

# ETHICS CENTRAL

Office Of Internal Audit and Ethics

To Promote Ethical Awareness, the Office Of Internal Audit & Ethics sends out a quarterly newsletter. In this edition, we highlight Ethical Decision-Making.

## ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING

Ethical decision-making refers to the process of evaluating and choosing among alternatives in a manner consistent with ethical principles. In making ethical decisions, it is necessary to perceive and eliminate unethical options and select the best ethical alternative.



### THE PROCESS OF MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS REQUIRES:



**Commitment:** The desire to do the right thing regardless of the cost

**Consciousness:** The awareness to act consistently and apply moral convictions to daily behavior

**Competency:** The ability to collect and evaluate information, develop alternatives, and foresee potential consequences and risks

### Good decisions are both Ethical and Effective:

Ethical decisions generate and sustain trust; demonstrate respect, responsibility, fairness and caring; and are consistent with good citizenship. These behaviors provide a foundation for making better decisions by setting the ground rules for our behavior.

Effective decisions are effective if they accomplish what we want accomplished and if they advance our purposes. A choice that produces unintended and undesirable results is ineffective.

The key to making effective decisions is to think about choices in terms of their ability to accomplish our most important goals. This means we have to understand the difference between immediate and short-term goals and longer-range goals.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM UC SAN DIEGO

## ASK AN ETHIC'S OFFICER

What happens if I fail to submit a Gift Report?

- First failure to report is a written reprimand
- Second failure to report is a \$50.00 fine
- Third failure to report is a \$100.00 fine
- Ongoing failure to report will be considered as a Code of Ethics Violation

Code of Ethics Violations are treated as a misdemeanor and are punishable by a fine of no more than \$5,000 and/or 12 months confinement



## SPRING REMINDERS MARCH 23

➤ Ethical Fading Training

## APRIL 15

➤ Q2 Gift Reports Due





# 6 KEY ETHICAL VALUES

## Trustworthiness

Do what you say you'll do  
Act with honesty and integrity

## Caring

Show you care  
Express gratitude and be compassionate

## Citizenship

Do your share  
Obey the law, and cooperate

## Responsibility

Do what you are supposed to do  
Think before acting and be accountable for your actions

## Respect

Treat others better than they treat you  
Be open and tolerant of differences

## Fairness

Play by the rules  
Be open-minded, listen to others and remain impartial

## ETHICS IN THE NEWS



### EXPERTS QUESTION ETHICS OF GOV. MIKE DEWINE'S SON SITTING ON OHIO SUPREME COURT DURING STATE REDISTRICTING CASE

"Ohio Supreme Court Justice Pat DeWine has said he will not recuse himself from a case involving the redistricting commission his father is part of.

Pat DeWine has said he doesn't have a conflict sitting in judgment of a case involving a redistricting commission on which his father sits. That's because the father, according to his son, is acting in only an official capacity.

It's a claim that some ethics experts have bluntly rejected.

The claim seemed to take a direct hit last week when Supreme Court Justice Maureen O'Connor ordered DeWine's father, Gov. Mike DeWine, and his colleagues on the Ohio Redistricting Commission to explain why they shouldn't each be held in contempt of court because of their inaction in the case. It appeared to be a stark illustration that regardless of what his son claimed, the governor had individual interests in the process by which Ohio's legislative districts are carved up.

To justify his insistence on judging the case, Pat DeWine claimed that his father was acting in his official – as opposed to personal – capacity and that Mike DeWine stood to gain nothing from the outcome of the map-drawing exercise."



Supreme Court Justice Pat Dewine

To read the full article visit: [City Beat](#)

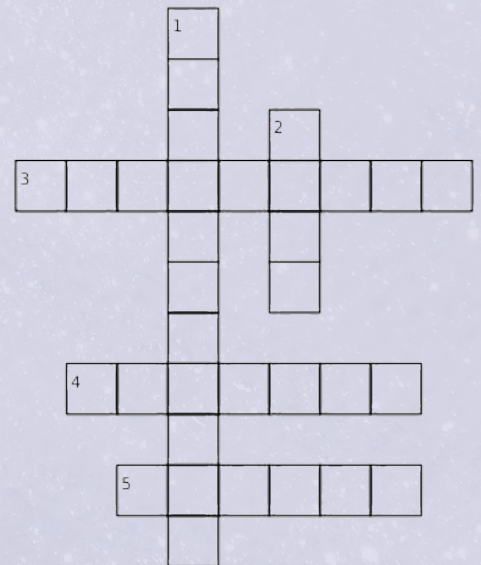
## Ethics Spotlight

### Down

- 1. I must submit an \_\_\_\_\_ & Disclosure Statement annually
- 2. I must submit a \_\_\_\_ Report quarterly

### Across

- 3. Under the Code of Ethics \_\_\_\_\_ family is defined as spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister
- 4. To report fraud, waste, abuse, or corruption, I can call the \_\_\_\_\_ to report anonymously
- 5. First name of the Ethics Specialist



## Ethics Questions?



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