Dear Friends,

More than 20 years ago, we published our first Code of Conduct. In 1993, the Code reflected who we were – a young organization of hard-working people striving to do the right thing. Today, ECC is a much larger, geographically diverse organization that is consistently rated in the top 100 Department of Defense (DoD) contractors with hundreds of ongoing projects worldwide. Over the years, it has become ever more important for all of us to know and do what is right.

**Expectations.** Our employee-owners deserve and expect the highest level of integrity from all of us – not only in the workplace but in everyday interactions with each other and our communities. These guidelines apply to everyone irrespective of their seniority, role, or title. In addition, when hiring new employees, we seek those who share our values, including those reflected in this code of conduct. Finally, we seek subcontractors who possess values that are in alignment with ours, and ethics and safety are the top two values we seek when partnering with other firms.

More than 60% of employees voted to select our corporate ethics tagline: “Integrity – the Bridge from Vision to Results”. This statement underscores the critical importance of integrity in our day-to-day performance, as we translate our vision into results.

**How to use this guide.** We will use this guide as a resource when we have questions related to ethics and general conduct as an ECC employee. While no document contemplates every conceivable issue we may encounter, this guide should give us a good perspective on important legal and ethical issues, and a strong compass to guide us in the face of ambiguous situations. The code is broken into four major sections:

- **Our Workplace** describes those issues that affect how we act internally and the rules and expectations that govern our personal actions.
- **Our Marketplace** describes a number of the issues that affect our interaction with clients, applicants, subcontractors, vendors and others with whom we do business.
- **Our World** describes a few key areas involving how we interact with our communities.
- **Our Ethics Program** contains references, maps, organization charts, and resources for further information.

This is our shared document – I fully expect you to speak up when you have a question or comment that needs to be addressed – either informally, through the Hotline, or with your local Ethics Officer.

Finally, I invite you to personally reach out to me or Gurmeet Chadha if you feel you’re not getting the desired level of attention to your issues. As employee-owners, we are all in the same boat, and it is very important to me that I and the senior management team are doing everything we can to meet your needs.

**ECC’s Anti-Retaliation Policy**

We are expected to report any suspected violations of this document or other irregularities to our supervisor, Corporate Counsel, Ethics Program Coordinator, and/or local Ethics Officer. No adverse action or retribution of any kind will be taken against us because we report a suspected violation of this Code or other irregularity. Such reports shall be treated confidentially to the maximum extent consistent with fair and rigorous enforcement of the Code.
ECC Core Values

We value the personal friendships which bind us together as a work community, resulting in exceptional performance. We believe the mutual respect and trust that develops from our friendship motivates us to excel and results in effective communication throughout the organization. This is the foundation for continued success.

We believe in diversity and attracting individuals with qualities such as loyalty, knowledge, imagination, team spirit, dedication, and integrity. We believe in the development and growth of individuals who seek long-term success through their creativity, enthusiasm, and desire for continuous improvement.

We value the safety, security, and wellness of our people and their families. We embrace healthy habits and behaviors. We plan and conduct our work in a manner that protects people, property, and the environment.

We passionately value the opportunity to serve our clients and communities. We live our lives in the pursuit of excellence, using our skills to achieve our clients' mission with pride and extraordinary results. We exist in harmony with society and the environment, supporting organizations that benefit our communities and humankind. We take responsibility for our actions and hold ourselves accountable for the quality and execution of our work.

We expect profit from our contribution and believe that it should be shared with our employee-owners to encourage and reward excellent performance. Profit is necessary for our sustainability and growth.
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A1. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO), DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND ANTI-RETLATION**

We truly believe our people make the difference, and we believe the foundation of our continued success in Human Resources (HR) is equal employment opportunity. We embrace diversity as a building block to superior service, performance, and continued success. Our multi-cultural family of employees helps us maintain a workplace characterized by open opportunity.

It is our policy to afford equal employment opportunity to qualified individuals regardless of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental handicap, or any other legally protected categories; and to conform to applicable laws and regulations.

This policy pertains to all aspects of the employment relationship, including application and initial employment, promotion and transfer, selection for training opportunity, wage and salary administration, and the application of service, retirement, seniority, and employee benefit plan policies.

It is also our policy to provide employees a workplace free from any form of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment in any manner or form is expressly prohibited.

Note that special rules and regulations apply when hiring former Government employees. Please see section **B4 Conflicts of Interest (COI)**, refer to the Employee Handbook, or ask an HR representative.

**PROTECTION AGAINST RETALIATION**

Applicable law prohibits retaliation against any employee by another employee or by the Company for reporting, filing, testifying, assisting or participating in any manner in any investigation, proceeding or hearing conducted by the Company or a federal or state enforcement agency.

Employees should report any retaliation to your local ethics officer, a supervisor, or to any manager. Any complaint will be immediately, objectively and thoroughly investigated in accordance with the investigation procedure outlined above. If a report of retaliation is substantiated, appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, will be taken.

“As an international leader and equal opportunity employer, ECC is proud of our multi-cultural family of employee-owners. We celebrate our many similarities and differences among our diverse workforce, and focus on the well-being, support, and development of each individual. Our attitude towards diversity, equality, and openness are major reasons why ECC has been voted a ‘Best Workplace’ time and again.”

-Jennifer Faria, HR Generalist II, Burlingame, CA
Workplace Guiding Principles

A2. ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND QUALITY

ECC—Never Compromising Safety

“ECC—Never Compromising Safety” is more than our environment, safety, and quality (ESQ) tagline. It is engrained into our culture, reinforced by our leadership, and reflected through our actions. Therefore, we’re committed to ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of our coworkers and the communities in which we work, protecting and enhancing the environment, and providing our clients with valued and quality services. To achieve these goals, we commit to the following:

▪ Implement an ethical work process that emphasizes management leadership, employee involvement, worksite analysis, and hazard prevention
▪ Incorporate pollution and loss prevention principles into our operations
▪ Thoroughly plan and execute our work accordingly
▪ Ensure that employees and subcontractors are qualified and competent
▪ Comply with company procedures, contract requirements, and applicable laws, standards, and regulations
▪ Recognize outstanding team and individual performance
▪ Exceed the expectations of our clients
▪ Monitor and optimize the effectiveness of our management system
▪ Provide resources and guidance to facilitate healthy lifestyles and well-being
▪ Facilitate environmental sustainability by bringing knowledge, initiatives, resources, and encouragement to ECC, our clients, the community, and beyond

With everyone’s participation, we will continue to achieve these goals and fulfill our commitments within a culture that strives for zero incident performance, the highest quality of work, improved employee wellness, and a greener environment. Additional information can be found under section C.1 Environmental Issues, by visiting our ESQ section on ECCONET, or contacting our local Ethics Officer, HR representative, or ESQ Manager.

“A safety is a core value at ECC and is embedded in our entire work process – from the proposal stage through execution. To ensure success, we select teaming partners and subcontractors who share our safety values. When we have a serious incident, we identify the root causes, implement corrective actions and communicate our findings to ensure that a repeat incident does not occur.”

- Rich Gioscia, CIH, CSP, CHMM, CQM, Corporate VP, ESQ, Lakewood, CO
A3. PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI)

We are professionals. Our actions should be geared towards protecting and benefitting our clients, employee owners, and communities, which maximizes prosperity. Business decisions should be based on solid reasoning, free from COI.

Therefore, we do not have any employment, consulting, or other business relationship with a competitor, customer, or supplier to ECC. In addition, we do not invest in any competitor, customer, or supplier (except for moderate holdings of publicly traded securities) unless there is advance written permission from a corporate officer after consultation with an Ethics Officer. In addition, we avoid behavior that would give the appearance of a COI.

Outside employment may also constitute a COI if it places us in the position of appearing to represent ECC; involves providing goods or services substantially similar to those ECC provides (or is considering making available); or lessens the efficiency, alerterns, or productivity normally expected of us on our jobs. All outside employment that raises any question in this regard must be approved in advance by the employee’s immediate supervisor and the local Ethics Officer.

We will notify ECC of any benefits obtained from third parties because of our positions, and pay over to ECC such benefits that are capable of being transferred. Benefits subject to notification include, for example, interest-free or low-interest loans.

A4. USE OF ECC ASSETS

As a global company, ECC employees are frequently away from home. We recognize this, and acknowledge that limited, reasonable use of ECC assets is necessary to function in this environment. However, we are mindful not to abuse ECC assets; we are at all times stewards of the Government’s money. So while calling home on an ECC cell phone, or using the ECC internet or e-mail to briefly take care of our personal affairs is acceptable, overuse of these assets, and more importantly, our time during business hours, is not acceptable. We will not use ECC facilities for mass mailings, favors for friends or family, or side businesses.

HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO US

The most common issues that arise from this topic include personal use of ECC’s internet, phone, fax, and cell phone services; ECC-provided lunches, snacks, and refreshments; and use of office supplies, printers, and software. Bottom line: We will neither abuse ECC assets nor spend time during business hours working on non-business activities. Further information can be found under A10. Electronic Communication/Internet Use and B10. Truth in Negotiations Act and False Claims.

QUESTION (A3)

My son-in-law is a Junior at State University and is majoring in construction management. I’d like him to work with me on my project this summer. I need an assistant anyway, and this position is in the budget. Is it acceptable to hire him if HR approves?

ANSWER

There is no direct prohibition on the employment of relatives at ECC, but all possible conflicts must be disclosed and a proper system of checks and balances must be employed in the hiring and employment practices process. In this case, it is not appropriate for a relative (even an “in-law” or distant relative) to work for you on your project site, but if qualified, a relative could be considered for a position on another project.
Workplace Guiding Principles

A5. DATA PRIVACY - EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS

At ECC, we value employee and client privacy, and keep information confidential. Therefore, we established the following regulations:

▪ Employees do not disclose any non-public business, financial, personnel, or technological information, plans, or data acquired during employment to any outside party (except as specifically authorized by management pursuant to established policy and procedures).

▪ Upon termination of employment, employees do not copy, take, or retain any documents containing restricted information.

The prohibition against disclosing restricted information extends indefinitely beyond employment. An employee’s agreement to protect the confidentiality of such information in perpetuity is considered an important condition of employment.

Employment Practices and Policies - Personnel Records

ECC maintains comprehensive personnel records and information on each applicant, employee, and past employee. These files are considered confidential, and therefore, ECC enforces the following regulations:

▪ Information contained in each record will be obtained directly from ECC, whenever practical. When information is obtained from outside sources, the employee will be informed.

▪ Information should only be released to others after HR has ascertained that the requestor has a legitimate right to the information.

▪ An employee can review his/her file by contacting HR. If information in his/her file is incorrect/incomplete, he/she can request that a correction or amendment be made.

▪ Employees notify HR of any changes in marital status, dependents, address, telephone number, and/or beneficiary status.

▪ Requests for personnel information from outside of ECC concerning applicants, employees, and past employees should be referred to HR. HR may verify wage and salary information and release information about his/her employment, position held, and job location without first obtaining consent.

▪ Personnel records will be retained as required by various Federal, state, and local laws.

“Our HR experts balance your right to privacy with ECC’s need to obtain, use, and retain employee information in a professional and ethical manner. Professionals handling these files have a responsibility to release information only to those having a legitimate need to know.”

-Tiffany Giglio, HR Generalist II, Hudson, MA
Workplace Guiding Principles

A6. ACCURATE RECORDS

As a Government contractor, it is extremely important that we maintain accurate and up-to-date records for audits, information tracking, and good business practices. Timecards and financial records are especially important.

Charging of Costs/Timecard Reporting

When completing our timecard, we do so in a complete, accurate, and timely manner. Employees performing US Government contracts should be particularly careful to ensure that the hours they report are applied to the correct account. No cost may be charged or allocated to a Government contract if the cost is unallowable by regulation or contract provision or is otherwise improper.

We are required to sign our own timecards. Our signature on a timecard is our representation that the timecard accurately reflects the number of hours worked on the specified project or job order. A supervisor’s signature is a representation that the timecard has been reviewed and that steps have been taken to verify the validity of the hours reported and the correctness of the allocation of the hours. Supervisors should avoid placing pressure on subordinates that could lead them to believe that deviations from appropriate charging practices will be condoned.

For additional information, we should refer to B10. Truth in Negotiations Act and False Claims or contact our local Ethics Officer and/or HR representative.

Financial Records

ECC records are maintained in a manner that provides for an accurate and auditable record of all financial transactions in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. No false or deceptive entries may be made, and all entries must contain an appropriate description of the underlying transaction. All ECC funds must be retained in corporate bank accounts and no undisclosed or unrecorded fund or asset shall be established for any purpose. All reports, vouchers, bills, invoices, payroll and service records, and other essential data must be prepared with care and honesty.

“The importance of keeping detailed records cannot be emphasized enough. If someone is looking at documentation a week, a month or even years into the future, the records should be able to provide a complete and accurate summary of a given situation.”

-Alexandra Lowder, Contracts Specialist I, Hudson, MA
Workplace Guiding Principles

A7. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

We value a safe work environment, and therefore, prohibit the use, sale, dispersal, possession, or manufacture of illegal drugs, narcotics, and alcoholic beverages on our premises. This prohibition also covers all legal or prescription drugs which impair an employee’s ability to perform his/her job safely or properly.

The following actions are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal:

- Bringing illegal, non-prescribed drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages to work
- Being under the influence of such substances while working or using such substances while working
- Dispensing, distributing, or illegally manufacturing or selling such substances on ECC premises or work sites

The only exception is pre-approved company-sponsored events during which alcoholic beverages may be served (e.g. annual holiday party). We, our possessions, and ECC-issued equipment and containers under our control are subject to search and surveillance at all times while on ECC premises or while conducting ECC business.

We may be required to take a test to determine the presence of drugs, narcotics, or alcohol, unless such tests are prohibited by law. If convicted of any criminal drug violation occurring in the work place, an employee must report such convictions to HR within five days. HR will then take appropriate action as required by law. All applicants must pass a drug screen as part of their pre-employment process. In addition, those personnel participating in HAZWOPER or fitness for duty physical examinations are required to take a drug screen test as part of the physical examination. Some clients (ex: certain DOE facilities) require random drug screening.

If judged to be under the influence of drugs, narcotics, or alcohol, an employee will be required to leave the premises. An employee who must use prescribed drugs or narcotics during work should report this fact to their supervisor, and provide acceptable medical documentation. A determination will then be made as to whether the employee is able to perform his/her job safely and properly.

If problems arise as a result from drug, narcotic, or alcohol abuse or dependency, we encourage employees to seek rehabilitation, counseling, and/or other help.

QUESTION (A7)

We have an ex-employee who was terminated for failing a drug test three years ago. He has been through an assistance program and wants to be re-hired. Is he eligible for re-hire?

ANSWER

Each case is different; therefore, please call HR to discuss the situation. There is no one answer applicable for every situation and all factors (program, safety, client, co-worker, the individual’s employment and performance records, and qualifications, etc.) must be reviewed.

A7. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

Drug-Free Workplace Act 41 U.S.C. 701
FAR 52.223-6
Employee Assistant Program (EAP), ECCONET: https://ecconet.ecc.net/hr/indexDeptHr.asp
Alcoholics Anonymous: http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org/
Narcotics Anonymous: http://www.na.org/
Employee Handbook

If you need more information, please contact your local Ethics Officer, HR representative, or medical insurance coverage plan provider.
Workplace Guiding Principles

A8. Political Activities and Lobbying and Discipline/Mandatory Sanctions

We believe in the democratic political process and encourage personal participation in that process. A corporation’s activities, however, are limited significantly by law. For this reason, no political contribution, corporate funds, or use of corporate property, services, or other assets may be made by ECC without the written approval of the local Ethics Officer.

In this connection, indirect expenditures on behalf of a candidate or elected official, such as travel or use of telephones and other corporate equipment, may be considered contributions. Any questions should be referred to the local Ethics Officer. We will not be reimbursed in any manner for political activities. In addition, we may not use ECC resources (e.g. e-mail, ECCONET) for political campaigning purposes, and should not engage in any campaigning at work.

Discipline/mandatory sanctions

Our ethical obligations are of utmost importance and taken seriously. Unethical activity cannot be tolerated and may result in one or more of the following, as appropriate: warning, reprimand (will be noted in individual’s permanent personnel record), probation, demotion, temporary suspension, discharge, required reimbursement of losses or damages, or referral for criminal prosecution or civil action.

Many of the topics discussed in the code are not just ECC policies--they are Federal and State laws. Penalties for violation of these laws can involve fines and/or imprisonment. Further, some of these laws require ECC to disclose any credible allegations of improper conduct to the relevant authorities. For further information, we can refer to ECC PAC documentation, FAR 31.205-22, or contact Tony Nolen, Ethics Officer, in the Corporate Office.

“I like that ECC as a company does not endorse any particular political views, activities, or lobbying; however, all employees are encouraged to be a part of the political process based on our own individual beliefs, opinions, and values.”

