Government Ethics:
Forest, trees and thermometers

ALGA Regional Training
Portland, Oregon
October 3, 2019

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Agenda

Big picture

Survey

Audit
How do you define ethics?
There’s levels to it

Personal  Organizational  Legal
What did you learn from previous ethics trainings?
Theory and practice

Philosophical

Practical
Practical ethics

- Scenarios
- Criteria
Dude, where’s my criteria?

Distinct

Overlapping
Government ethics

Law

Charter, Code, Policies & Procedures

Values
Oregon’s accountability model

Oregon Revised Statute
Chapter 244
Are there similar models in Washington and California?
Appearance matters

Actual conflict of interest

Perceived conflict of interest
Action and reaction

Temperature checks can prevent burns
Implementation

Hard controls

Soft controls
Decision-making steps

Step 1: Define the problem
Step 2: Seek out relevant assistance, guidance and support
Step 3: Identify alternatives
Step 4: Evaluate the alternatives
Step 5: Make the decision
Step 6: Implement the decision
Step 7: Evaluate the decision

Source: Ethics and Compliance Initiative (https://www.ethics.org/resources/free-toolkit/decision-making-model/)
Decision-making filters

**Policies**: Is it consistent with my organization’s policies, procedures and guidelines?

**Legal**: Is it acceptable under the applicable laws and regulations?

**Universal**: Does it conform to the values my organization has adopted?

**Self**: Does it satisfy my personal definition of right, good and fair?

Source: Ethics and Compliance Initiative (https://www.ethics.org/resources/free-toolkit/decision-making-model/)
Auditor’s role

Remind

Lead by example

Check the temperature
Questions?