



## GIFTS

**Personal Gifts to Employees** – Commerce employees generally cannot accept a gift from someone who has interests in matters before the Department or if offered because of the employee’s Federal position or, if a supervisor, from a subordinate, but some exceptions apply.

GIFTS FROM SOMEONE WITH INTERESTS BEFORE COMMERCE		GIFTS FROM SUORDINATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- plaque or other item of little intrinsic value</li> <li>- discount available to all Federal employees</li> <li>- gift from a friend or relative</li> <li>- meal at which you are speaking</li> <li>- social invitation offered because of your Government position from someone with no matters before Commerce</li> <li>- gift from a foreign government of \$390 or less (if more than \$390, can be accepted on behalf of the U.S. Government)</li> </ul>	OK TO ACCEPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- gift of \$10 or less</li> <li>- gift for a major life event</li> <li>- personal hospitality</li> <li>- host/hostess gift</li> <li>- food shared in the office</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- gift of \$20 or less (or book of \$100 or less (if related to agency or profession))</li> <li>- public service award (with approval from an ethics official)</li> <li>- gift based on an outside business</li> <li>- invitation to a “widely-attended gathering” (with supervisor’s written approval)</li> <li>- business meal overseas (if a non-U.S. citizen is present and less than <i>per diem</i>)</li> </ul>	OK TO ACCEPT IF NOT TO POLITICAL APPOINTEE FROM A LOBBYIST*	* but OK to accept from a lobbying organization that is a 501(c)(3) organization or a media company
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a bribe</li> <li>- payment for performing Federal duties (unless you are a special Government employee)</li> <li>- a gift that was solicited</li> </ul>	NEVER OK TO ACCEPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- payment for performing Federal duties</li> <li>- a loan or on-going business</li> </ul>

**Gifts to Commerce** – Gifts to an agency may be accepted if acceptance will not create an appearance problem (not from an agency contractor, grantee, licensee, or regulated entity). Travel gifts cannot be solicited.

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