



The Ohio Ethics Law: Watching Our Step!

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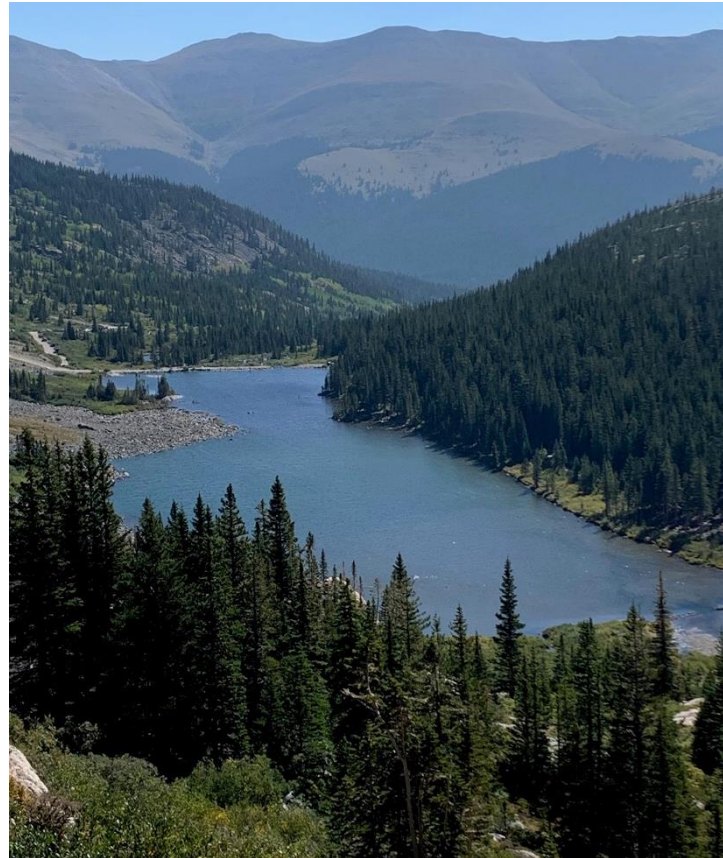






Watch Your Step!

(we'll help!)



- Advice
- Education/Training
- Investigation
- Financial Disclosure

Ohio Ethics Law

- Conflicts of Interest
- Gifts
- Public Contracts
- Sales to Public Agencies
- Nepotism
- Post-Employment





Conflict of Interest



ORC 102.03(D)

- self
- family members
- business associates

A photograph of a rugged, rocky trail winding through a dense forest. The foreground is dominated by dark, jagged rocks and patches of grey soil. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage. The sky is visible in the upper right corner, showing a clear blue color with some light clouds. The text "Watch your step!" is overlaid in a clean, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Watch your step!

Recusal:

- Voting
- Discussing
- Reviewing
- Recommending
- Inspecting
- Investigating



Y E S

N O



Is it legal for a sewer district employee or officials to have a well water digging business in his or her private life?

Y E S



Would an Ohio EPA employee be prohibited from using his/her state government wetlands credentials to advertise a private wetlands consulting business?

Y E S



Can a Village Council member vote on a Water Bill Forgiveness initiative, effectively relieving himself of more than \$5,000 in water bill debt to the village?

N O



Questions
on watching
our step?

