

Ethics

14 Principles & Vignettes



- 1) Public service is a public trust. Technicians are required to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws and ethical principles above private gain. *Technician loyalties go toward Federal service rather than personal benefits*

- 2) Technicians will not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty. *Technicians cannot hold investments with businesses they interact with as part of their assigned duties*

- 3) Technicians will not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of Government information to further any private interest. *Specific information pertaining to the Federal Government or position will remain confidential– it will not be sold or released without authorization*

- 4) A technician will not solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by the technician's agency, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the technician's duties. *Gifts do not include: coffee, tea, donuts; discounts available to public or all Government technicians; greeting cards and plaques of minor intrinsic value - 20/50 rule - \$20 per occasion, not to exceed \$50 per year per source - Never inappropriate & frequently prudent to decline gift offered by prohibited source*

- 5) Technicians will put forth honest effort in the performance of their duties. *Receive pay for 8 (or more) hours per day, so one must perform work during those hours*

- 6) Technicians will not knowingly make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government. *Technicians are prohibited from speaking for or obligating the government for profit for nongovernmental entities*

- 7) Technicians will not use public office for private gain. Technicians *cannot use information received or developed in the course of your official duties to benefit outside financial interests*

- 8) Technicians will act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual. *No special favors for family, friends, or business associates*

- 9) Technicians will protect and conserve Federal property and will not use it for other than authorized activities. *Internet, telephones, computers, official time, copy machine, etc. Always get supervisory permission*

- 10) Technicians will not engage in outside employment or activities (including seeking or negotiating for employment) that conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities. *Technicians cannot receive compensation for performing same work in non-government capacity. Do not discuss potential employment doing similar work with prohibited sources while still a government technician.*

- 11) Technicians will disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities. *We are taxpayers as well as technicians - let's not foot the bill for any abuse of principles*

- 12) Technicians will satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those-such as Federal, State, or local taxes-that are imposed by law. *Failure to pay off debts could be grounds for garnishment of pay and/or disciplinary action*

- 13) Technicians will adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap. *Familiarize yourself with pertinent information regarding your actions. If unfamiliar, check with supervisor, HRO, or designated Ethics Advisor*

- 14) Technicians will endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards set forth in this part. Whether particular circumstances create an appearance that the law or these standards have been violated will be determined from the perspective of a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts. *As federal technicians, we must remain above reproach. Do not engage in any actions you would not want posted on the front page of the local newspaper*

Fantasy Football

- Can government resources be used, on breaks and at lunch, to participate in a fantasy football league with trophies for the winning teams from the entry fee?



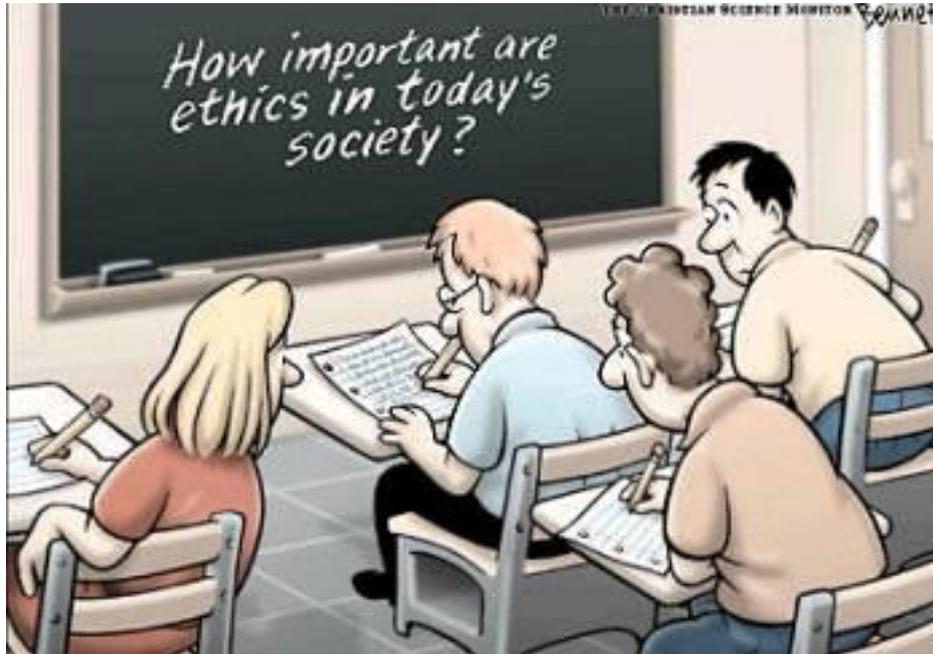
Government Property

- An ANG Sergeant was tasked to catalog excess parts.
- Instead, he threw them away.



Non-Federal Entities

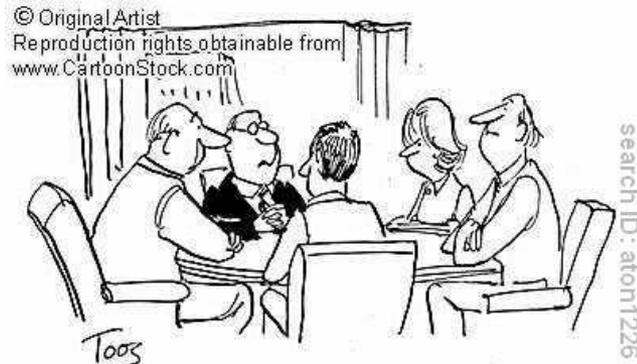
- ARNG “senior officials” sent emails to Sergeants Major about enlisted association meeting and their “expected” attendance.



Government Travel

- A Colonel in the ARNG did the following:
 - Traveled in business class 12 times
 - Traveled on non-contract carriers 19 times
 - Flew on business to destinations where he had no government business 6 times
 - Favored one airline over others due to points

- Problems?



"Make sure everything is done ethically. Within reason, of course."

Trick My Truck

- ARNG Staff Sergeant worked on civilian vehicles in the shop and appropriated parts for his own use.
- He also used his GPC to buy diamond plate fuel tank to install in his truck.
- He removed a shed to his home.