



FACT SHEET

Ethics Quarrel

DESCRIPTION

It is a PowerPoint presentation that provides for ethics training in a format similar to that of the television game show Family Feud™. There are a series of screens that summarize a basic ethics rule; the persons being trained (who are divided into teams) are then asked to identify exceptions (or other points regarding this rule). Points are awarded for correct answers.

Sometimes the game is played for a "prize" -- a pen that has the office's number on it, which is given to both teams (sometimes in different colors), sometimes for candy (if the trainer want to buy it himself or herself) and sometimes just for bragging rights. Prizes have not been necessary; employees enjoy the competition and training regardless and often don't keep score or ask who won.

PURPOSE

This interactive approach to training is intended to be a more effective means of conveying basic ethics rules as well as some of the important exceptions. The visual explanation of rules (and exceptions and other points) reinforces the lecturers' comments. The interactive approach and the competitive nature of the training helps keep employees engaged and paying attention. The questions raised indicate that employees paid attention to the training and understood the points being made in the training. The questions have been thoughtful and we have been able to address significant potential problems.

PRODUCT ADAPTABILITY

The project is a simple PowerPoint presentation. It can be provided be downloaded or e-mailed. This format has been used for both small groups (20 people) and large groups (400 people).

AGENCY CONTACT

David Maggi, Chief, Ethics Law and Programs Division

dmaggi@doc.gov

202-482-5384