



## Office of Internal Audit and Ethics Christmas Newsletter



## Gifts

Crooner Andy Williams once declared that this is “The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!” And we agree that holiday shopping, eating, and visits with family and friends are joyful ways to end the year! However, the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics Commission wants to remind Tribal Officials of some gift-acceptance restrictions under the Code.



### WHAT DOES THE CODE PROHIBIT?

The Code of Ethics prohibits Tribal Official from soliciting or accepting anything of value that could have a substantial and improper influence on the performance of Tribal duties.

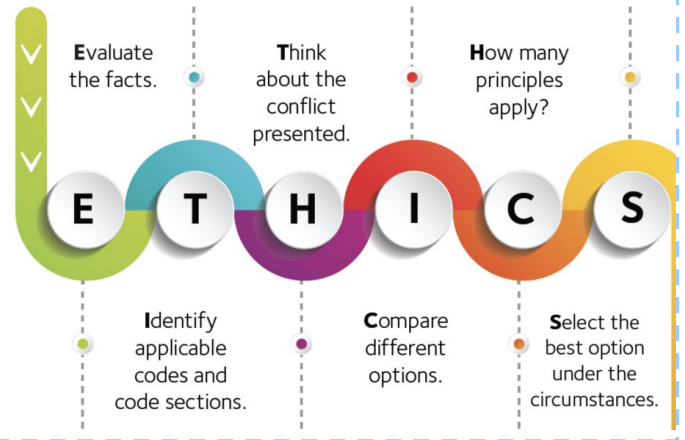
Nominal or very inexpensive gifts such as a coffee mug, tin of popcorn, or t-shirt are not considered substantial. These types of minor gifts are not prohibited under the Ethics Law, though you may still choose to decline them to avoid even the appearance of impropriety.



# Ethics in the News

The Atlanta Police lieutenant charged with coordinating a team of seven officers who protected former Mayor Kasim Reed and his family also helped arrange for one of Reed's closet advisers at City Hall to obtain a police-issued handgun.

<https://www.ajc.com/news/local-govt--politics/atlanta-police-issued-glock-handguns-city-former-cfo-jim-beard/woj6hZiHn4k8eKXBuFVtyL/>



## Ethics Question

### Can a Tribal official give and receive Christmas gifts?

The answer is yes, a Tribal Official can give and receive Christmas gifts. Gifts that are given to immediate family or based on a close personal relationship do not have to be reported to The Office of Internal Audit and Ethics. Tribal Officials are still prohibited from accepting gifts from contractors, subcontractors, or potential contractors of the EBCI even if they are intended as Christmas Gifts.