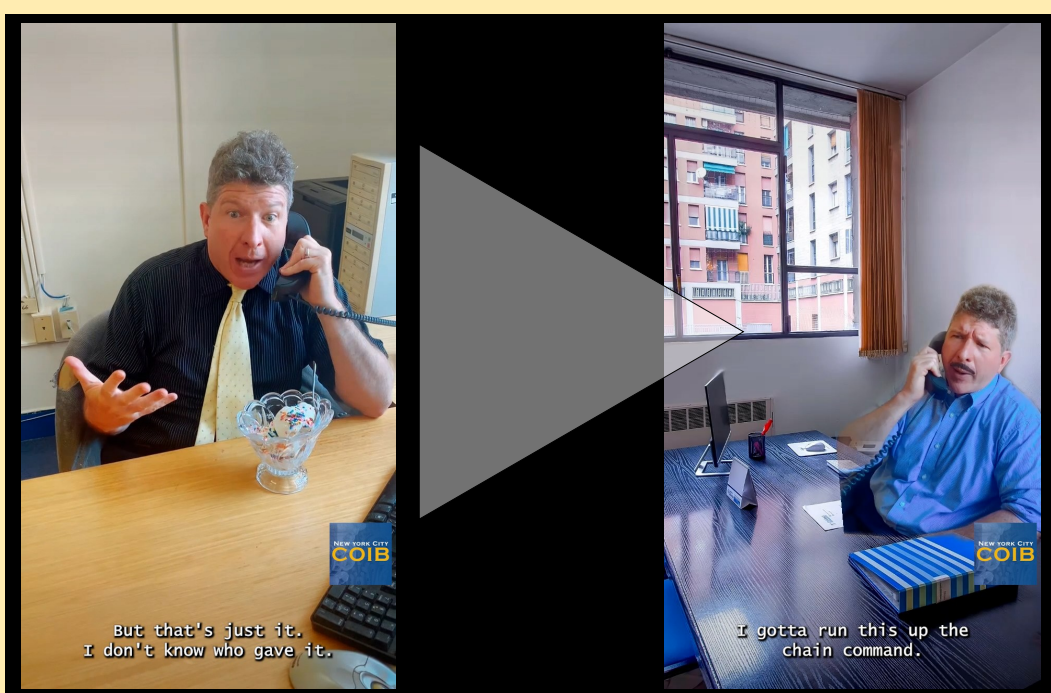


SMALL PLATES

Bite-size pairings from the kitchen of the
NYC Conflicts of Interest Board

First Course

Perishable Gifts



As the holidays approach, we public servants should remember: if you're offered a gift, you should refuse. But what if it's already been delivered? And what if it's perishable? This [video](#) gets into the details.

(Can't access YouTube? View on our [website](#).)

Second Course

Gifts FAQs

The Top 8 Things Public Servants Need to Know about Gifts

1. Public servants cannot accept a gift worth **\$50 or more** (also called a “valuable gift”) **from a City vendor**, meaning any person or firm who the public servant knows is, or intends to become, engaged in business dealings with the City.
2. A “**gift**” is anything of value – including a meal, a ticket to an event, a gift card, a loan, a swag bag, or a holiday fruit basket.
3. The **\$50 limit is calculated** as “aggregate and cumulative” over a twelve-month period. This means a public servant cannot accept a single \$50 gift from a City vendor and also cannot accept two \$25 gifts from the same City vendor given during a twelve-month period.
4. It is the public servant's responsibility to figure out **whether a gift-giver is a vendor**. That can be found out by the checking the [Doing Business Database](#) or [CheckbookNYC.com](#)
5. There are **exceptions to the \$50 valuable gift rule** which allow public servants to accept gifts of certain types of meals or event attendance when the public servant's participation is connected with the **performance of the public servant's official City duties**. Acceptance of these types of gifts must be first discussed with and approved by your agency's General Counsel or [Ethics](#)

Got more questions about gifts restrictions under the Conflicts of Interest Law? Cruise on over to our [FAQs](#). And if that doesn't give you what you need, reach out to us for [advice](#).

Dessert



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