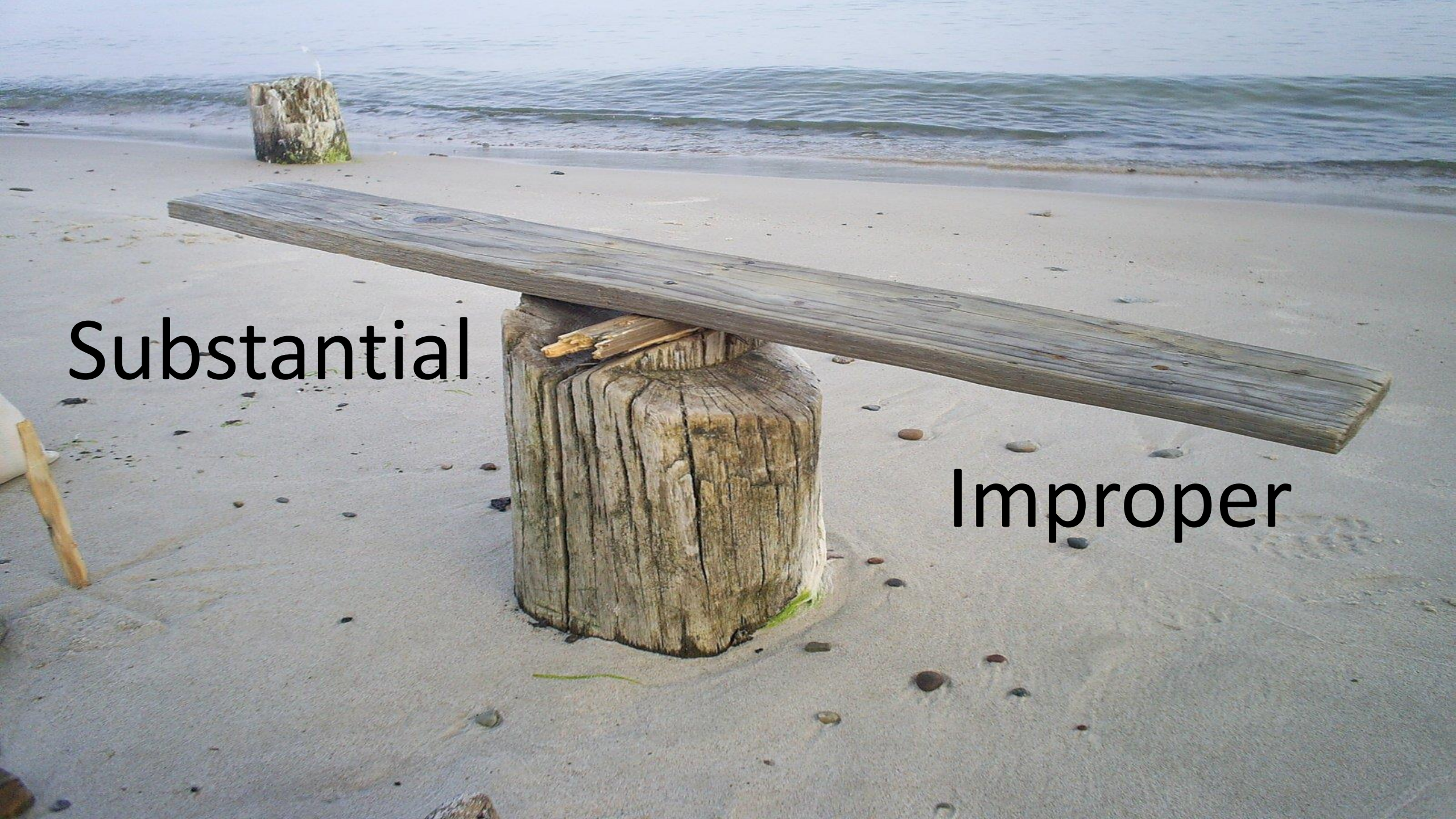


Gifts

ORC 102.03(E)