-Kaiulani Watson, Project Manager, Abingdon, MD
Workplace Guiding Principles

A9. RECORD RETENTION

Proper retention of records is vital for the integrity of ECC's compliance programs. Record keeping must be in compliance with the guidelines found in FAR Part 4. These regulations include:

▪ Distinguishing between commercial requirements and Government contracting requirements.
▪ Books and records related to Government contracts and subcontracts shall be maintained for three years after final payment or three years after settlement of any litigation.
▪ Requirements for records regarding Health and Safety, Exposure, or Disposition of Hazardous Waste must be kept in accordance with State and Federal laws. In general, these records should be kept indefinitely.
▪ Records should be stored properly to avoid deterioration or loss. Permanent records should be stored in fireproof, offsite locations.
▪ Duplicate and extraneous material should be destroyed prior to storage.
▪ Records should be indexed for quick reference and retrieval purposes.
▪ If documents have been scanned, original hard copies should be maintained for at least one year to permit validation of the imaging system. Originals need not be maintained after this period unless they contain significant information which cannot be reproduced in the electronic image.
▪ We do not dispose of accounting records without approval from the Controller.
▪ No other records should be destroyed without the Contracts Dept’s approval.

Work-related medical records are confidentially maintained by our corporate medical consultant in accordance with OSHA regulations. Contact Mike McSherry, H&S Program Manager, in the Bridgewater office for further information.

Additional guidance can be found on the ECCONET Contracts Shared Drive: https://ecconet.ecc.net/cont/sharelist.asp, Archiving Project Files.ppt, Archiving SOP for Int'l, pdf; as well as FAR Subpart 4.703(a) and FAR 4.703c3. (We can always contact the Document Control Specialist with questions.)

QUESTION (A9)
My project is over and I am closing out and archiving files. Does everything need to be saved?

ANSWER
A record may be anything that is printed, hand written, or in electronic format. We do not need to retain all documents. Saving duplicates or copies of original creates problems in keeping track of the records. Records that do not need to be kept should be disposed of in a timely manner. For further details, please see Archiving SOPs.

QUESTION (A9)
What do I do with large binders, electronic media, books, etc. that cannot be shredded?

ANSWER
The shredding companies we use today can shred almost anything, thus there isn’t a need to remove files from binders. However, always recycle binders and supplies when you can.
A10. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION/INTERNET USAGE

INTERNET

ECC provides internet access for business purposes, and we use it to:

▪ Communicate with employees and clients regarding business matters
▪ Acquire information related to, or designed to facilitate the performance of, regular assigned duties
▪ Facilitate performance of any task or project in an appropriate manner

When accessing the Internet, the following is prohibited:

▪ Dissemination of printed copyrighted materials (including articles and software) in violation of copyright laws
▪ Sending, receiving, printing, or disseminating proprietary data, trade secrets, or confidential information in violation of ECC policy or proprietary agreements
▪ Offensive or harassing statements, language, pictures, cartoons, or jokes including disparagement of others based on race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religious or political beliefs
▪ Sending or soliciting sexually oriented messages or images
▪ Operating a business, usurping business opportunities, soliciting money for personal gain, or searching for jobs outside ECC
▪ Sending chain letters, gambling, or engaging in any other activity in violation of local, state, or Federal law
▪ Personal use which includes trading stocks, placing classified ads, and posts to news groups or message forums/chat rooms with non-business related items

Disciplinary action for violation of ECC’s Internet Acceptable Use Policy may include, but is not limited to: a warning, reprimand, termination, suspension, or transfer. Remedial action may also include counseling, changes in work assignments, or other measures designed to prevent future misconduct.

E-mail and Instant Messaging

E-mail should be utilized in the course of business only, and may be accessed by ECC for quality control checks, internal audits, or investigations; or for any other compelling business reason. The issuance of passwords to e-mail service is done as an internal security measure only, and should not be construed as a waiver of ECC’s right to access information through either system. We should not have an expectation of privacy on ECC e-mail and instant message accounts.

We can find additional information in the Employee Handbook, found on ECCONET, or we can contact our local HR representative.

“I take my position as the regional Ethics Officer in the corporate office very seriously. If an issue is brought to my attention, I will investigate it promptly and enforce mandatory sanctions, as appropriate.”

-Tony Nolen, Corporate Counsel, Burlingame, CA
B1. KICKBACKS

Federal laws prohibit the offering, soliciting, or accepting of any kickback, as well as partial kickbacks in a contract with the US. A kickback is defined as any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, thing of value, or compensation of any kind that is provided for the purpose of improperly obtaining or rewarding favorable treatment in connection with a contract with the US. We are mindful that kickbacks or even the appearance of a kickback can have severe repercussions. Therefore, we have guidelines and regulations that help protect our employees, subcontractors, shareholders, and the company.

If we or a subcontractor receives any gift of more than nominal value from a vendor or subcontractor, there is a presumption that it is a kickback and the Government may claim a reimbursement for the value of the gift. Such gifts also raise the question of fraud because they suggest impropriety in our subcontracting and purchasing activities. We should decline any such gift, citing corporate policy. Additionally, we disclose any financial interest in our vendors and subcontractors. Anyone with such an interest should not take any part in a purchase decision. Subcontractors should also adhere to these guidelines.

HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO US

We interact with Government clients, teaming partners, subcontractors, and other stakeholders on a daily basis. Therefore, it’s important to think about how our actions could possibly violate, or give the appearance of violating, our Anti-Kickback principle. Though the following situations do not necessarily violate the Anti-Kickback Act, our actions in these situations could clearly define a violation:

▪ Business lunches with clients, teaming partners, subcontractors, and vendors
▪ Hosting a hospitality reception following the grand opening of a project
▪ Offering trinkets at golf tournaments or conferences
▪ Sending holiday gifts to clients or subcontractors

Bottom line: If our actions violate, or appear to violate, our anti-kickback guiding principle, we should not do it. If we have questions, we can ask our Ethics Officer.

“At ECC, we all understand the severity of accepting kickbacks and the lasting adverse ramifications that it can have on an individual’s career and freedom. It can also severely impact a company’s reputation and ability to compete for future government contracts. Therefore, we are all trained to recognize, avoid and report this illegal activity on our projects.”

-Paul Hunt, Program Director, Hudson, MA
B2. Bribes & Gratuities

Bribes and gratuities are often intertwined with our kickbacks policies. Any form of a bribe or gratuity is strictly prohibited and violates one of our basic core values: integrity. Although these principles are intuitive, a few aspects are highlighted:

Bribing Public Officials and Witnesses

It should be no surprise that bribing Government employees is a criminal offense. However, the emphasis on Ethics in Government has resulted in regulations that make it clear that even small favors may be seen as bribes. We cannot pay for a Government employee, public official, or witness’ lunch. Gifts more substantial than pencils (not the $10 kind) or calendars are probably on the wrong side of the line.

Providing Business Courtesies To Customers

ECC’s success results from providing superior products and services at competitive prices. We do not seek to gain improper advantage by offering business courtesies such as entertainment, meals, transportation, lodging, or other gratuities to customers. We should never offer any type of business courtesy to a customer for the purpose of obtaining favorite treatment or advantage. To avoid even the appearance of impropriety, we do not provide any customer with gifts or promotional items.

Although Government ethics regulations permit executive branch employees to receive minor gratuities (less than $20 per occurrence and less than $50 per year), we take a more stringent approach. We believe that no gift to a client is proper and, therefore, advise against giving gifts of any value.

We may not provide or pay for meal, beverage, entertainment, travel, or lodging expenses for a US Government employee without the advance written approval of our local Ethics Officer. There may also be restrictions on providing business courtesies, to state, local, or foreign customers which we will observe. If we do business with these authorities, we are expected to know and respect such restrictions. We will see an Ethics Officer for a pre-approved or ethics opinion.

When dealing with or making decisions affecting suppliers, we will not inadvertently obligate ourself or ECC to a supplier. We will act fairly and objectively in ECC’s best interest.

Gifts: We do not accept gifts or gratuities from suppliers with the exception of advertising novelties of a nominal value marked with the donor’s company name. Gifts received that are unacceptable according to this policy must be returned to the donors. We notify ECC of such gifts and of their return.

Entertainment: We do not accept social entertainment offered or sponsored by suppliers. Entertainment is not construed to mean an occasional business meal or a function where ECC stands to benefit from the supplier association.

Reimbursement: We do not accept reimbursement from suppliers for travel and hotel expenses; speaker’s fees or honoraria for addresses or papers given before supplier audiences; or consulting services or advice they may render. Likewise, we do not request or accept monetary loans or personal services from suppliers or enter contests sponsored by them.

