Federal Travel and Ethics

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Use of Frequent Flyer Benefits

Section 1116 of Public Law 107-107 (the National Defense Authorization Act of 2002) permits personal use of promotional items earned on official travel.



Promotional Items -cont'd

- Includes frequent flyer miles, upgrades, access to airline clubs or facilities.
- Applies to employees, family members and dependents who receive promotional items while traveling for the Government.
- Includes all promotional items received before, on or after enactment of the new law.

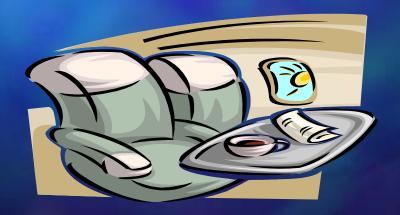
Promotional Items- cont'd

 Applicable to promotional items obtained whether travel is at the expense of the Government or accepted from a non-Federal source.

Applies to all promotional items obtained while on official travel- including airlines, hotels and car rental companies.

Other Than Coach-Class Travel

First Class and Business Class Airline Accommodations can only be used in specified, limited circumstances. Travelers are expected to act prudently.



First Class Travel

A. No coach class are reasonably available within 24 hrs.

- B. Accommodate a disability or special need.
 - Medical certifications required (includes necessity, duration, and recommendation)
 - Attendant services

First Class Travel

- C. Exceptional security requirements
 - Life or Government property endangered
 - Protective details
 - Accompanying controlled packages
- D. Required for agency mission

Business Class Travel

- A. Accommodate a disability or special need
- B. Exceptional security requirements
- Inadequate sanitation or health standards in coach on foreign carrier
- D. Regularly scheduled flights provide only other than coach-class accommodations

Premium Class Travel (cont)

- E. Non-federal source pays costs
- F. When OCONUS Flight time > 14 hours
- G. Results in overall cost savings
- H. No coach space available in time to accomplish mission
- I. Required for agency mission

Denied Boarding Compensation

a) Involuntary Bumping

b) Voluntarily Vacating an Airline Seat



Payment of Travel From Non-Federal Sources



- a) 31 U.S.C. § 1353 authorizes Federal agencies to accept payment of travel expenses for employees to attend meetings and similar functions.
- b) Federal Travel Regulation Part 304-1 implements this authority.

Mandatory use of the Travel Charge Card

- a) Public Law 105-264, January 27, 1998 mandates the use of a government furnished travel charge card.
- b) Implementing regulations are published in the Federal Register July 16, 1999.
- c) FTR Part 301-52, Effective May 1, 2000

Mandatory use of the Travel Charge Card

- a) Official use, not local travel
- b) Incidental Expenses
- c) Exemptions
- d) Penalties
- e) Why is use mandatory?

Prompt Reimbursement of Travel Expenses

Public Law 105-264 mandates reimbursement of travel expenses by agencies to employees within 30 days.



Employees Who Fail To Pay Charge Card Bills

Public Law 105-264 permits your agency to offset amounts owed to the travel card company from employees' salaries.



Conferences

FTR Part 301-74

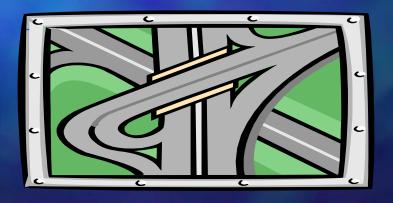
Increased Per Diem Rates for attendance at conferences

Light Refreshments
Training conferences
Attendees in a travel status
Formal conferences
(Comptroller General decision
B-300826, March 3, 2005)

Routing of Travel

FTR section 301-10.7

Travel by the usually traveled route unless your agency authorizes a different route as officially necessary.



Use of Airline City-Pair Contracts

- Seat not available in time to accomplish mission or would require additional per diem.
- b) Agency policy to travel during normal working hours.
- c) Lower fare on non-contract carrier available to the general public. (TMC/CTO must still be used to book travel arrangements).
- d) Use of Amtrak
- e) Smoking flight

Car Rental While On Official Travel

Liability and Vehicle Damage

Personal Use

Passengers in Rental Vehicles



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