(2) Participation in the local self-govern-ment activities in the community in which he resides to the extent per-mitted by law; or,

(3) Participation in the affairs of, or acceptance of an award for meritorious public contribution or achievement given by, a charitable, religious, profes-sional, social, fraternal, nonprofit educational, recreational, public service, or civic organization.

§ 706.204 Financial interests.

(a) An employee shall not:

(1) Have a direct or indirect financial interest that conflicts substantially, or appears to conflict substantially, with his Government duties and responsibilities; or

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

(b) This section does not preclude 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, Executive Order 11222, as amended, 5 CFR part 735, or this part.

§ 706.205 Misuse of information.

For the purpose of furthering a private interest an employee shall not, except as provided in § 706.203(b), directly or indirectly use, or allow the use of, official information obtained through or in connection with his Government employment which has not been made available to the general public.

§ 706.206 Support of Council programs.

(a) When a Council program is based on law or Executive order, every employee has a positive obligation to make it function as efficiently and economically as possible and to support it as long as it is a part of recognized public policy. An employee may, there-fore, properly make an address explain-ing and interpreting such a program, citing its achievements, defending it against uninformed or unjust criticism, pointing out the need for possible improvements, or soliciting views for improving it.

(b) An employee shall not, either di-rectly or indirectly, use appropriated funds to influence a Member of Con-gress to favor or oppose legislation in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1913. However, an employee is not prohibited from:

(1) Testifying as a representative of the Council on pending legislation pro-posals before congressional committees on request; provided, that the relevant provisions of the current OMB Circular A-14 (“Legislation Coordination and Clearance”) are complied with; or

(2) Assisting congressional commit-tees in drafting bills or reports on re-quest, when it is clear that the em-ployee is serving solely as a technical expert under the direction of com-mittee leadership.

§ 706.207 Use of Government property.

An employee shall not directly or in-directly use, or allow the use of, Gov-ernment property of any kind, includ-ing property leased to the Government, for other than officially approved ac-tivities. An employee has a positive duty to protect and conserve Government property including equipment, supplies, and other property entrusted or issued to him.

§ 706.208 Indebtedness.

(a) An employee shall pay each just financial obligation in a proper and timely manner, especially one imposed by law, such as Federal, State, or local taxes. For the purpose of this section, a “just financial obligation” means one acknowledged by the employee or reduced to judgment by a court or one imposed by law such as Federal, State or local taxes.

(b) When an employee has a levy placed against his salary for failure to pay an indebtedness for Federal income taxes, he shall be issued a written re-primand stating that failure to make satisfactory arrangements regarding future tax liabilities will be grounds for removal.

(c) When an employee is the subject of a letter of complaint stating that he has not paid his State or local taxes and has failed to make satisfactory ar-rangements regarding the debt, he shall be interviewed by the Assistant