QUESTION (B1)

I have a good relationship with a construction subcontractor who worked on my project. The project is over, and the subcontractor recently contacted me. He offered to do some work on my house for a very deep discount, as he is just looking to keep his crews busy during the off season. May I enter into a personal subcontract with this subcontractor?

ANSWER

Kickbacks are defined as “anything of value,” which could include “deep discounts” – especially discounts that are not freely available to the general public. The case here is not black and white, but has the appearance of impropriety and could make for front page news. Such arrangements raise the question of fraud because they suggest impropriety in our subcontracting and purchasing activities. Several high profile politicians have gone to prison for accepting “home renovation” from state contractors. Common sense would mandate not to do personal business with this subcontractor.
**Marketplace Guiding Principles**

**B3. US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act**

ECC’s footprint extends around the globe, touching nearly every continent. As we serve our clients around the world, we and our subcontractors comply with the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

**Dealing with Foreign Officials**

We may not promise, offer, or make any payments in money, products, or services to any foreign official, either directly or indirectly, in exchange for or to induce favorable business treatment or to affect any Government decision. In some foreign countries, the law may permit minor payments to clerical personnel to expedite performance of their duties. Such minor payments may be made only with the express approval of the country general manager on advice of ECC Counsel, must be of a minimal value, and should never been made to gain or retain business.

**FCPA:** Just as bribery to US Government officials is a criminal offense, so is bribing foreign officials. We must comply with the FCPA (as well as all local laws), which prohibits US citizens, US companies, majority-owned subsidiaries of US companies, and foreign affiliates over which a US company exercises control, and others from paying bribes to foreign officials to obtain or retain private or public business. We may not offer, pay, promise to pay, give, or authorize anything of value to foreign officials, public international organization officials, foreign political party officials, or office candidates, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of influencing official acts and decisions (including failures to act and decide) in order to assist us in obtaining or retaining private or public business or directing business to any person.

**FCPA Liability for Actions of Third Party Agents:** Under the FCPA, we are liable not only for payments made directly by us, but for payments made indirectly by a third party (consultant, foreign partner, etc.) with knowledge that the payments will go to a foreign official. A US company or individual violates the FCPA if he/she has “knowledge” of a foreign agent’s or partner’s bribery attempt, including a conscious disregard of facts and circumstances that reasonably raise a question of an FCPA violation. We cannot adopt a “head-in-the-sand” approach if a questionable action comes to our attention. Questionable activity involving us must be reported immediately to our Ethics Officer. Most countries also have laws which prohibit bribery of Government officials. The penalties for violation of these laws can be more severe than the penalties imposed under the FCPA. We may not conduct any activity in violation of the laws or customs of any country in which we operate.

**Question (B2)**

I am in a foreign country where gift giving is part of the culture and I would seem rude and insensitive if I refused their gifts. In fact, it would damage the relationship I have with the subcontractor, and perhaps impact the project.

**Answer**

Gift giving is indeed a cultural occurrence in many countries. However, we are a Government contractor and for us the law trumps cultural tradition. The appearance of impropriety can be far more damaging than the awkward feeling of explaining that you may not accept a gift. Criminal investigations and agency complaints have been filed over gifts as insignificant as ethnic clothing or food. Politely explain how much you appreciate the gesture while citing Government prohibition against accepting the gift offered, no matter how trivial the gift.

**For More Guidance**


**B3. How This Topic Relates to Us**

Providing a gift or business entertainment of any value to a foreign Government official in exchange for official action violates the FCPA if given with corrupt intent.
**B4. COI: WORKING WITH AND HIRING FORMER GOVERNMENT OFFICERS**

**Hiring of Federal Employees**

Complex rules govern the recruitment and employment of US Government employees in the private industry. Prior clearance to discuss possible employment with, make offers to, or hire (as an employee or consultant) any current or former Government employee (military or civilian) must be obtained from HR and counsel.

**Restrictions on Former Government Employees, Officers, and Elected Officials (18 U.S.C. § 207)**

Concerned that Government employees, officers, and elected officials might improperly favor future employers who are Government contractors, the provisions of Title 18 of the US Code § 207 were enacted. Under the provision, stiff penalties are levied on both the former Government employee and the contractor if, within 2 years after leaving Government service, a former Government employee makes or influences any communication back to this agency related to an issue that was actually pending under their responsibility as a Government officer or employee. We will contact an Ethics Officer if aware of a potential or actual problem in this area.

While this definition is broad, the rules in this area are complicated and frequently changing, so it is best to contact HR anytime we are thinking of recruiting, interviewing, or hiring a current or former Government employee.

**Ethics in Government Act (18 U.S.C. § 208)**

The Ethics in Government Act prohibits Government employees from engaging in activities that affect the financial interests of those with whom they’re seeking employment. Therefore, when we’re interacting with Government officials, we need to remember that if that person, or anyone they’re associated with, has a financial interest associated with us, we could be violating the Ethics in Government Act. For questions, we will contact our local Ethics Officer.

**Organizational COIs (FAR Subpart 9.5)**

As a Government contractor, ECC employee owners have several contracts subject to organizational COI rules. FAR Subpart 9.5 prescribes responsibilities, general rules, and procedures for identifying, evaluating, and resolving organizational COI.

An “organizational conflict of interest” may arise if:

- Impartial assistance or advice to the Government cannot be rendered due to activities or relationships

**ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT**

The act precludes a Government employee from personally and substantially participating in any particular matter that would affect the financial interests of any person from whom the Government employee is seeking employment. This extends to matters in which, to that persons knowledge, their spouse, minor child, general partner, organization in which he/she is serving as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee, or any person or organization with whom he or she is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest.

**Question (B4)**

What are some examples of organizational conflicts of interests (COI)?

**Answer**

Example 1: Typically, ECC will not perform technical evaluations and advisory consulting services concerning its own products or services.

Example 2: When ECC prepares complete statements of work for a proposed request for proposal, we may be prohibited from competing for that work.

“If ECC has done design work at a site, we may have an organizational conflict of interest with respect to bidding future work at that site. Speak with your local Ethics Officer. He or she can provide you with more details about the COI rules and regulations under the FAR.”

-John Fern, CPG, Program Director, Pacific Operations, Honolulu, HI
**Marketplace Guiding Principles**

- Objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired
- An unfair competitive advantage exists

If any of the criteria listed above apply, or we know of any organizational COIs, we will speak with our local Ethics Officer. For more information on goodwill expenditures, reimbursement of travel expenses, business entertainment, record keeping, and approval procedures, we can refer to the complete USFCPA Policy, located on our ECCONET training matrix.

**B5. Fair Sales and Marketing Practices**

Ethical practices are the backbone of our marketing and business development functions. Trust relationships drive our marketing successes. Therefore we will exceed compliance in every respect, not only to protect our reputation for ethical practices and to ensure our employees meet the highest ethical standards, but also to make us a role model in the industries we serve. We will:

- Comply with all applicable FARs, particularly Part 52 “Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses”. Before giving a gift of any value or engaging in customer entertainment, ensure that it is allowable under the FAR. Never offer a gift, contribution, or entertainment that might create the appearance of an impropriety. Never offer, promise, pay, or authorize anything of value (such as money, services, etc.) to a government official or employee in order to obtain or retain an improper advantage.

- Comply with applicable laws and regulations covering supplier relationships; specifically potential teaming partners and subcontractors. Do business with teaming partners/subcontractors that comply with local and other applicable legal requirements and ECC guidelines relating to labor, the environment, health, and safety. We will not accept improper gifts or items of value in exchange for selection of teaming partners/subcontractors. We will not select teaming partners/subcontractors managed by a relative or close friend without proper disclosure and clearance from the Ethics Committee.

- Comply with all applicable competition and antitrust laws and regulations regarding how business will be conducted. Do not propose or enter into agreements or understandings with any competitor regarding any aspect of the competition between ECC and the competitor. We will not discuss bids and/or prices with a competitor.

- Comply with the company’s “Code of Conduct” policy, avoiding any action that will give the appearance or perception of a COI that misuses or conflicts with responsibilities to ECC, or that has the potential to damage or compromise ECC’s reputation.

In all marketing and business development activities, we:

- Present our capabilities, experience, and qualifications honestly, without overstating or embellishing.

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**Question (B5)**

FAR regulation state that Government officials in the Executive branch can accept gifts from outside sources, including contractors, so long as they do not exceed $20 per event, or $50 annually. Why can I not buy my Government Technical Representative lunch every now and then if the amount is under these thresholds?