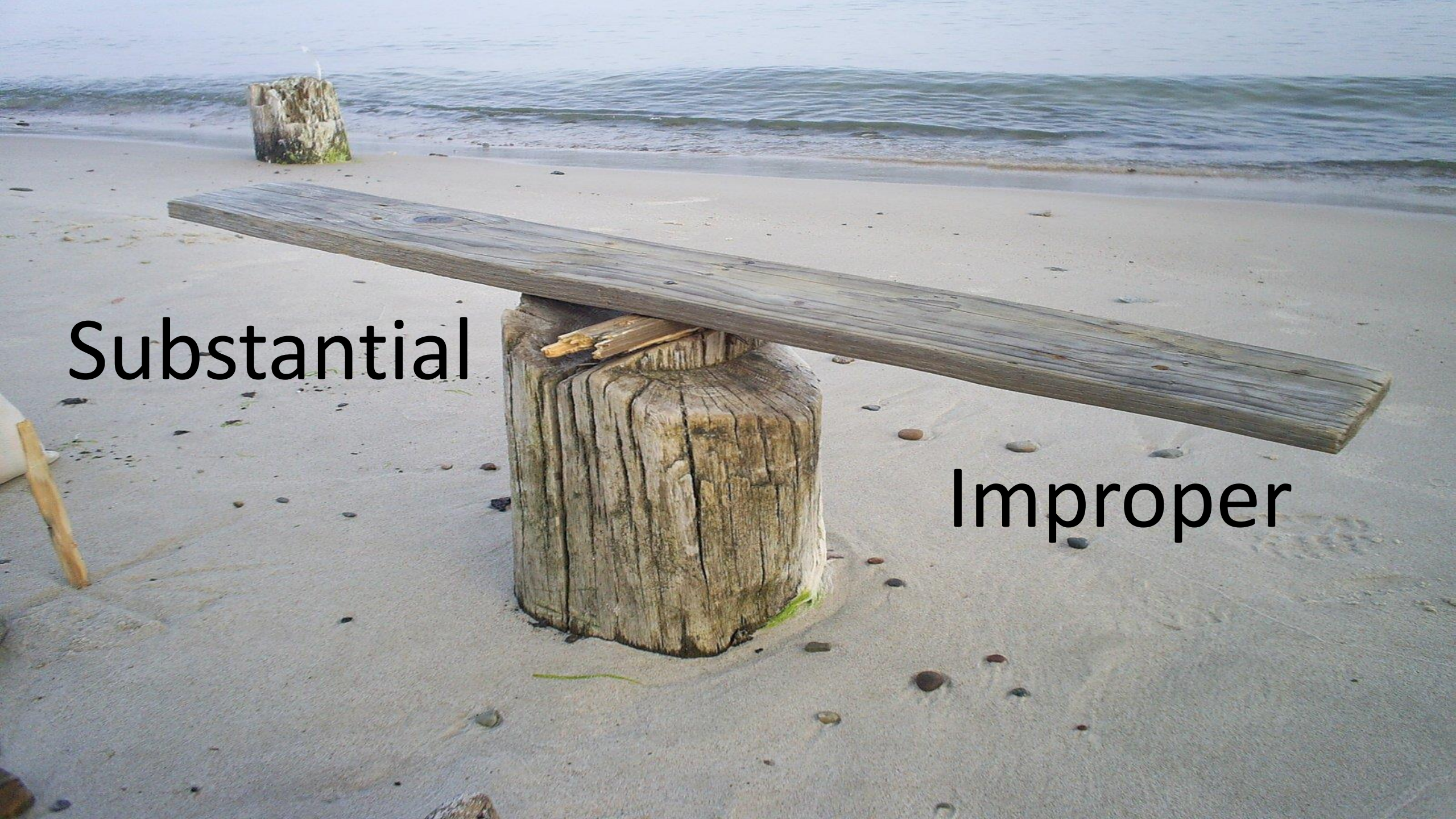
Substantial

Improper

Improper Source

- Doing business
- Seeking to do business
- Regulated
