

## Office of Government Ethics

## §2637.211

“Nothing in this section shall prevent a former officer or employee from giving testimony under oath, or from making statements required to be made under penalty of perjury.”

(b) *Applicability.* A former Government employee may testify before any court, board, commission, or legislative body with respect to matters of fact within the personal knowledge of the former Government employee. This provision does not, however, allow a former Government employee, otherwise barred under 18 U.S.C. 207 (a), (b), or (c) to testify on behalf of another as an expert witness except: (1) To the extent that the former employee may testify from personal knowledge as to occurrences which are relevant to the issues in the proceeding, including those in which the former Government employee participated, utilizing his or her expertise, or (2) in any proceeding where it is determined that another expert in the field cannot practically be obtained; that it is impracticable for the facts or opinions on the same subject to be obtained by other means, and that the former Government employee’s testimony is required in the interest of justice.

(c) *Statements under penalty of perjury.* A former Government employee may make any statement required to be made under penalty of perjury, such as those required in registration statements for securities, tax returns, or security clearances. The exception does not, however, permit a former employee to submit pleadings, applications, or other documents in a representational capacity on behalf of another merely because the attorney or other representative must sign the documents under oath or penalty of perjury.

### §2637.209 Partners of present or former Government employees.

(a) *Scope.* Section 207(g) of 18 U.S.C. prohibits a partner of a current Government employee from acting as agent or attorney before the United States in a particular Government matter in which such Government employee participates, or did participate, personally and substantially. To the extent such section involves the activities of current Government employees

and their partners, it is beyond the scope of these regulations.

(b) *Imputation.* Neither the Act nor these regulations impute the restrictions on former employees to partners or associates of such employees. Imputation of the restrictions of sections 207 (b)(ii) and (c) to partners of former employees would be inappropriate for the additional reason that section 207(b)(ii) itself restricts secondary-level activity, and section 207(c) is directed at the exercise of influence personal to the former Senior Employee.

### §2637.210 Officials of a State; officials of corporations created by an Act of Congress and public international organizations.

For purposes of sections 207 (a), (b) and (c) of title 18 U.S.C.:

(a) An official whose powers are established by the constitution of any State of the United States does not act on behalf of “any other person” or “anyone” when acting in his or her official capacity, but rather constitutes the official authority of the State; and

(b) A former employee does not engage in unlawful activity when he or she acts on behalf of (1) a corporation specifically created by an Act of Congress if any of its directors is currently appointed by the United States; or (2) any public international organization if he or she serves by nomination or request of the United States or on temporary assignment from any agency.

### §2637.211 Standards and procedures for designating senior employee positions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d).

(a) *Definitions.* As used in these regulations, *Senior Employee* refers to any person specified in or designated pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1); that is, employed by the United States:

(1) At a rate of pay specified or fixed according to subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, U.S.C., generally known as “Executive Level;” or

(2) On active duty as a commissioned officer of a uniformed service in a pay grade of 0-9 or above as described in 37 U.S.C. 201; or

(3) In a position in any pay system for which the basic rate of pay is equal to or greater than that for GS-17 as prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5332 or positions

which are established within the Senior Executive Service (SES) pursuant to the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, or positions of active duty commissioned officers of the uniformed services assigned to pay grade 0-7 and 0-8, as described in 37 U.S.C. 201, and who has significant decision-making or supervisory responsibilities, as designated by the Director, pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Designation procedures.* The following procedures will be followed in designation of Senior Employee positions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1)(C):

(1) *Positions at GS-17 and 18 level, Senior Executive Service, and pay grades 0-7 and 0-8 of the uniformed services.* The following are designated effective February 28, 1980, unless exempted as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section: All positions classified at GS-17 or above in the General Schedule; those in any other pay system, the rate of pay for which is at least that of grade GS-17; those in the Senior Executive Service; and those active duty uniformed service officers serving in pay grades 0-7 and 0-8. Each agency head shall submit to the Director, by May 15, 1979 and on every May 15 thereafter, a report consisting of: (i) a description of all positions as set forth in this paragraph; (ii) the agency's recommendation as to those positions that should not be designated, based on standards established in these regulations or any other reason; and (iii) the basis and reasons for each such recommendation. After making such additional inquiries as appear desirable, the Director will determine which positions should be exempt. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the effective date for Executive Level positions, whether or not included in the Senior Executive Service, is July 1, 1979.

