



PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

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Inspector General*

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OIG Advisory #001

DID YOU KNOW?

'Tis the season to be generous, however:

Standards of conduct for public officers/employees in accordance to Section 112.313, Florida Statutes, states, in part:

No public officer/employee shall solicit **OR** accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the public officer would be influenced thereby.

Further, the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, Article XIII, Section 2-444(c) has a similar prohibition regarding offering or accepting anything of economic value.

Remember, although you may be able to receive gifts from a vendor/contractor, keep in mind the public perception. Take the Ethical Test:

1. How might the receipt of a gift be perceived?
2. Is my decision legal?
3. Would I do it if my family were standing beside me?
4. What does my gut tell me?
5. Is it worth my job and career?
6. What would I do if I were being videotaped?
7. Would my loved ones be proud or ashamed?
8. Is it easier to do "right" than to undo a "wrong"?
9. Would the receipt of the gift pass the newspaper test?