**Answer**

The “20/50” rule is indeed an allowable government threshold – but it is fraught with technicalities and complexities. For example, gifts under the threshold are still impermissible if they are “recurring.” If you buy your COTR a $10 lunch at every quarterly meeting, you will not have violated “20/50” on its face value; however, you will have violated the law because the gift is “recurring.” Also, gifts are aggregated company wide, so even if you don’t exceed the threshold, another ECC employee could provide a gift that causes the company as a whole to exceed the threshold. For these reasons, and those of eliminating appearances of impropriety, ECC has a straightforward “no gifts or gratuities” policy. Our experience has shown the “benefit” obtained for the occasional meal is not worth the administration and potential ramifications of allowing gifts and gratuities of any amount to government officials.
Question (B6)

I recently received an e-mail from a Government client accidently providing some competitors’ information regarding an ongoing procurement. What should I do?

Answer

Even though this is not your mistake, it could result in us being disqualified from the acquisition. Immediately contact your Legal Counsel and DO NOT SHARE the information with anyone. Legal Counsel will inform the Government Agency and help determine the best next course of action.

Marketplace Guiding Principles

- Strictly adhere to the guidelines/requirements of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act when competing or proposing on international work.
- Protect confidential information or intelligence gained from discussions with industry partners or competitors. We value and protect trust relationships with clients, partners, and competitors.
- Communicate positively about our competition and will not perpetuate or communicate rumors, or negative statements that could impact others.

B6. PROCUREMENT INTEGRITY

We take pride in ensuring all procurement activities are executed with complete honesty and integrity. If we work with contractor bid, proposal, and/or source selection information, the following restrictions apply:

Restrictions on disclosing and obtaining contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information

In response to allegations of abuse in the procurement process, legislation was passed focusing on disclosing and obtaining contractor source selection information and offers of non-Federal employment from bidders or offerors. There are stiff penalties for conduct constituting a violation of this provision for exchanging information for anything of value, or obtaining or giving anyone a competitive advantage in the award of a Federal agency procurement contract.

There is an absolute ban on discussing or offering employment with any agency official who is “participating personally and substantially” in a Federal agency procurement which we are competing. The ban extends to a period of one year after the former official served as the procuring officer or source selection team member in a procurement awarded to us. Please contact an Ethics or HR Officer before discussing employment or making a job offer to a Government employee.

Other than as provided by law, there is a prohibition on knowingly obtaining contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information before the award of a Federal agency procurement contract to which the information relates. If we are involved in a Government marketing activity or otherwise have access to non-public information concerning our competitor’s pricing strategies or Government agencies’ procurement plans, we must develop a thorough understanding of these regulations. For further information, source selection is defined in FAR section 3.104 which implements section 27 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. § 423), or we can contact an Ethics Officer for additional guidance.
marketplace Guiding Principles

87. GOVERNMENT AUDITS AND INQUIRIES

It is ECC policy to fully cooperate with any Government agency in regards to any inquiry, audit, or fact-finding mission. However, your individual rights and obligations differ from those of the company. You may be personally solicited for information from time to time by Government agencies in the areas of environmental compliance, contract compliance, or adherence with applicable laws. You may be asked to respond to written questionnaires or oral inquiries, or to turn over certain documents. However, you are under no legal obligation to answer any questions, or to cooperate with an official in any capacity. In the event you are contacted by an auditor, investigator, or other Government official, either at home or at work, the following applies:

▪ Auditors may request an interview, or that you answer a written questionnaire.
▪ You have a right to speak or not speak to a Government auditor or investigator.
▪ You are not authorized to respond to any inquiries on behalf of the company without permission from corporate counsel.
▪ Submission to an interview is a completely voluntary decision.
▪ When conducting an interview, you may decide that you will go forward only in the presence of a lawyer. In most situations, corporate counsel can be provided for you. Under any and all circumstances, you should tell the truth—failure to do so could result in a violation of law.
▪ If you don’t wish to participate in an interview, politely but firmly decline.

If you are contacted by a Government auditor or investigator, you should contact your supervisor to discuss the matter prior to an interview. Corporate counsel generally will meet with you to discuss any issues, and at your request, will accompany you during an interview in the event you decide to conduct one.

“Consistent with ECC’s company policies, corporate counsel is always willing to assist any ECC employees with government inquiries and audits.”
- Kevin Pierce, Corporate Counsel, Burlingame, CA
B8. PRODUCT AND SERVICES QUALITY AND SAFETY

ECC is committed to producing high quality products and providing first-class services that meet all contractual obligations, appropriate industry standards, and our own quality and safety standards. The products and services we deliver must:

- Be conducted in a manner that protects our workers, the environment, and the people in the communities in which we work
- Meet the specifications and be properly tested
- Be properly identified as to the country of origin
- Meet contract specifications
- Be safe for their normally intended uses and accompanied by proper instructions
- Meet all applicable laws and regulations and industry standards

To meet our safety and quality commitments, we implement a comprehensive Quality Control Program. The program includes proper planning, engineering design review, inspection, testing, documentation, and reporting to ensure that we are meeting our contractual and ethical obligations. Subcontractors should also adhere to these guidelines.

Export Controls

We fully comply with US export control laws and regulations, including:

- Department of Commerce’s Export Administration Regulations (EAR)
- Department of State’s International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)
- Treasury Department’s regulations through the Office of Foreign Assets Control

The definition of “export” includes information as well as products or goods. In fact, an “export” is defined as any oral, written, electronic, or visual disclosure, shipment, transfer, or transmission outside the US to anyone, including a US citizen, of any commodity, technology (information, technical data, or assistance) or software/codes. Items that may require export licenses include: armored vehicles; arms, weapons, ammunition; software; hazardous materials; “dual-use” items; electronics; navigation; custom commodities or materials; nuclear materials; computers; sensors and lasers; information security; marine; and/or propulsion systems.

Additionally, there are prohibitions against “deemed exports” in cases where the information or technology does not immediately leave the country. A “deemed export” is one of controlled technology and software to a foreign national (other than a US citizen or permanent resident) inside the US.

B8. HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO US

The most common issues at ECC that can arise from this topic include:

1. Use of inferior materials
2. Substandard workmanship due to lack of proper oversight/inspection
3. Use of foreign-made materials

As a multi-national company, we are often working under the umbrella of US Government clients.

Please contact the ECC Legal Department for further guidance as to the rules governing a specific country, good, or service.

FOR MORE GUIDANCE

FAR Part 25 - Foreign Acquisition
FAR Part 46 - Quality Assurance
Environment, Safety, and Quality Guidance for Subcontractors, Working with ECC
Richard Gioscia, Vice President, ESQ, ECC Lakewood Office
(303) 298-7607 x21142
Contact your local Ethics Officer and/or ECC Legal Department

“As more markets open up for trade with the US, companies that export to new markets and around the world may require licenses from the Department of State or Department of Commerce. Failure to obtain these licenses could result in delivery delays and civil penalties.”

-Gurmeet Chadha, Director, Contracts And Procurement, Lakewood, CO
B9. ANTITRUST/INSIDER TRADING

We take anti-trust and insider trading laws very seriously. These laws are designed to ensure competition and preserve the free enterprise system. They apply to all domestic and some foreign transactions by US businesses. Some of the most common antitrust issues with which we may be confronted are in the areas of pricing, boycotts, and trade association activity. Under these laws, we may not engage in the following activities under any circumstances:

- An agreement with one or more competitors to:
  - Fix prices at any level or other terms and conditions of sale
  - Allocate customers or markets
  - Fix levels of production or production quotas
  - Boycott a supplier or customer

- Any form of bid rigging

- An agreement with a customer to fix a resale price

** Misuse of Inside Information **

If our customers or other corporations with whom we work are publicly held, it may be a violation of the Securities Act of 1933 to trade in the stock of those corporations based on inside information.

** Insider Trading**

We do not trade in the securities of ECC or any other company, or buy or sell any property or assets, on the basis of non-public information that was acquired through our employment at ECC. Non-public information sources can come directly from ECC or from another company with which ECC has a confidential relationship.

** How This Topic Relates to Us **

Because the antitrust laws are complex, we should take special care in this area. This Code of Business Ethics and Conduct is not a substitute for legal advice. Any questions on the interpretation of the antitrust laws should be referred promptly to an Ethics Officer and/or ECC Counsel. We may not make agreements with competitors to: fix or control prices; allocate products, markets or territories; boycott certain customers or suppliers; and/or refrain from or limit the manufacture, sale, or production of any product.

