

COIB
DECEMBER PUBLIC SERVICE PUZZLER



On the next page you will find a conflicts of interest word jumble. First, unscramble each ethics-related word, with one letter to each square, then use the circled letters to answer the riddle at the bottom of the page. Send your entry to contest@coib.nyc.gov by 5pm on December 23rd. One winner will be selected at random from all correct entries.



DECEMBER PUBLIC SERVICE PUZZLER

A horizontal row of 10 squares. A thick black line is drawn above the first 7 squares. The 4th square from the left contains a circle. The 9th square from the left contains a circle.

					
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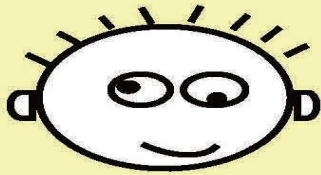
[illegible]

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What is the richest gift City employees could accept from their subordinate?

[illegible][illegible]



Mad Libs

A Day In The Life

Nancy, a Summer Associate **at** Dept. of Transp., **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 Spleen
(Object)
that was damaged while Nancy was Recklessly Citi-Biking **After Nancy**
(Adjective)
collects \$50,000 or so **from her subordinates. she uses the City**
(Value)
Telegraph **to contact** CBGB's **to book her sister's**
(Type of Technology) (Venue)
Disco Band **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 Bowling Alley **. While out on the site**
(Type of Business)
inspection. Nancy takes advantage of a life-time free supply of
Strobe Lights **that is being offered to her exclusively by the business**
(Product)
she is inspecting. After the inspection. Nancy uses the City car to
transport Electric Glockenspiels **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 Rangers **tickets for her office** Emmy
(Noun) (Noun)
pool. Nancy is the only supervisor in the pool – they have never won
anything. but her Fingers and Toes **are crossed for a win this time!**
(Noun)

Which Conflicts of Interest Rules were Violated

Nancy had an eventful day – not all of which was on the right side of the Conflicts of Interest Law.

First, she abused her power as an inspector when she accepted the lifetime free supply of strobe lights from the bowling alley she was inspecting. Accepting something from someone with whom you deal as part of your City job is a misuse of your City position.

Nancy also misused City resources when she used City time and the City telegraph machine and car to manage her sister's music career. Public servants are prohibited from using any City time or resources for any outside business activity or political activity.

Apparently, at the fictional Mad Libs Department of Transportation, Summer Associates aren't at the bottom of the pecking order; they've got subordinates. And our Summer Associate, Nancy, got a bit reckless with the ones she supervises.

She should not have asked her subordinates to make contributions to her replacement spleen. She's their boss; she has the power to affect the terms and conditions of their employment with the Mad Libs Department of Transportation. To Nancy's subordinates, it might have felt as though not obliging her request for contributions would put their City jobs in jeopardy.

Finally, it was probably not a good idea for Nancy to be a part of her subordinates' office Emmy pool. Generally, the Conflicts of Interest Board considers office betting pools to be financial relationships, and therefore prohibited between supervisors and subordinates.

Remember, if you have any question about these or any other Conflicts of Interest Law, issues give the Conflicts of Interest Board a call at 212-442-1400 and ask to speak to the Attorney of the Day.



COIB
October Public Service Puzzler
Winner!



Leo Ernst

Leo is a second-year law student at Cardozo Law School working as a legal intern for the NYC Law Department, Appeals Division.

Leo writes appellate briefs and conducts legal research for the Appeals Division.

Leo has been working for the City since August 31, 2016.

His hobby is bowling; he was the former Manhattan high school bowling champion.

And, his favorite thing about City service is becoming more involved in the affairs and legal defense of the City in which he grew up.

