

# ETHICS CENTRAL

*Office Of Internal Audit and Ethics*

To Promote Ethical Awareness, the Office Of Internal Audit & Ethics will be sending out a quarterly newsletter. In this edition, we highlight Conflicts of Interest.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

### WHAT IS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST?

A conflict of interest arises when outside or personal interests adversely affect an individual's ability to make an impartial decision.

### EXAMPLE:

A Tribal Official owns a business and wants his or her company to bid on a contract with the Tribe, this is a conflict of interest.

WHEN DEALING WITH CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A POTENTIAL CONFLICT AND AN ACTUAL CONFLICT.

### POTENTIAL CONFLICT

The fact that the Tribal Official owns the company is a potential conflict.

### ACTUAL CONFLICT

If the Tribal Official contracts with the Tribe, then that is an actual conflict of interest and requires action.

TRANSPARENCY IS IMPORTANT WHEN DEALING WITH BOTH ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF WHEN ADDRESSING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Do you have outside or personal influences that affect a transaction?

Do you have information that should be disclosed?

Did you use Professional Judgement in deciding to participate in decisions and/or discussions?

# ETHICS IN THE NEWS



## Syracuse firm embroiled in bid-rigging, bribery case fighting state ethics probe

A Syracuse-area development firm whose executives were snared in a sprawling federal criminal case involving Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo's administration is fighting an attempt by the state's Joint Commission on Public Ethics to investigate the company's alleged failure to report its lobbying efforts during the height of the criminal activity.

[Times Union](#)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Good or Bad In Whose Eyes  
March 11 1:00-2:00

Conflicts of Interest  
March 23 11:00-12:00  
March 30 11:00-12:00

All events will be held via  
Microsoft Teams, RSVP to Attend



## Contact Us



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*"A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent."*

*Douglas MacArthur*