficiency or economy;

(4) Losing complete independence or impartiality;

(5) Making a Government decision outside official channels; or

(6) Affecting adversely the confidence of the public in the integrity of the Government.

§ 805.735-4 Financial interests of Members and employees.

(a) A Member or employee shall not:

(1) Have direct or indirect financial interests which conflict, or appear to conflict, with his assigned duties and responsibilities within the Board; or

(2) Engage in, directly or indirectly, a financial transaction as a result of, or primarily relying on, information obtained through his employment by the Board.

(b) This section does not preclude a Member or an employee from having a financial interest or engaging in financial transactions to the same extent as a private citizen not employed by the Government, so long as it is not prohibited by law, the Executive Order, 5 CFR part 735, or the regulations in this part.

§ 805.735-5 Receipt of gifts, entertainment, and favors by Members or employees.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (g) of this section, a Member or employee shall not solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, gratuity, favor, entertainment, loan, or any other thing of monetary value, from a person who:

(1) Has, or is seeking to obtain, contractual or other business or financial relations with the Board;

(2) Conducts operations or activities that are subject to Board jurisdiction; or

(3) Has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of his official duty.

(b) The prohibitions of paragraph (a) of this section do not apply to:

(1) Obvious family or personal relationships such as those between the employee and his parents, children, or spouse, when the circumstances make it clear that those relationships rather

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than the business of the persons concerned are the motivating factors;

(2) Acceptance of food and refreshments of nominal value on infrequent occasions in the ordinary course of a luncheon or dinner meeting, other meetings, or inspection tours where a Member or employee may properly be in attendance;

(3) Acceptance of unsolicited advertising or promotional material, such as pens, pencils, note pads, calendars, and other items of nominal intrinsic value;

(4) Acceptance of loans from banks or other financial institutions on customary terms to finance proper and usual activities of employees, such as home mortgage loans;

(5) Utilization by Members or employees of the services offered to the public by any of the persons specified in paragraph (a) of this section: *Provided*, That full value, as published in a carrier's tariffs, or as is customarily charged to the public, is paid therefor;

(6) Carriage without charge by a carrier, of Members or employees engaged in official duties, for safety purposes, as provided for in the Civil Aeronautics Board's regulations;

(7) Acceptance of invitations, when approved by the Chairman or the Managing Director, with respect to meals and accommodations when on official business outside the continental United States; where commercial accommodations are unavailable or inappropriate; or where refusal of the offer would be otherwise inappropriate in light of all circumstances involved; and

(8) Acceptance of an invitation addressed to the Board, when approved by the Chairman or the Managing Director, by an employee (including, where applicable, his wife or a member of his immediate family), to participate in an inaugural flight or similar ceremonial event related to transportation, and accept food, lodging, and entertainment incident thereto.

(c) Members and employees shall not solicit contributions from another Member or employee for a gift, or make a donation as a gift, to a Member or employee in a superior official position.

(d) A Member or an employee in a superior official position shall not accept a gift from an employee or employees

receiving less salary than himself. However, paragraph (c) of this section and this paragraph (d) do not prohibit a voluntary gift of nominal value or a donation in a nominal amount made on a special occasion, such as marriage, illness, retirement, or transfer.

(e) Members and employees shall not accept a gift, present, decoration, or other thing from a foreign government unless authorized by Congress as provided by the Constitution and in 5 U.S.C. 7342.

(f) Members and employees may not be directly reimbursed by a person for travel on official business under agency orders. However, reimbursement in the form of a donation may be made to the Board. The Member or employee involved will be paid by the Board in accordance with applicable laws and regulations relating to reimbursement for official travel. If the Member or employee is furnished accommodations, goods, or services in kind they may be treated as a donation to the Board, and either no per diem and other travel expenses will be paid or an appropriate reduction will be made in the per diem or other travel expenses payable, depending upon the extent of the donation. No Member or employee may be reimbursed, or payment made on his behalf, for excessive personal living expenses, gifts, entertainment, or other personal benefits.

(g) Members and employees are not precluded from receiving bona fide reimbursement, unless prohibited by law, for expenses of nonofficial travel and such other necessary subsistence as is compatible with this part for private personal interests for which no Government payment or reimbursement is authorized.

[40 FR 30239, July 17, 1975, as amended at 41 FR 39758, Sept. 16, 1976]

§ 805.735-6 Misuse of information by Members and employees.

For the purpose of furthering private interest, Members and employees shall not, except as provided in § 805.735-7(c), directly or indirectly, use, or allow the use of, official information obtained through or in connection with his employment within the Board which has not been made available to the general public.