

Ethics in Public Service



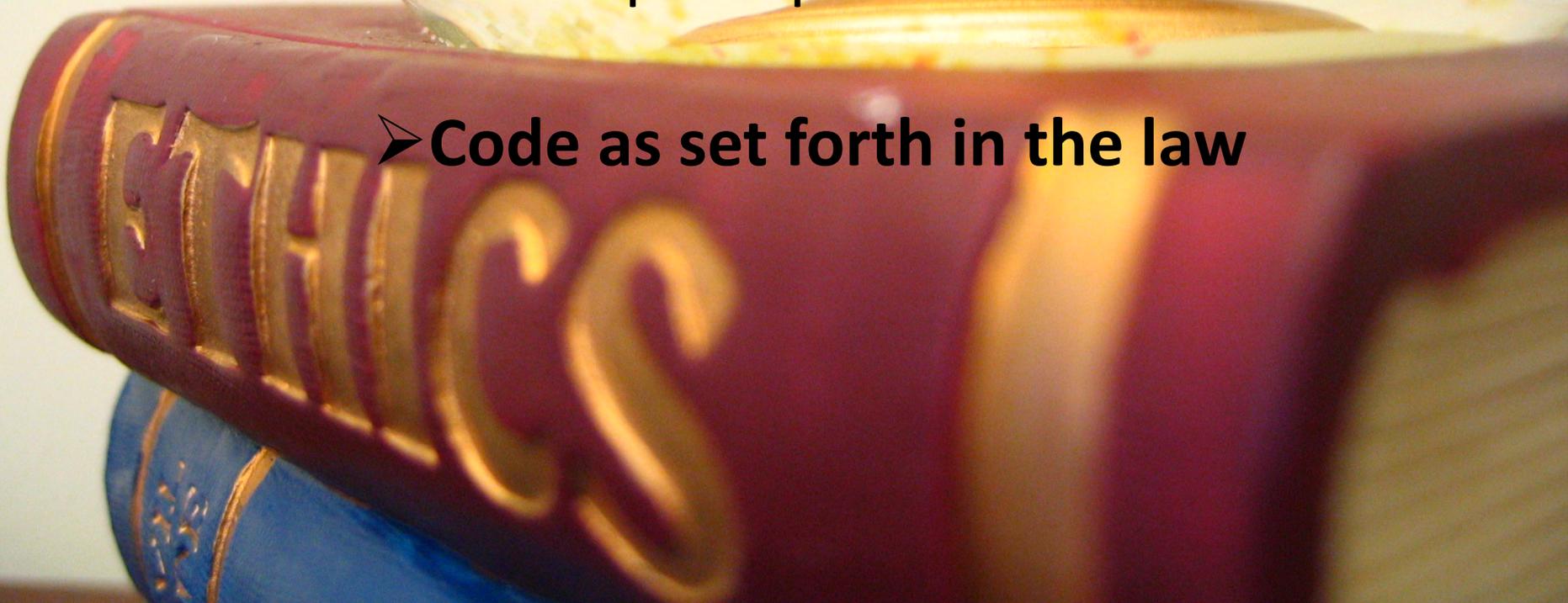
OBJECTIVES

- **Understand basic ethical standards**
- **Know where to find out more**
- **Identify violations**

What is Ethics in Public Service?

Doing the right thing...
Using resources correctly
Morals...principles...

➤ **Code as set forth in the law**



Why do we have
the Ethics Act?



What is covered under the Act?



A group of people in winter clothing standing in a snowy street in front of a brick building with a balcony. The scene is outdoors, likely in a city or town square, with snow covering the ground. The building in the background has a prominent balcony with a metal railing. The overall atmosphere is cold and wintry.

Interpret Ethic's Act
Publish Advisory Opinions
Provide Training
Adjudicate complaints

Executive Ethics Board

A cowboy on a dark horse is silhouetted against a bright, hazy sunset. He is holding a lasso aloft, and a group of several horses is running alongside him, kicking up dust. The scene is captured in a dramatic, low-key lighting style.

Board jurisdiction and Case Sanctions

Complaints and Investigations

- Public
- Agency
- Whistleblower investigations
- Co-worker



What causes unethical behavior?

Moral upbringing.

Poor Supervision



The feeling of entitlement

Everyone else is doing it.

Lack of Training and Understanding of the law.



Use of State Resources



What about de minimis use?

Stop and think





Use



No use for political campaigns or lobbying

Conflicts of Interest

- Financial Interest in a Transaction (RCW 42.52.030)



Conflict of Interest

You cannot:

Have a direct or
indirect financial
interest in
any business or
transaction
with
any
regulatory
agency or
professional
activity



With anyone you regulate or contract with

Types of Conflict



Private business transactions



Volunteer activities



Professional conflicts

How to handle a conflict

Abstain

Disclose

Procedures

Screening Memo





Use your position
for good, not evil I
say...

Parking

Facilities

Computer Tech



EXCEPTIONS

Token of appreciation,
Gifts between co-workers,
Fellowship or company
items.

\$50 Rule



Are you a “Section 4” employee?



- Are you employed by a regulatory agency or an agency that regulates or contract with the person giving the gift?
- Did you play a role in that agency or agency?
- Does your agency regulate or contract with the person giving the gift?
- Are you a contractor with that agency or agency?

Section 4 employees can ONLY accept:



Section 4 employees may NOT accept



Flowers



Travel expenses



Food & beverages

What do I do?

- Do not accept the gift
- Contact your advisor