- Interests in matters





Substantial

Improper

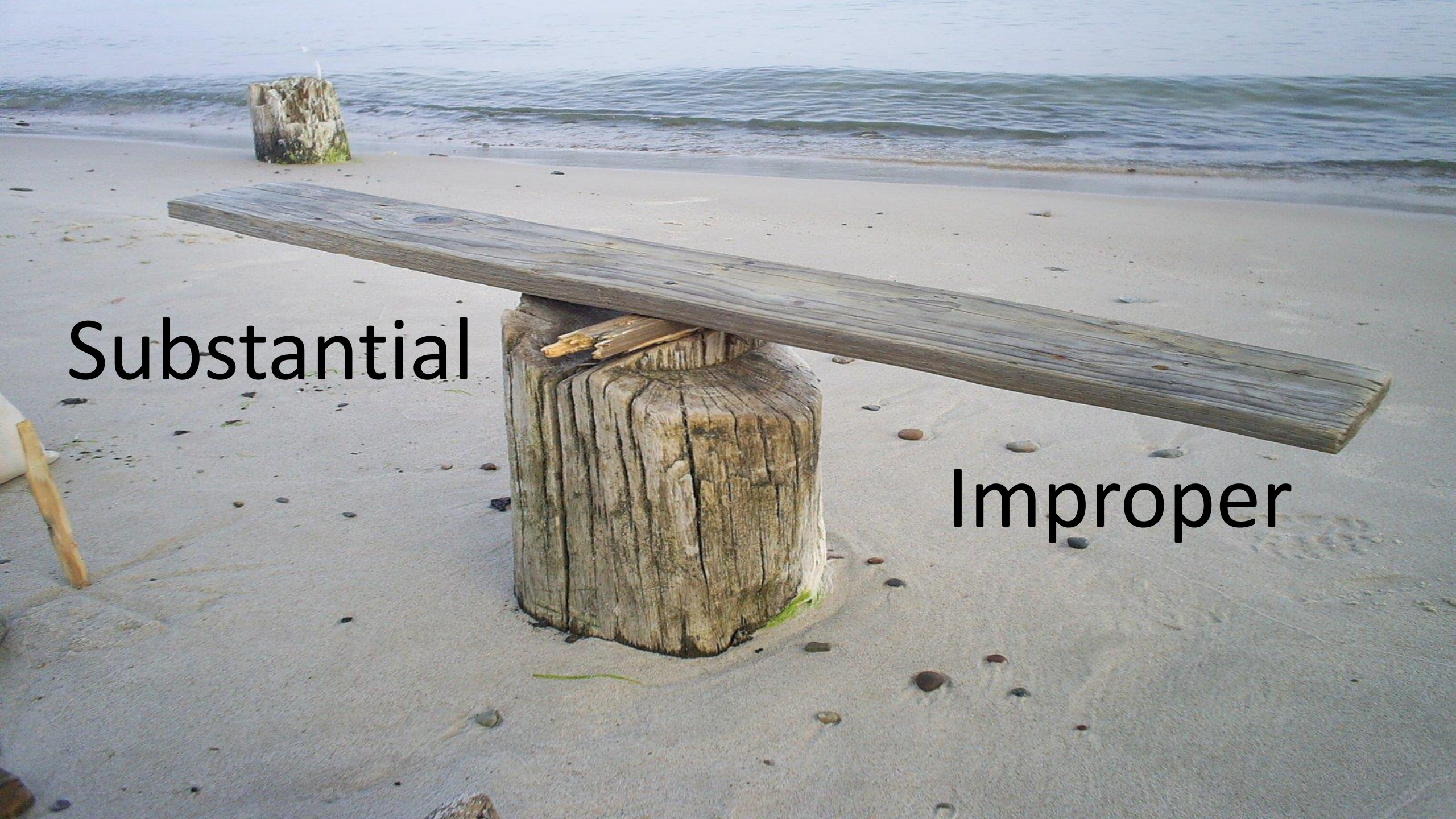


Nominal – “De Minimus”

Substantial?