** For Additional Guidance **

Antitrust (15 U.S.C. §1 et. seq.)
A3. Personal Conflicts of Interest
Misuse of Inside Information (15 U.S.C. § 77a et seq.)
Contact your local Ethics Officer

** Question (B9) **

We are teaming with ABC Company and I heard through the grapevine they are going to be acquired in the near future. The employee I heard this from is not an officer and the news is not official. Am I barred from buying ABC stock?

** Answer **

It depends on whether this “rumor” is public information or not. The safe course of action is to not trade in a potential teaming partner’s stock, but if you do, you should consult with your personal attorney or financial advisor to ensure you are not violating the law.

** For Additional Guidance **

Antitrust (15 U.S.C. §1 et. seq.)
A3. Personal Conflicts of Interest
Misuse of Inside Information (15 U.S.C. § 77a et seq.)
Contact your local Ethics Officer
B10. TRUTH IN NEGOTIATIONS ACT (TINA)

We have an obligation to provide accurate, complete, and current data to the Government when negotiating certain contracts. If there is any reason to believe that data to be provided to the Government is not accurate, complete, and current, we will make that belief known prior to finalization of negotiations.

Contract Negotiation

When negotiating contracts, we are accurate and complete in all representations. If we submit a proposal, quotation, or other document or statement to a US Government customer that is false, incomplete, or misleading, it can result in civil and criminal liability not only for ECC, but for ourselves and our supervisors. When negotiating contracts with the US Government, we have an affirmative duty to disclose current, accurate, and complete cost or pricing data where such data are required under appropriate law or regulation.

False Claims - Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

A theme in this document is integrity and honesty, and we take pride in our ability to uphold these values. False claims violate the foundation of our core values, which we take very seriously.

Under our programs, we have an obligation to use and charge resources to specific contracts. Misuse of those resources make ECC liable under not only the contract, but specific statutes. These statutes characterize misuse as fraud and can result in criminal and civil penalties. Resources that have the potential to be misused by Government contractor employees include: our timecard, computer and other equipment time, long distance phone calls, and travel and other expenses. Additionally, we must ensure that ECC and subcontractors’ invoices are correct by verifying the accuracy, quantity, rates, and description of any items or services that are to be invoiced to the Government.

For further guidance, we can refer to: Fraud, Waste and Abuse (31 U.S.C. § 3729), False Claims (31 U.S.C. § 3729), A4. Use of ECC Assets, A6. Accurate Records, A10. Electronic Communication/Internet Usage, the ECCONET HR Training Matrix (https://ecconet.ecc.net/hr/indexDeptHr.asp), and/or the Truth in Negotiations Act (TINA – 10 U.S.C. § 2304). Additionally, we can always contact our local Ethics Officer.

ALL CONSULTANTS MUST BE BONA FIDE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IRS’ FACTORS FOR DETERMINING THE STATUS OF AN INDIVIDUAL.

“I work on several different projects throughout the day; therefore, it’s extremely important that I track and charge my time accurately to each task order.”

-Ji-Young Kim, Associate GIS Specialist, MMR, MA
B11. ENSURING INTEGRITY OF AGENTS AND CONSULTANTS

ECC benefits from utilizing the talents, skills, and experience of consultants. Similar to hiring employees and subcontractors, we strive to hire consultants that share our core values.

Therefore, prior to entering into any oral or written agreement, equity, or contractual or similar participatory venture, it’s our policy to conduct a due diligence review of the prospective partner(s), including:

- Collecting completed representations and certifications, and environmental health and safety and financial pre-qualification questionnaires
- Contacting legal counsel, financial institutions, and other companies that may have knowledge of any foreign partners, their reputation, and past business practices (Prior approval of our Ethics Program Coordinator is required.)
- Completing a checklist for review and approval by our Ethics Program Coordinator

All agreements with a business partner must be reviewed prior to execution by our Ethics Program Coordinator to ensure that they contain appropriate Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) representations.

Retention of Consultants for International Projects

Prior to entering into a relationship with a Consultant for an international project, (“Consultant”), we must conduct a due diligence review to determine the acceptability of the Consultant. As part of this review, the Consultant must complete and return a checklist to our Ethics Program Coordinator for review. In addition, the Consultant must agree to the representations and certifications required by FAR and ECC policy. Further, we must provide a copy of this policy to the Consultant and review its provisions with him/her.

All Consultant agreements shall be in writing; there may be no oral commitments or agreements. Each agreement must be approved by our Ethics Program Coordinator prior to execution to ensure that it contains appropriate FCPA provisions. Therefore, all documents authorizing or approving payments to the Consultant shall include an appropriate sign-off by the Compliance Coordinator which states that these payments are pursuant to a written Consultant agreement that has been approved by our Ethics Program Coordinator.

B11. HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO US

When entering into an agreement with a consultant or business partner, we work closely with our Ethics Program Coordinator.

**Question**

We have been approached by a consultant who claims to be well connected and knowledgeable about a procurement with a foreign Government. How can I be sure he is not doing anything illegal?

**Answer**

International consultants must be researched and approved prior to our engaging them. Background checks, questionnaires, and certifications will be required to ensure that we have consultants who share our values and will comply with all laws.

**For Additional Guidance**

Section B3. US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, 15 USC §§78dd-1 et seq. Contact your local Ethics Officer
**B12. Protecting Confidential Information**

It is essential that we protect not only our trade secrets and proprietary data, but those of our competitors, teaming partners, and Government clients.

**Trade Secrets and Proprietary Data**

A trade secret is any information which is treated in a confidential manner, gives a competitive advantage to its owner, and is not known to the owner’s competitors.

Many states have passed Trade Secrets Acts, but the obligation to protect a trade secret we knowingly receive is firmly rooted in the common law in all states. It is against the law to make an unauthorized disclosure of a trade secret or to use it to the detriment of the owner. Trade secrets can be corporate financial data, customer lists, engineering techniques, software, and other items. Our proprietary information and trade secrets should always be marked as such and protected from inadvertent disclosure. The trade secrets and proprietary data of others which we receive to perform our projects should be treated in a like manner.

A variation on the problem could arise when an ECC employee moonlights for a competitor. In such circumstances we are almost surely exposed to proprietary data, and the burden of proof may be on us to show that we did not misuse the competitor’s secrets while working at ECC or misuse ECC’s secrets while working with the competitor. That situation should be avoided.

**Government Classified & Proprietary Information**

We have special obligations to comply with laws and regulations that protect classified information. If we have valid security clearances with access to classified information, we must ensure that it is handled in accordance with pertinent Federal procedures. These restrictions apply to any form of information—written or electronic.

In addition, we should not solicit or receive any sensitive proprietary internal Government information, including budgetary, pricing, and program information, before it is available through normal processes.

**Trade Secrets**

A trade secret is any information which is treated in a confidential manner, gives a competitive advantage to its owner, and is not known to the owner’s competitors. Trade secrets can be corporate financial data, customer lists, engineering techniques, software, and other items.

**Question (B12)**

How do I obtain a security clearance so that I may work on a project that involves classified information?

**Answer**

The US Government has detailed requirements and processes. These take time and require a thorough background review and approval process. Please contact Andre Randolph at (650) 347-1555 x20202 or Monica Stewart (757) 496-5622 x25119 for more information.

**For Additional Guidance**

FAR 5.4 Release of Information
Contact your local Ethics Officer

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“ECC maintains comprehensive security measures for the protection of sensitive, proprietary, and classified material developed by or furnished to us. We do not feature classified components of our projects in the public domain nor do we use our facility clearance for advertising or promotional purposes. We communicate regularly with employees regarding the critical nature of data protection.”

– Monica Stewart, Security Coordinator II, Virginia Beach, VA
B13. INTEGRITY IN THE MEDIA

As a Government contractor, we often have access to certain information that is not necessarily intended for public disclosure. Facts regarding our commercial clients must be kept confidential as a condition of contract with them. Similarly, facts and information relating to public safety, national defense, or future Government planning must be kept confidential and only disclosed when pre-approved by our Government clients. In fact, we are prohibited from disclosing any information about our DoD projects to outside parties, including media sources.

In addition, there can be public relations issues and safety concerns involved with anyone divulging information on ECC’s scope of work, location, employees, subcontractors, or other information regarding a project.

