

Subpart A—General Provisions**§ 102-42.5 What does this part cover?**

This part covers the acceptance and disposition of gifts of more than minimal value and decorations from foreign governments under 5 U.S.C. 7342. If you receive gifts other than from a foreign government, you should refer to § 102-36.405 of this subchapter B.

[71 FR 28778, May 18, 2006]

DEFINITIONS

§ 102-42.10 What definitions apply to this part?

The following definitions apply to this part:

Decoration means an order, device, medal, badge, insignia, emblem, or award offered by or received from a foreign government.

Employee means:

(1) An employee as defined by 5 U.S.C. 2105 and an officer or employee of the United States Postal Service or of the Postal Rate Commission;

(2) An expert or consultant who is under contract under 5 U.S.C. 3109 with the United States or any agency, department, or establishment thereof, including, in the case of an organization performing services under that section, any individual involved in the performance of such services;

(3) An individual employed by or occupying an office or position in the government of a territory or possession of the United States or the government of the District of Columbia;

(4) A member of a uniformed service as specified in 10 U.S.C. 101;

(5) The President and the Vice President;

(6) A Member of Congress as defined by 5 U.S.C. 2106 (except the Vice President) and any Delegate to the Congress; and

(7) The spouse of an individual described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of this definition of *employee* (unless this individual and his or her spouse are separated) or a dependent (within the meaning of section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 152)) of this individual, other than a spouse or dependent who is an employee under paragraphs (1) through (6) of this definition of *employee*.

Employing agency means:

(1) The department, agency, office, or other entity in which an employee is employed, for other legislative branch employees and for all executive branch employees;

(2) The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the House of Representatives, for Members and employees of the House of Representatives, except that those responsibilities specified in 5 U.S.C. 7342(c)(2)(A), (e)(1), and (g)(2)(B) must be carried out by the Clerk of the House;

(3) The Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate, for Senators and employees of the Senate, except that those responsibilities (other than responsibilities involving approval of the employing agency) specified in 5 U.S.C. 7342(c)(2), (d), and (g)(2)(B) must be carried out by the Secretary of the Senate; and

(4) The Administrative Offices of the United States Courts, for judges and judicial branch employees.

Foreign government means:

(1) Any unit of foreign government, including any national, State, local, and municipal government and their foreign equivalents;

(2) Any international or multinational organization whose membership is composed of any unit of a foreign government; and

(3) Any agent or representative of any such foreign government unit or organization while acting as such.

Gift means a monetary or non-monetary present (other than a decoration) offered by or received from a foreign government. A monetary gift includes anything that may commonly be used in a financial transaction, such as cash or currency, checks, money orders, bonds, shares of stock, and other securities and negotiable financial instruments.

Minimal value means a retail value in the United States at the time of acceptance of \$335 or less, except that GSA will adjust the definition of minimal value in regulations prescribed by the Administrator of General Services every three years, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to reflect changes in the consumer price index

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for the immediately preceding 3-year period.

[65 FR 45539, July 24, 2000, as amended at 68 FR 56496, Sept. 4, 2002; 70 FR 2318, Jan. 12, 2005; 71 FR 28778, May 18, 2006; 73 FR 7475, Feb. 8, 2008]

CARE, HANDLING AND DISPOSITION

§ 102-42.15 Under what circumstances may an employee retain a foreign gift or decoration?

Employees, with the approval of their employing agencies, may accept and retain:

(a) Gifts of minimal value received as souvenirs or marks of courtesy. When a gift of more than minimal value is accepted, the gift becomes the property of the U.S. Government, not the employee, and must be reported.

(b) Decorations that have been offered or awarded for outstanding or unusually meritorious performance. If the employing agency disapproves retention of the decoration by the employee, the decoration becomes the property of the U.S. Government.

§ 102-42.20 What is the typical disposition process for gifts and decorations that employees are not authorized to retain?

(a) *Non-monetary gifts or decorations.* When an employee receives a non-monetary gift above the minimal value or a decoration that he/she is not authorized to retain:

(1) The employee must report the gift or decoration to his/her employing agency within 60 days after accepting it.

(2) The employing agency determines if it will keep the gift or decoration for official use.

(3) If it does not return the gift or decoration to the donor or keep it for official use, the employing agency reports it as excess personal property to GSA for Federal utilization screening under § 102-42.95.

(4) If GSA does not transfer the gift or decoration during Federal utilization screening, the employee may purchase the gift or decoration (see § 102-42.140).

(5) If the employee declines to purchase the gift or decoration, and there is no Federal requirement for either, GSA may offer it for donation through

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State Agencies for Surplus Property (SASP) under part 102-37 of this subchapter B.

(6) If no SASP requests the gift or decoration for donation, GSA may offer it for public sale, with the approval of the Secretary of State, or will authorize the destruction of the gift or decoration under part 102-38 of this subchapter B.

(b) *Monetary gifts.* When an employee receives a monetary gift above the minimal value:

(1) The employee must report the gift to his/her employing agency within 60 days after accepting it.

(2) The employing agency must:

(i) Report a monetary gift with possible historic or numismatic (i.e., collectible) value to GSA; or

(ii) Deposit a monetary gift that has no historic or numismatic value with the Department of the Treasury.

[65 FR 45539, July 24, 2000, as amended at 71 FR 28778, May 18, 2006]

§ 102-42.25 Who retains custody of gifts and decorations pending disposal?

(a) The employing agency retains custody of gifts and decorations that employees have expressed an interest in purchasing.

(b) GSA will accept physical custody of gifts above the minimal value, which employees decline to purchase, or decorations that are not retained for official use or returned to donors.

NOTE TO § 102-42.25(b): GSA will not accept physical custody of foreign gifts of firearms. Firearms reported by the agency as excess must be disposed of in accordance with part 101-42 of this title.

§ 102-42.30 Who is responsible for the security, care and handling, and delivery of gifts and decorations to GSA, and all costs associated with such functions?

The employing agency is responsible for the security, care and handling, and delivery of gifts and decorations to GSA, and all costs associated with such functions.

§ 102-42.35 Can the employing agency be reimbursed for transfers of gifts and decorations?

No, all transfers of gifts and decorations to Federal agencies or donation