



The Ohio Ethics Law: Lights, Camera, Action!

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Ohio Ethics Commission





The Ohio Ethics Law

- 
- Investigation
 - Advice
 - Education
 - Financial Disclosure

SCENE

TAKE

ROLL

DATE

SOUND

DIRECTOR



Conflicts of Interest

Gifts

Public Contracts

Sales to Agencies

Nepotism

Post-Employment



Conflicts of Interest

ORC 102.03(D)



“Definite and Direct”

- Self
- Family
- Business Associates



Recuse – Abstain – Withdraw aka “Sit This One Out!”

- Voting
- Discussing
- Reviewing
- Recommending
- Inspecting
- Investigating
- Any other action!





You are the
Academy!

And the nominees are:

- A. Jail official requires employee to perform plumbing work in official's home on public time
- B. Zoning board member votes on sister's re-zoning request to allow exotic zoo on her property
- C. School counselor emails district parents about his private counseling business





And the
“bad actor”
award goes to...



Dishonorable mention...





Advisory Opinion 96 – 004



OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION

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Advisory Opinion Number 96-004

November 15, 1996

bus by the Commission:

(1) The Ohio Ethics Law and related statutes do not prohibit public officials and employees from engaging in private outside employment or business activities provided that no conflict of interest exists between the private interests and public duties of the public official or employee and there is no misuse of the public office or employment of the official or employee, as described below;

(2) Divisions (D) and (E) of Section 102.03 of the Revised Code prohibits a public official or employee from engaging in private outside employment or business activity with parties that are interested in matters before, regulated by, or doing or seeking to do business with his own public agency unless it is determined by his public employer that he is able to withdraw, as a public official or employee, from consideration of matters that affect the interests of the party with which he desires to engage in private outside employment or business activity;



Recuse!

Questions?



Gifts

ORC 102.03(E)
ORC 102.03(F)







“Improper”

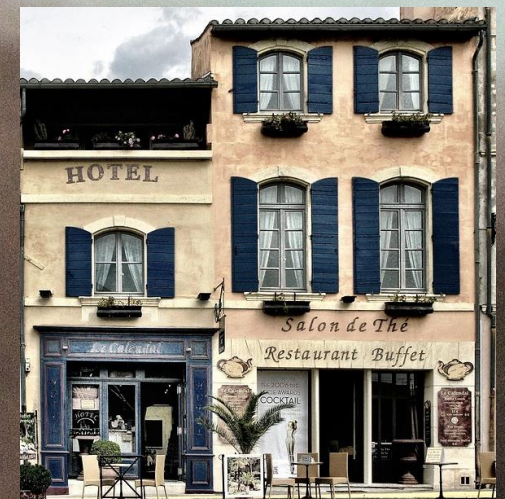
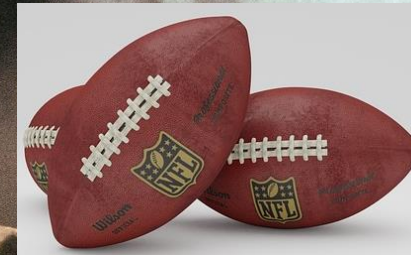
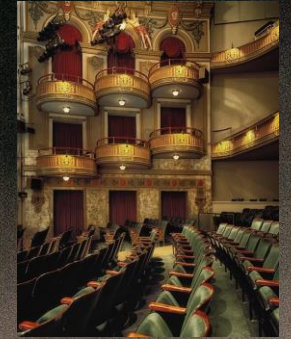
- Doing business
- Seeking to do business
- Regulated by
- Interest in





Nominal “De Minimis”

Substantial





You are the
Academy!

And the nominees are:

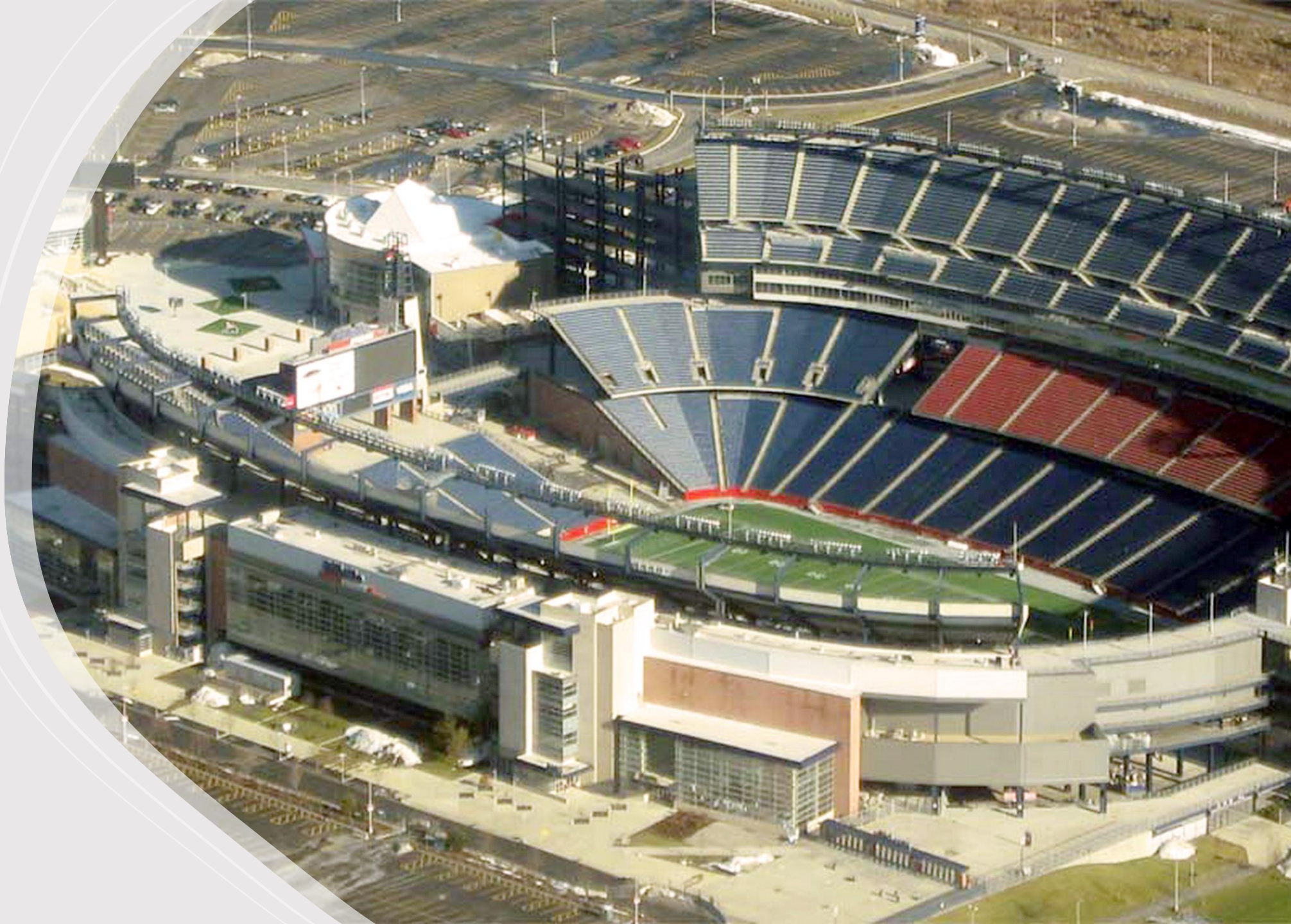
- A. Township trustee solicits ATV from local company
- B. A Dept. of Agriculture employee accepts show horse from regulated party
- C. Police officer admits cop friends into NFL game where is providing security





And the
“bad actor”
award goes to...

Bad
Idea!





Dishonorable
mention...



CIBC
Theatre



HAMILTON

AN AMERICAN MUSICAL





Substantial + Improper = Illegal!

ORC 2921.43

Supplemental Compensation



Questions?





Public Contracts

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a silver and black fountain pen, signing a document. The hand is dark-skinned. The pen has gold-colored accents. The document is white with some text and a signature line. The background is a wooden desk.

Public Contracts

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)

- Self
- Family
- Business associates



You are the
Academy!

And the nominees are:

- A. Village employee deliberately damages village heat exchanger so his brother's HVAC company gets more work
- B. School board member ensures School Resources Officers are retained only from township where she works
- C. Mayor announces that all city construction work will now go through company he owns





And the
“bad actor”
award goes to...



SCHOOL BUS

EMERGENCY DOOR

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a silver and black fountain pen, signing a document. The hand is dark-skinned. The pen has gold-colored accents. The document is white with some text and a signature line. The background is a wooden desk.

Public Contracts

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)

- Self
- Family
- Business associates

Nepotism







Public Contracts

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)

- Self
- Family
- Business associates



Selling to Public Agencies **ORC 2921.42(A)(4)**

Can't sell goods or services to our
own public entity

Questions?



The Revolving Door



(aka Post-Employment)



Post-Employment

ORC 102.03(A) prohibits:

- Representation
- Matter with personal participation
- One year after leaving public service (for most)





Confidentiality
ORC 102.03(B)

Questions?



And that's a wrap!



Ohio Ethics Commission

(614) 466 – 7090

www.ethics.ohio.gov

The End