To effectively facilitate the requests for public disclosure, including requests of media reporting on news and events on ECC, we have established the following guidelines for those requesting information or interviews:

▪ Media must arrange all interviews and photo shoots with our General Counsel in advance. These requests must then be forwarded to the appropriate Public Affairs liaison with our Government clients. Per DFAR, this must be done 45 days in advance of any planned disclosure.
▪ ECC Security may remove unauthorized media from the project site as necessary.
▪ No employee information—particularly information that is confidential—is to be released or made available to the media.
▪ We shall not release any unclassified information related to our contract, regardless of medium (e.g., film, tape, document), to anyone outside of our organization unless the Contracting Officer has given prior written approval or the information is in the public domain before the date of release.
▪ Requests for approval shall identify the specific information to be released, the medium to be used, and the purpose for the release. The request is to be submitted to the Contracting Officer at least 45 days before the proposed date for release.
▪ Similar requirements should be included in each subcontract under our contracts. Subcontractors shall submit requests for authorization to release through the prime contractor to the Contracting Officer.
▪ Use of cameras by persons other than ECC on project sites is restricted. Permission must be obtained through our General Counsel and/or Government official.
▪ We shall not answer questions from reporters under any circumstances. We will politely refer all inquiries to ECC’s General Counsel who will facilitate and clear interviews when appropriate.
▪ We shall not send photographs of the project sites or of any sensitive subjects to outside parties (including family members) other than fellow ECC employees or our clients.

FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE
DFAR 252.204-7000 Disclosure of Information
Contact your local Ethics Officer
Human Trafficking is a global problem of epidemic proportions – but it is not limited to remote global locations. The opportunities for Human Trafficking are high in some of the countries where we work, but the reality is that it exists in any location where we work, including domestic projects in the United States.

ECC has a zero tolerance policy for human trafficking for its stakeholders and anyone in the ECC supply chain. The consequences for any employee, consultant, subcontractor, vendor etc that is found to participate in human trafficking are severe. ECC will take every contractual and legal remedy available under the law and report the actions to local and federal law enforcement as appropriate.

Trafficicking takes many forms, from the obvious and overt actions such as forced labor, indentured servitude, commercial sex trafficking, and slavery. However trafficking also includes a more subtle array of behaviors and actions ranging from wage and hour violations, misrepresentation, holding an employee’s passport against their will, not allowing employees to return to their home country at their will, charging recruitment fees, withholding other identification documents, and providing and housing and food plans that fail to meet host country and international housing and safety standards.

If you know or suspect of any of the above described behavior in connection with any ECC project, please contact the Hotline immediately. Anyone who suspects and reports any form of human trafficking will be protected from retaliation.

“Those of us reading this quote are here by choice. Maybe our first choice, maybe our last choice, but a choice nonetheless. There are too many out there that are forced into working against their will. Those unfortunates who’ve had choice removed from their life and in turn stripped of their freedom. While it is more prevalent in certain parts of the world, it also happens back in the US. So wherever we work, we need to be aware of the subcontractors we use, the establishments we support, and the company we keep.”

– Matthew Martin, Assistant Project Manager, Djibouti
Our World Guiding Principles

C1. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

When ECC was founded in 1985, its primary mission was to cleanup the environment by providing remediation services. Today, our mission has remained the same. Only now, our services have been enhanced, capabilities strengthened, and experience deepened, allowing us to further our mission and commitment to the environment we live in.

Today, we’re not only cleaning up environmental disasters and contaminants dangerous to the environment and human health, but we’re providing solutions that prevent environmental damage, defend against natural disasters, provide sustainable alternatives, and protect our environment and communities.

Committed to reducing our environmental impact, we created the “ECC Green Team (EGT),” a group of devoted and enthusiastic employees, dedicated to develop and implement green campaigns, policies, and actions throughout our company and extended family. In addition, we subsidize the use of public transportation where available.

And in line with our environmental mission and values, we fully comply with all Federal, state, and local environmental protection laws. Any existing or potential generation, discharge, or improper disposal to hazardous materials should be brought immediately to the attention of an Ethics Officer.

C1. HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO YOU

If there’s an environmental issue that’s important to you, please contact ECC’s Green Team (EGT). For more information on the EGT, please visit our webpage on ECCONET.

QUESTION (C1)

How can ECC make an immediate impact on the environment?

ANSWER

Every ECC office and project site should have a comprehensive recycling plan for paper, plastic, cans, and bottles. Additionally, ECC encourages its employees to “go green” at home and even offers financial incentives to employees who purchase certain fuel efficient hybrid vehicles.

ECC GREEN TEAM MISSION STATEMENT

The ECC Green Team is a grass-roots effort led by eco-minded ECC employee-owners striving to facilitate environmental sustainability, both on and off the job, by bringing knowledge, initiatives, resources, and encouragement to all of ECC, our clients, the extended ECC community, and beyond.

For further information on the ECC Green Team, please visit our webpage on ECCONET.

Our resource for greening the ECC community and beyond.

“At ECC, we care about the environment, participating in several events, such as Earth Day, shoreline cleanups, park restoration projects, and ‘Spare the Air’ and ‘Bike to Work’ days.”

-George Jeremenko, Sr. Web Developer and “Green Team” Organizer, Prague
Our World Guiding Principles

C2. CHARITABLE DONATION/VOLUNTEER, ETC.

Giving Back to the Community

We value our families and the communities where we live and work. To give back to the communities, ECC matches charitable contributions made by employees. All receiving charities should be recognized as such in the relevant IRS codes, including religious, charitable, educational, scientific, testing, and literary organizations.

To request a matching contribution, a properly signed receipt or a cancelled check for the donation, as well as proof that the organization is a charitable organization under IRS rules must be provided to the Operations Controller. ECC will evaluate whether the request meets the eligibility requirements and is within the matching limitation. If so, ECC will process the check request and send it to the charity, along with a copy to the employee.

The check shall state the employee’s name and “ECC matching contribution” on its face. The Operations Controller shall report all such matching contributions as part of the monthly status report, and quarterly to the Board of Directors.

Fundraising

We recognize private philanthropy as both a noble tradition for worthy charitable organizations and a vital element of the success of today’s community. Many worthy causes are advanced only because motivated citizens contributed time, talent, and funds to create them. Gifts of money, time, and resources enlarge the capacity of many charitable organizations. ECC encourages our participation in and donations to charities of our choice.

Soliciting donations from colleagues is acceptable but should be done on a personal level and with the utmost respect and concern. Mass e-mails, or other use of ECC equipment or resources is not permitted. Soliciting donations from customers, vendors, or subcontractors should be avoided due to the appearance of impropriety and possible pressure it may place on the relationship between those individuals and ECC.

“IT wonderful to see how our company rally’s around what is important to our coworkers. Diabetes is important to several people in the office which led to our office sponsoring a Tour de Cure cycling team, and rest stop, the last few years. It’s been a great success as our teams raise as much money as teams 10 times our size because of the generosity, support and team work of everyone in the office.” -Kelly Trilk, Director of Personnel, Strategy and Technology, Lakewood, CO
D1. How This Topic Relates to Us

If you are an employee, look out for situations which are (or may become) illegal, unethical, or improper.

If you are a manager or supervisor, lead by example. Ensure that your employees read and understand this document; and encourage open communication.

If you are part of our Ethics Program Staff, work with corporate counsel to improve our ethics and code of conduct procedures, and conduct regular ethics reviews.

Our Ethics Program

D1. Ethics Officers and Individual Duties

Ethics Program Organization

In an effort to increase the effectiveness of ECC’s code of conduct and ethics, we established an ethics program organization (see graphic on the following page). These individuals are committed to upholding our core values through consistent education, communication, and implementation of ethics policies, issues, and resolutions. The duties of the staff are to:

▪ Develop, evaluate, and recommend policies relating to ethical issues
▪ Implement effective communication of those policies
▪ Periodically evaluate the ethics program, policies, and procedures to ensure their continued appropriateness and effectiveness in achieving corporate goals
▪ Serve in an ongoing advisory capacity for policy interpretation applied to arising ethics problems

Individual Duties

ECC managers and supervisors should ensure that all employees under their supervision have read this document. Managers should stress to all employees the need for a continuing commitment to these principles. They should make their own personal commitment to ensure that employees under their supervision operate in accordance with the highest principles of business ethics. They should maintain a workplace environment that encourages frank and open communication regarding suspected problems.

We should all be alert and sensitive to situations which could result in inadvertent actions by ourselves, our fellow employees, vendors, or subcontractors which are illegal, unethical, or otherwise improper.

Ongoing Internal Audit/Ethics Function

The Ethics Program Staff, in coordination with counsel, shall seek and pursue a regular review of all business conduct. This may include a review of ECC records maintained in the normal course of business and the inquiry of present and ex-employees. All memoranda, notes, and reports created as a direct result of these activities shall bear the legend: ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT or ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE and PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL

These materials must remain confidential and must be maintained in a separate and secure manner so as to assure their confidentiality. They are not to be shared with any third-party without the prior authorization of independent counsel and ECC.