Substantial

Improper

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Y E S

N O

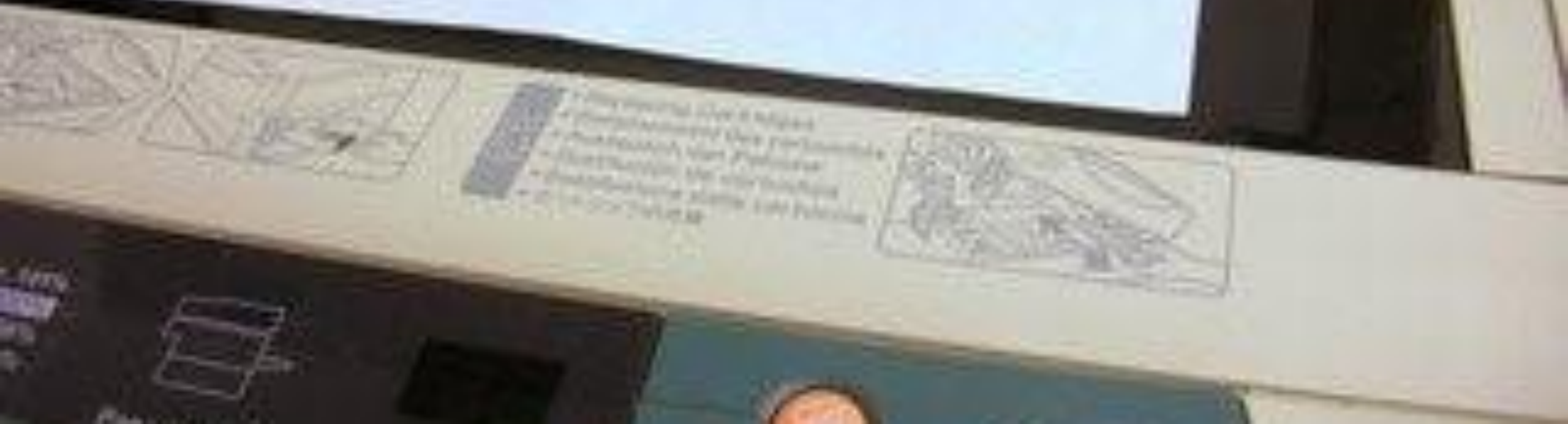


tickets

Can you have an internal policy allowing employees to accept tickets to a professional sporting event from vendors as long as they are not unduly influenced as a result?

N O

**Is it legal for a company
that sells office equipment
to a public entity to
donate a photocopier to
that office?**

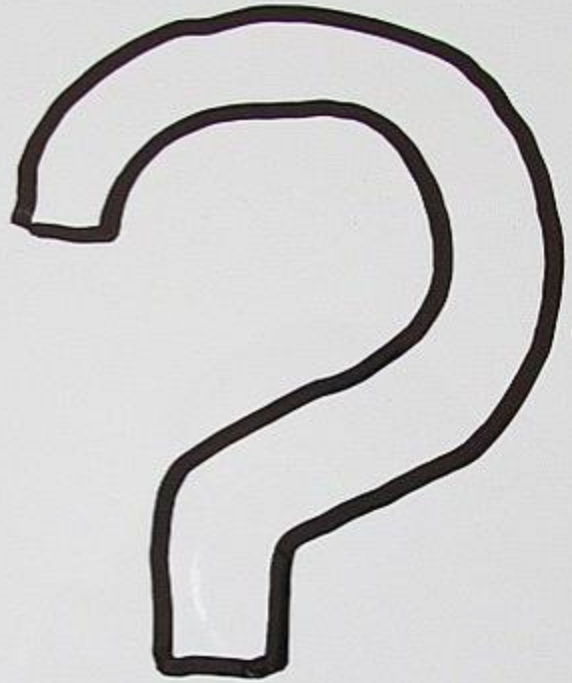


Y E S

Can an engineering firm rep can take a public sector employee out to this dinner at a conference?




NO



Questions
on watching
our step?



A close-up photograph of two business professionals shaking hands over a wooden table. The person on the left is wearing a tan jacket and a blue shirt. The person on the right is wearing a light blue shirt and a dark tie. On the table in front of them are several documents and a folder. The background is a bright, out-of-focus office window.

Public Contracts

ORC 2921.42(A)(1), (2), (3), (4)

Prohibits Securing a Public Contract for:

- Self
- Family Member
- Business Associate

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)





Recuse!

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)

Prohibits Securing a
Public Contract for:

- Self
- Family Member
- Business Associate





Sales to Public Agencies
ORC 2921.42(A)(4)



Cannot sell goods or services to your own public agency!

Y E S

N O

Is it possible for your brother to do electrical work for your district even though you work there?



Y E S

Can a City Council member solicit potential employment with the city wastewater plant before stepping down from city council?




N O



Can a drinking water employee also sell plumbing services to the governmental entity where he works?

NO

A photograph showing two business professionals shaking hands over a wooden table. One person is wearing a tan jacket and a blue shirt, while the other is wearing a blue shirt and a dark tie. On the table, there are several documents and a folder. The background is a bright, out-of-focus office space with windows.

Public Contracts

ORC 2921.42(A)(1)

My Son's Office



Nepotism



Family?

- Spouse
- Sibling
- Parent/step-parent
- Child/step-child
- Grandparent
- Grandchild





Questions
on watching
our step?





Post-Employment
ORC 102.03(A)



Restriction:

- One year
- Representation
- Personal participation

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Watch your step!



Watch Your Step!

(And see what good things happen!)



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