

THE PUBLIC SERVICE PUZZLER

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OUTSIDE JOB HUNT

Below are five hypothetical activities related to outside jobs and other non-City pursuits. Can you figure out which are violations of Chapter 68, and which are merely bad ideas?

1. Lisa is a bit of a food buff and enjoys sharing her thoughts on recipes she finds online. During some downtime at work, she prints out six recipes on her City printer so that she can do her grocery shopping for the coming week on the way home from the office. As the recipes are printing, she has a chat with her coworker Jessie about cooking techniques, and forwards her an article with tips on onion-chopping using her City email account.
2. When he's not teaching math in a NYC high school, Richard privately tutors students on the SATs (though [not students from his school](#)). During Richard's planning period, one of his tutees calls him on his personal cellphone to go over a practice test question. The call lasts less than ten minutes, and Richard doesn't plan to charge the student for the quick advice.
3. While inspecting a construction site, DOB Safety Inspector Slater overhears the foreman expressing dissatisfaction with his current supplier. Slater's brother is a supplier, so after the inspection is complete Slater gives the foreman his brother's business card, which he keeps in his wallet for just such an occasion.
4. Kelly is a part-time DYCD worker. To make ends meet, she moonlights as a train conductor on the LIRR. One day her officemate Tori boards the train. Kelly decides not to punch Tori's ticket, allowing her to ride for free.
5. Zack runs "Time Out!," a stock photography business, and he'd like to see how some of his pictures hold up when photocopied. During his lunch break, he runs a photo through the copier at his City office; satisfied with the result, he throws the sheet away.

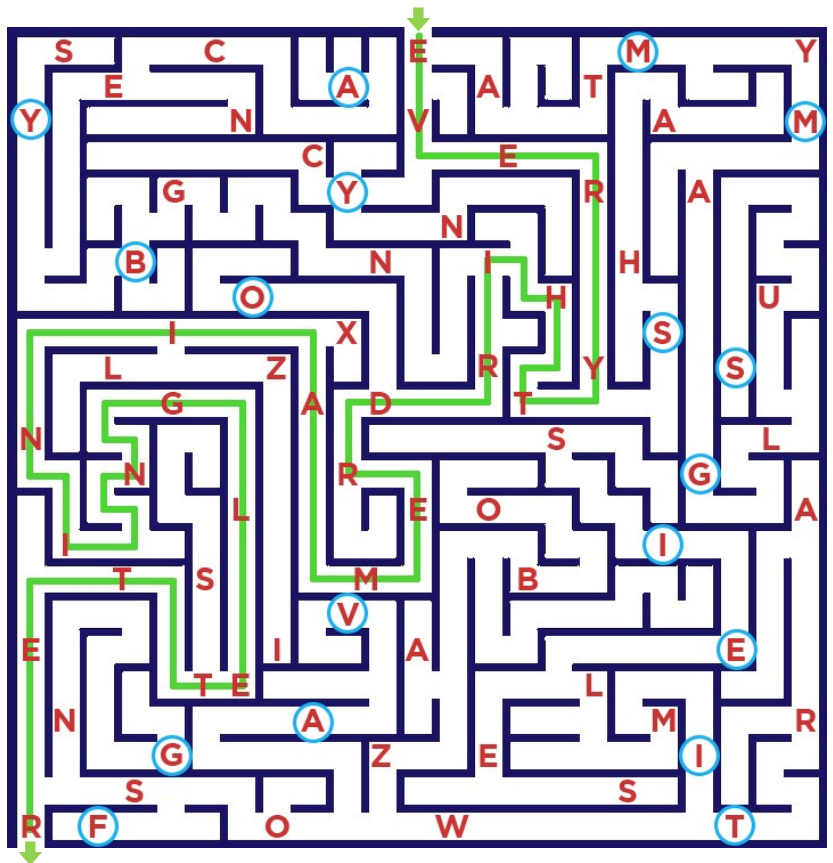
Email your answers to contest@coib.nyc.gov by 12:00 PM on Friday, October 18th. We'll select one correct response at random and will feature its writer in our next Puzzler!

SOLUTION: A RIDDLE WITHIN A MAZE

The path through the maze (in green) reveals the clue **EVERY THIRD REMAINING LETTER.**

Every third remaining letter (circled in blue) spells out the question **MAY MY BOSS GIVE A GIFT?**

And the answer is **YES.** Superiors may give gifts to their subordinates in **any amount**, because subordinates do not control the terms and conditions of their boss's employment. However, the **reverse is not the case**, so it would be a Misuse of Position for a superior to accept a gift from a subordinate.



Read more about Chapter 68's gift rules on COIB's [Gifts FAQ](#).

MEET THE WINNER, WILLIAM FLETCHER



What is your City/office title? I am an NYPD Sergeant, currently assigned to the Internal Affairs Bureau.

What do you do in your job? I am responsible for investigating complaints of serious misconduct and corruption against members of the NYPD.

How long have you been working for the City? I have been in the NYPD for 13 years.

Name a special interest or hobby. I'm an avid basketball player.

What are your favorite things about City service? My favorite part of working for the City is having a "front row seat" to all the big events that happen here.