“Ethical people are those who recognize the difference between right and wrong and consistently strive to set an example of good conduct. In a business setting, being ethical means applying principles of honesty and fairness to relationships with coworkers and customers. Ethical individuals make an effort to treat everyone with whom they come in contact as they would want to be treated themselves.”

-Flavio Tagua, Europe Regional Manager, Managing Director, Italy
Our Ethics Program

D2. HOTLINE INFO

If uncomfortable talking to our local Ethics Officer, we have the option of calling or e-mailing our hotline. Or, if there is need for an expedited treatment of a situation where ECC’s exposure may be significant or a rapid response is critical, we will call our hotline. The call can be anonymous. The hotline number is (877) 987-1240 (extension 20111). Reports may also be made by e-mail to hotline@ecc.net or online at ECCONET.ECC.net. A hotline information sheet is attached to this document. A copy of this information shall be posted at each office and project site.

ECC’s team of ethics officers is led by Gurmeet Chadha, Director - Contracts and Compliance.

Ethics Officers are strategically located throughout the world and are all available as code of conduct and ethics resources and guides.
I’m aware of an unethical situation on my job site. I’ve told my manager, but nothing has been resolved. What should I do?

Contact your local Ethics Officer or Corporate Counsel to discuss the problem and submit a report. If you’re uncomfortable speaking with them, contact our hotline via the web, phone, or e-mail. Note hotline reports can be made anonymously.

How do I know if I have an ethical problem?

A good rule of thumb is the “Post Test.” Would you feel uncomfortable if a particular action were published in a local newspaper? If so, you may have an ethical problem.

More information on ethics and legal topics may be found here:

- www.OGE.gov
- www.arnet.FAR.mil
- A9. Record Retention: FAR Subpart 4.703(a); FAR 4.703c3
- B3. US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: ECCONET, USFCPA Policy, Training Matrix
- B8. Product and Services Quality and Safety: FAR Part 25 - Foreign Acquisition; FAR Part 46 - Quality Assurance

“If you are aware of an illegal, unethical, or improper situation, please talk to your Ethics Representative or Corporate Counsel; or call the hotline.”

-Marc Mizrahi, Program Manager, Edison, NJ
Our Ethics Program

- B12. Protecting Confidential Information: FAR 5.4 Release of Information
- B13. Integrity in the Media: DFAR 252.204-7000 Disclosure of Information

D4. REPORTING

What are our Ethical Obligations?

Ethical obligations can be divided into two categories. First are prohibitions against fraud, bribery, falsifying time cards, and other actions that reasonable persons know are wrong even if they cannot quote the specific law that prohibits them. The second category of ethical obligations result from specific laws or contract provisions where, unless we focus on the situation, we may not be aware that an ethical obligation exists. Some of the ethical obligations we are aware of that impact our business as of the date of publication follow. As changing laws or experience bring additional obligations, they will be communicated to us.

Protection against Retaliation

Applicable law prohibits retaliation against any employee by another employee or by the Company for reporting, filing, testifying, assisting or participating in any manner in any investigation, proceeding or hearing conducted by the Company or a federal or state enforcement agency.

Employees should report any retaliation to your local ethics officer, a supervisor, or to any manager. Any complaint will be immediately, objectively and thoroughly investigated in accordance with the investigation procedure outlined above. If a report of retaliation is substantiated, appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, will be taken.

Additional enforcement information

Employees should also be aware that the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or local state enforcement agencies investigate complaints of discrimination in employment. Employees who believe that they have been discriminated against may file a complaint with either of these agencies.

Both the EEOC and local state enforcement agencies serve as neutral fact-finders and attempt to help the parties voluntarily resolve disputes. You may contact the nearest office of the EEOC or local state enforcement agency as listed in the telephone directory.

“Our Ethics Program Staff are always here for you in case you have a question. There are also several online resources available to you for additional information on ethics and the law. We would be happy to help you find the information you’re looking for.”

-Barbara Growney, Contracts Administrator III, Edison, NJ
Our Ethics Program

Ethics Problem Resolution

If we become aware of an ethical problem, we should understand the following guidelines for resolution:

▪ It is our duty to discuss that problem with our manager or, if appropriate, a member of the Ethics Program Staff.
▪ We should prepare a brief written memo of the situation and send it to our cognizant Ethics Officer or the Ethics Program Coordinator.
▪ All problems will receive prompt attention and we will receive a response.
▪ All information will be held in strictest confidence and will only be disclosed on a need to know basis in order to investigate and resolve the situation.
▪ The Ethics Program Staff will, if appropriate, perform an investigation and recommend to the President how to best respond to the problem.

Reporting Requirements for Ethics Program Staff

The Ethics Program Staff shall report to outside counsel to assure objectivity and confidentiality in its efforts. With the exception of internal reviews or audits initiated at the suggestion of, or in coordination with independent counsel, the Ethics Program Staff shall report all new inquiries and the status of ongoing efforts every quarter. Efforts undertaken with independent counsel may require different reporting requirements. The Ethics Program Staff may be asked to report to appropriate management concerning the status and results of internal audits and reviews.

D4. REPORTING VIOLATIONS

We will report any suspected unethical situations to our supervisor, Corporate Counsel, Ethics program Coordinator, and/or local Ethics Officer. No adverse action or retribution of any kind will be taken against us, and reports will be treated confidentially to the maximum extent possible.

D5. HOW THIS TOPIC RELATES TO US

Ethics training is important to us and our subcontractors to understand what the rules are, and how best to comply with them.

“ECC enforces our anti-retaliation policy. Retaliation is about making people afraid to report unethical or illegal behavior. ECC will protect your right to confidentially enforce our Code of Conduct without fear of reprisal.”

-Fred Santos, Project Manager, Hudson, MA
D5. ETHICS TRAINING

Training is a critical component of our Ethics Program. Training takes the form of formal, informal, group, and individual exercises so that we know what the rules are, and how best to comply with them. Ethics training is provided to new hires, and regularly throughout the year at our various meetings. Subcontractors are also invited to attend group training, where the rules are discussed, and groups participate in exercises and case studies to best understand the complexities, subtleties, and grey areas of a typical ethical challenge.

In addition to the orientation and formal sessions, we hold brown bag sessions and distribute readings and news alerts to keep everyone abreast of the latest legal and ethical issues. We also have access to a wide variety of on-line ethics and compliance training on the ecconet training matrix.

SAMPLES OF TRAINING AVAILABLE ON YOUR ECConet TRAINING MATRIX

- Anti-Kickback Compliance Certification
- ECC Handbook Compliance Certification
- ECC Intranet Privacy Compliance Certification
- International Consultant Compliance Certification
- US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Compliance Certification
- Ethics
- Job Costs
- Kickbacks and Gratuities
- Preventing Sexual Harassment for Employers
- Expense Reports and Time Card Compliance
- Truth in Negotiations Act
- Records Retention
- Product Substitution
- Export Control
- Proper Use of International Consultants
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
- Organizational Conflicts of Interest
- Recruiting and Hiring Government Employees
- HIPAA Compliance
- EEO and Affirmative Action Compliance
- Protecting Classified Information
- Government Property
Friends,

Thank you for taking the time to review our code of conduct. I emphasize “our” code, because so much of the content - the questions, quotes, the slogans - come from you, our employee owners. Over the past 22+ years I have always found our employees to be engaged, proactive, and responsible on matters of ethics and compliance. During this time I have had the pleasure of seeing a consistent pattern of ethical behavior by the majority of our employees, subcontractors, and clients. While from time to time we experience behavior that does not meet our standards, I am still pleased that this behavior is usually reported quickly, by our own employees, and that we as a team are unified in our approach to dealing with these issues to ensure they do not recur. To that end, thank you for your continued compliance and commitment to keep ECC as one of the most ethical places to work.

As always, I and the rest of the ECC Ethics Officers are ready to assist you with any questions you may have about this code, or about any specific ethics or compliance issues you may face in your daily activities.

Sincerely,

Gurmeet S. Chadha,
CPCM, CQA

Director, Contracts and Compliance
gchadha@ecc.net
(303) 590-1133 (office)
Employee Statement of Understanding

I hereby certify that I have read the ECC Code of Business Ethics and Conduct. I agree to abide by the terms set forth therein. I understand that my failure to abide by the standards in the Code of Business Ethics and Conduct will result in disciplinary actions against me, including the possible termination of employment with ECC for cause.

_________________________________________
Signature

_________________________________________
Printed Name and Date

(Please return all signed forms to HR or complete this certification electronically on your ECCONET training matrix.)