

**COIB**

# November Public Service Puzzler

# Mad Libs

*The Best Word Game*

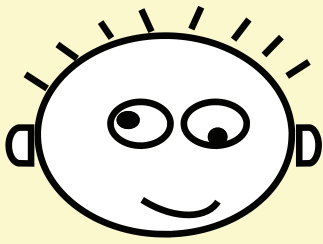
**This month's Puzzler is a conflicts of interest-related Mad Lib! On the following page you will find a short paragraph describing a day in the life of one public servant who is going to violate the Conflicts of Interest Law in multiple ways. Fill in the blanks with your funniest (and save-for-work) words. Then list how the public servant violated the Conflicts of Interest Law.**

**Send your responses to [contest@coib.nyc.gov](mailto:contest@coib.nyc.gov) by November 28th. The winner will be randomly chosen by the Training and Education Unit from a pool of finalists selected by our judges.**



**NYC Conflicts of Interest Board  
2 Lafayette St, Suite 1010 • NYC • 10007  
212.442.1400 • [www.nyc.gov/ethics](http://www.nyc.gov/ethics)**

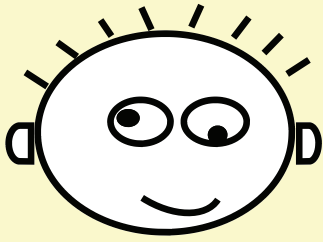




# Mad Libs

## A Day In The Life

**Nancy, a \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, clocks into work one**  
(Position) (Agency Name )  
**morning and immediately calls a meeting with her subordinates to ask**  
**them to donate to a collection she is taking to repair her \_\_\_\_\_**  
(Object)  
**that was damaged while Nancy was \_\_\_\_\_.** After Nancy  
(Adjective)  
**collects \_\_\_\_\_ from her subordinates, she uses the City**  
(Value)  
**\_\_\_\_\_ to contact \_\_\_\_\_ to book her sister's**  
(Type of Technology) (Venue)  
**\_\_\_\_\_ at the venue, Nancy manages her sister's act. Finally,**  
(Performance Activity)  
**Nancy is ready to get to her City work. She checks out a City car to**  
**conduct a site inspection on a \_\_\_\_\_.** While out on the site  
(Type of Business)  
**inspection, Nancy takes advantage of a life-time free supply of**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ that is being offered to her exclusively by the business**  
(Product)



## Mad Libs

# A Day In The Life

she is inspecting. After the inspection, Nancy uses the City car to

transport \_\_\_\_\_ which will be needed for her sister's

(Object)

performance that night. Then she heads back to work, stopping to pick

up a couple of \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for her office \_\_\_\_\_

(Noun)

(Noun)

pool. Nancy is the only supervisor in the pool – they have never won

anything, but her \_\_\_\_\_ are crossed for a win this time!

(Noun)

**Don't forget to list how Nancy violated the Conflicts of Interest Law!**

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**COIB**

# October Public Service Puzzler Winner!



## **Michael J. Greenberg**

Michael has worked as a City Medical Examiner for the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for 11 years.

As a City Medical Examiner, he investigates deaths that occur in a sudden, violent, or non-natural manner.

Outside of work, Michael is an avid hockey fan, player, and coach.

His favorite part of City service is "knowing the difference I can make when providing answers to family members during their most difficult times."

# October Public Service Puzzler Answers!

By Michael J. Greenberg



**Question 1:** Was it Ok for Vicky to buy Carl's dinner?

**Answer 1:** Vicky may not pay for dinner. As a vendor with whom Carl deals with, buying him dinner is a prohibited gift, one which may give the appearance that Carl's decision to award Vicky contracts is influenced by her generosity.

**Question 2:** Which is the only City co-worker that can be the supervisor of the other three?

**Answer 2:** Carl is the only employee who may supervise. Ian and Bea are ruled out because siblings may not supervise one another, and Olive may not supervise Bea because of the financial relationship (roommates) between them. Carl and Ian are "best friends," a relationship that does not reach the level of family and therefore does not prohibit a supervisor role.



**Question 3:** If Olive and Ian are peer City co-workers, was it ok for Olive to buy Ian's drinks? What if Ian was Olive's supervisor?

**Answer 3:** Peer City workers may buy one another drinks. One may not buy drinks for one's supervisor, as this could be construed as a gift designed to curry favor with one's boss. If the cartoon went on to show the two exchanging rounds of drinks for one another, there is probably no harm done (or impropriety implied), but the language of the cartoon panel ("I'm buying your drinks") implies a one-way purchase.