(2) *Standards for designation and exemption.* Positions, or classes of positions, which do not have significant decision-making or supervisory responsibility will be exempted from designation. Initial exemptions will be retroactive. Classes of positions which may be considered for exemption are those in which decision-making responsibility does not regularly extend to major policy issues within the agency or in which supervisory responsibility

extends to less than all of a directorate, bureau or department which has major policy or operational responsibility. The foregoing may include, without limitation, special assistants, technical and professional advisors to persons who make policy decisions, those involved primarily in research and technical work, and administrative law judges.

(3) *Senior Executive Service.* The establishment of positions within the Senior Executive Service pursuant to the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 is the responsibility of the Office of Personnel Management. The choice of an individual to enter or not to enter the Senior Executive Service is not a relevant factor in the designation under these regulations of a position held by such person.

(4) *"Rate of pay."* As used in the definition of Senior Employee, the "rate of pay" is that specified by or pursuant to law without regard to the ceiling limitations of section 5308 or section 5373 of title 5 U.S.C.; except that an individual in an executive level or GS-17 or 18 position is deemed to be employed at the rate of pay specified for that position. Increases in pay due to "steps" are not considered in determining pay grade or level.

(c) *Differential designation.* Where appropriate, the Director may designate positions for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207(c) without designating the positions for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207(b)(ii).

*Example 1:* It may be determined that a given position or class of positions will be restricted as to contact in the first post employment year, but not as to assisting in representation.

(d) *Fair notice of designation.* No Senior Employee designation made pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1)(C) will be effective until the last day of the fifth full calendar month after the first publication of a notice by the Director of intention to designate; except as indicated in paragraph (i) of this section, and as to a person first occupying the position after such notice is published. The designation in paragraph (b)(1) of this section and the comparable designation in the interim regulations of April 3, 1979 (44 FR 19974) constitutes notice.

(e) “Acting” or temporary positions. An individual may serve in a position designated pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d) for up to 60 days in an “acting” or temporary capacity without being subject to those restrictions which specially apply to such positions, unless such individual (1) was transferred or detailed from another designated position, or (2) without a significant break in continuity, is named permanently to such position.

(f) *Special Government Employee.* A Special Government Employee who serves on 60 days or less in a given calendar year may serve in a designated position without being subject to the restrictions which specially apply to such position. A Special Government Employee is deemed to serve only on those days actually engaged in work for the Government under his or her Special Government Employee arrangement.

(g) *Publication.* Positions designated by the Director pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1)(C) and not exempted will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(h) *Computation of time.* An individual who transfers from a designated position to one that is not designated shall compute the commencement of the time periods contained in 18 U.S.C. 207 (b)(ii) and (c) from the time of such transfer, except as indicated in paragraph (i) of this section. (See § 2637.202(e).)

(i) *Position shifting.* In any case where a person transfers from a designated position to one that is not, the agency head shall within one month transmit to the Director a report reciting the functions of each position, the reason for the transfer, and the identities of the prior holder of the position assumed and the successor, if any, to the position departed. If the Director designates the newly assumed position pursuant to section 207(d)(1)(C) of title 18 U.S.C., such designation shall be effective retroactively to the date of transfer notwithstanding paragraph (d) of this section.

(j) *Revocation of Designations.* In the event the Director determines that a position previously designated should not have been, the designation will be revoked. Except for designations made

under paragraph (i) of this section, the revocation may be made retroactive if the initial designation is determined to have been erroneous or if there is a change in standards for designation applicable to the position. Retroactive effect will not be given where the basis for revocation is a change in the functions or importance of a position.

**§ 2637.212 Administrative enforcement proceedings.**

(a) *Basic procedures.* The following basic guidelines for administrative enforcement of restrictions on post employment activities are designed to expedite consultation with the Director as required pursuant to section 207(j) of title 18 U.S.C.

(1) *Delegation.* The head of an agency may delegate his or her authority under this subpart.

(2) *Initiation of administrative disciplinary hearing.* (i) On receipt of information regarding a possible violation of 18 U.S.C. 207, and after determining that such information appears substantiated, the agency head shall expeditiously provide such information, along with any comments or agency regulations, to the Director and to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice. The agency should coordinate any investigation on administrative action with the Department of Justice to avoid prejudicing criminal proceedings, unless the Department of Justice communicates to the Agency that it does not intend to initiate criminal prosecution.

(ii) Whenever an agency has determined after appropriate review that there is reasonable cause to believe that a former Government employee has violated any of these regulations or 18 U.S.C. 207(a), (b), or (c), it may initiate an administrative disciplinary proceeding by providing the former Government employee with notice as defined in paragraph (a)(3) of this section. Agencies may establish procedures to protect the privacy of former employees as to allegations made prior to a determination of sufficient cause to initiate an administrative disciplinary hearing.