if you are watching this video you have

0:06

probably been assigned ethics duties for

0:09

the first time so welcome to the

0:12

executive branch ethics

0:14

community in this video we will answer

0:17

some fundamental questions about the

0:19

executive branch Ethics

0:20

program we will discuss what is the goal

0:24

of the Ethics program who has

0:26

responsibilities within the executive

0:28

branch Ethics program what are the

0:30

primary functions of Ethics officials

0:32

within the Ethics program and what are

0:35

the rules establishing the Ethics

0:37

program we will also share with you some

0:40

next steps in your professional

0:41

development as a new ethics

0:44

official so let's get

0:48

started if you were new to government

0:50

ethics you might wonder why do we have a

0:53

government Ethics program and what is it

0:55

meant to accomplish the short answer is

0:59

it is intended to prevent conflicts of

1:02

interest or to put it another way to

1:05

ensure that government decisions are

1:07

motivated by the public interest and are

1:09

not improperly influenced by Private

1:11

Financial and other interests so we as a

1:15

program are trying to ensure that

1:17

Private Financial Holdings like stocks

1:20

and bonds outside jobs gifts and family

1:24

businesses or employment are not

1:26

motivating government decisions we are

1:29

trying to ensure that those decisions

1:30

are solely motivated by the public

1:35

good so who are the government officials

1:38

who have obligations to the executive

1:40

branch Ethics program the answer

1:43

virtually anyone who works for the

1:45

federal government OG regulations

1:48

specify responsibilities for many groups

1:51

of federal employees and

1:53

officials those named specifically in OG

1:57

regulations include all employ es

2:01

supervisors agency ethics officials

2:04

Human Resources officials inspector's

2:06

General agency heads and of course the

2:09

US office of government

2:12

ethics if you're watching this video you

2:14

are probably a new ethics official and

2:17

you are also probably wondering what

2:19

your responsibilities might look like

2:21

within your agency's Ethics program so

2:25

what are the primary responsibilities of

2:27

Ethics officials in the program

2:30

well you can think of the program in

2:33

three phases first we must make

2:36

employees aware of the rules to which

2:38

they are subject we could call this

2:40

phase education and

2:43

communication second we have to help

2:45

employees follow the rules when actual

2:48

and potential risks arise we can call

2:51

this phase advice and

2:54

counsel an important subset of this

2:56

phase with which you may already have

2:58

some familiarity

3:00

is the financial disclosure

3:02

system through public and confidential

3:05

Financial disclosure agencies are given

3:08

periodic ability to help identify and

3:11

prevent conflicts of interest this is an

3:14

extremely important part of the advice

3:16

and counsel

3:17

phase the Final Phase which is primarily

3:21

the responsibility of our colleagues in

3:22

the inspector's General Offices and the

3:24

Department of Justice is the enforcement

3:27

phase in the unfortunate instance that a

3:30

federal official violates the rules

3:32

intended to protect the public trust we

3:34

must have mechanisms to correct those

3:36

violations and help ensure they don't

3:39

recur ethics officials are sometimes

3:41

called upon to provide technical support

3:44

or information to assist in this

3:48

phase so generally ethics officials are

3:52

responsible for helping employees

3:54

understand the ethics rules to which

3:55

they are

3:56

subject to help them apply those rules

3:59

in the world through advice on

4:01

circumstances and financial disclosure

4:03

review and finally to help where

4:06

necessary the officials who enforce the

4:08

ethics laws and

4:11

regulations you are probably wondering

4:13

if there is a law or policy that

4:16

establishes and directs agency ethics

4:18

programs or are there rules that provide

4:22

uniformity of Ethics programs across the

4:25

executive

4:26

branch there are the first is the ethics

4:30

and Government Act it is a law passed

4:32

and signed in 1978 establishing the US

4:35

office of government ethics and the

4:37

financial disclosure systems we know

4:39

today it forms the Legal Foundation of

4:42

the executive branch Ethics

4:45

program OG using the authority granted

4:48

in the ethics and Government Act has

4:50

created and periodically updated

4:52

regulations further guiding agency

4:54

ethics

4:56

programs the rules establishing agency

4:58

ethics programs and responsibilities can

5:00

be found at 5 CFR

5:04

2638 and the rules implementing

5:07

Financial disclosure requirements can be

5:08

found at 5 CFR

5:12

2634 if citations for laws and

5:15

regulations are new to you we strongly

5:17

encourage you to watch the quick start

5:20

guide introduction to ethics legal

5:24

geography now that we have some idea of

5:27

the purpose the players the functions

5:29

and the authorities that comprise the

5:31

executive branch Ethics program how can

5:33

we learn more and access resources to

5:36

help us Implement effective programs in

5:38

our

5:41

agencies let's take a look at available

5:43

resources first on O's website

5:48

o.gov if you navigate to resources for

5:52

ethics officials you will find a

5:54

collection of resources called managing

5:57

effective ethics programs

6:00

this is your virtual desk manual for

6:02

learning how to implement and manage an

6:04

Ethics

6:06

program you will see information about

6:08

the three phases we discussed earlier

6:10

raising awareness advice and counseling

6:13

including Financial disclosure review

6:16

and resolving conflicts of interest and

6:18

ethics

6:20

enforcement you can also find more

6:22

information about Ethics program Mission

6:24

Authority and key players ethical

6:27

leadership and culture election

6:29

readiness

6:30

OG oversight and ethics programs OG

6:34

support your own professional

6:35

development as ethics officials and

6:38

managing ethics records forms and legal

6:41

expense

6:43

funds this area of OG's website is

6:46

specifically designed to help all ethics

6:48

officials regardless of tenure learn how

6:50

to operate compliant effective and

6:52

efficient ethics

6:54

programs now you should have a basic

6:58

understanding of an executive branch

6:59

Ethics program and its constituent parts

7:03

so how can you learn more about the laws

7:05

regulations and practices that will help

7:07

make you an effective ethics

7:09

official also on this tab you can

7:12

navigate to The Institute for ethics and

7:14

government here you'll find a large

7:16

collection of on demand and live

7:18

learning opportunities to help you build

7:20

your knowledge skills and

7:22

abilities you will also find the legal

7:24

research collection where you can

7:26

conduct Research into laws regulations

7:28

OG guid guidance and other documents

7:31

that help you understand the Ethics

7:33

program below we have provided some

7:36

links to good next steps in your

7:37

professional development

7:39

Journey we hope they'll help you get

7:42

started thank you for watching this

7:44

video Welcome to the executive branch

7:46

ethics community and best wishes as you

7:48

embark on your ethics professional

7:50

development Journey

English (auto-generated)

All

From OGE Institute for Ethics in Government

For you

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