

Ethics in Public Service

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Ada County Sheriff's Office

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State of Idaho



Why am I here

You heard the introduction but there is more

- Eagle Scout (foundation and love for my Country)
- Started as a volunteer similar to Mr. Woolf
- 18 years in this profession, seen it all (I hope)
- Take advantage of every opportunity to learn and do a better job
- Am I perfect? Not at all



Duties of the State Controller (State website)

The state controller is the chief fiscal officer of the state of Idaho, responsible for:

- Maintaining all **accounting** and **financial** records
- Paying all the state's bills and employees
- Preparing the state's annual financial report
- Operating the state's Computer Service Center



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Public Trust is at Stake here

Ethics, what are they?

- Are you an example of power? Or are you the power of example?
- Ethics~ is not laws, laws are ever changing (Colorado and Washington)
- Not religion, we have more religion than I can count
- Not Psychology-the study of the mind or behavior



Ethics, what are they?

- Ethics is our moral compass and values that guide our decision making and action



Quick Ethics Video



Ethics in Public Service

- Public trust is questioned every day
- If you violate that, the ripple effect is everlasting for you, agency, peers, government, etc.





Is this an issue?



- Idaho lawmaker welcomes ethics investigation
- Could Sen. McGee's arrests affect his political career?
- FEC: Craig ignored warnings, spent money illegally
- Former jail deputy out on bond after arrest for sexual contact with inmate
- Former Notus clerk accused of stealing \$57K in public funds
- Idaho lawmaker Mark Patterson could lose weapons license over old Florida guilty plea

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT ...



Ethics in Public Service

- Van Deusen, "there is no politics in good accounting." **Clarence Van Deusen (1917-1919)**
- 10th State Controller under Idaho state government



Test of decision making

- Front page test
- 1,000 citizens watching you all the time (Verizon network)
- Do you use social media? Do your employees? Do they ever watch what you are doing/saying etc.?



Grade yourself

- What is your ethical score today (out of 100)?
- Would you commit to improving that by at least 1% in the next year?
- Take a minute to think about all of the ethics violations you have seen or read about in the media.
- Who has the 5, 10, 20+?



Things to remember

- Am I doing this at the RIGHT time, in the RIGHT way, for the RIGHT reason?
- Good decisions are ethical and effective
- Recognize important decisions and make the right one
- Remember what is at stake
- Don't play with fire
- Help each other out (See something, say something)



Quotes

- **"Relativity applies to physics, not ethics."** - Albert Einstein
- **"A man does what he must - in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures - and that is the basis of all human morality."** - John F. Kennedy
- **"Ethics must begin at the top of an organization. It is a leadership issue and the chief executive must set the example."** - Edward Hennessy (1933 -), Philanthropist and Retired Chairman and CEO of AlliedSignal Inc.



Quotes

- Philosophy-The study of thought
- Wisdom-Wise practice and ideas “Principles in practice”
- So what are principles
 - Principles are timeless, unchanging truths
 - Principles are concepts, ideas, and realities that serve as foundations for belief systems Covey...



Quotes

- “I consider ethics, as well as religion, as supplements to law in the government of man.” Thomas Jefferson

