

ROSEVILLE *Ethics Tip*

November 2012

'Tis the Season for an Ethics Reminder - Gifts

With the traditional holiday season quickly approaching, the Ethics Commission thought it would be a good time to remind Public Officials and others of the rules regarding gifts.

Roseville's Code of Ethics states:

A Public Official shall not solicit or receive anything of value from any person or association, directly or indirectly, in consideration of some action to be taken or not to be taken in the performance of the Public Official's duties.

Section 3(C).

The Code defines "anything of value" to include money, real or personal property, a permit or license, a favor, a service, forgiveness of a loan or promise of future employment. Section 2. It does not, however, include services to assist the official in the performance of official duties such as providing advice or consultation; services of insignificant monetary value; a plaque or other memento recognizing individual services in a field of specialty or to a charitable cause; a trinket or memento costing \$5 or less; informational material of unexceptional value; food or beverage given at a reception, meal or meeting away from the recipient's place of work by an organization before whom the recipient appears to make a speech or answer questions as part of a program; or a contribution as defined by Minnesota statutes.

As you meet and talk with members of the public and other constituents – not only at this time of year, but always – please keep this rule and its purpose in mind.

Sent on behalf of the Roseville Ethics Commission

Interested in learning more about City Ethics? Visit CITY ETHICS at <http://www.cityethics.org>

CITY ETHICS is a non-profit organization formed in 2000. Its purpose is to provide a centralized location for information and resources for all forms of local government ethics programs.