

# **Restrictions on the Misuse of City Resources in Chapter 68: Relevant Law and Board Rules**

## **§2604. Prohibited interests and conduct.**

### **b. Prohibited conduct.**

2. No public servant shall engage in any business, transaction or private employment, or have any financial or other private interest, direct or indirect, which is in conflict with the proper discharge of his or her official duties.

3. No public servant shall use or attempt to use his or her position as a public servant to obtain any financial gain, contract, license, privilege or other private or personal advantage, direct or indirect, for the public servant or any person or firm associated with the public servant.

4. No public servant shall disclose any confidential information concerning the property, affairs or government of the city which is obtained as a result of the official duties of such public servant and which is not otherwise available to the public, or use any such information to advance any direct or indirect financial or other private interest of the public servant or of any other person or firm associated with the public servant; provided, however, that this shall not prohibit any public servant from disclosing any information concerning conduct which the public servant knows or reasonably believes to involve waste, inefficiency, corruption, criminal activity or conflict of interest.

## **RULES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

### **TITLE 53**

#### **§1-13 Conduct Prohibited by City Charter §2604 (b)(2).**

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (c) of this section, it shall be a violation of City Charter §2604(b)(2) for any public servant to pursue personal and private activities during times when the public servant is required to perform services for the City.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (c) of this section, it shall be a violation of City Charter §2604(b)(2) for any public servant to use City letterhead, personnel, equipment, resources, or supplies for any non-City purpose.

(c) (1) A public servant may pursue a personal and private activity during normal business hours and may use City equipment, resources, personnel, and supplies, but not City letterhead, if

(i) the type of activity has been previously approved for employees of the public servant's agency by the Conflicts of Interest Board, upon application by the agency head and upon a determination by the Board that the activity furthers the purposes and interests of the City; and

(ii) the public servant shall have received approval to pursue such activity from the head of his or her agency.

(2) In any instance where a particular activity may potentially directly affect another City agency, the employee must obtain approval from his or her agency head to participate in such particular activity. The agency head shall provide written notice to the head of the potentially affected agency at least 10 days prior to approving such activity.

(d) It shall be a violation of City Charter §2604(b)(2) for any public servant to intentionally or knowingly:

(1) solicit, request, command, importune, aid, induce or cause another public servant to engage in conduct that violates any provision of City Charter §2604; or

(2) agree with one or more persons to engage in or cause the performance of conduct that violates any provision of City Charter §2604.

(e) Nothing contained in this section shall preclude the Conflicts of Interest Board from finding that conduct other than that proscribed by subdivisions (a) through (d) of this section violates City Charter §2604(b)(2), although the Board may impose a fine for a violation of City Charter §2604(b)(2) only if the conduct violates subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this section. The Board may not impose a fine for violation of subdivision (d) where the public servant induced or caused another public servant to engage in conduct that violates City Charter §2604(b)(2), unless

such other public servant violated subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of this section.