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**AUTHORITY:** 5 U.S.C. App. (Ethics in Government Act of 1978); E.O. 12674, 54 FR 15159, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 215, as modified by E.O. 12731, 55 FR 42547, 3 CFR, 1990 Comp., p. 306.

**SOURCE:** 46 FR 2583, Jan. 9, 1981, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 54 FR 50231, Dec. 5, 1989.

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 2638.101 Authority and purpose.**

(a) *Authority.* The regulations of this part are issued pursuant to the authority of titles I and IV of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–521, as amended) (“the Act”).

(b) *Purpose.* These executive branch regulations supplement and implement titles I, IV and V of the Act, set forth more specifically certain procedures provided in those titles, and furnish examples, where appropriate.

[46 FR 2583, Jan. 9, 1981. Redesignated at 54 FR 50231, Dec. 5, 1989, as amended at 65 FR 69657, Nov. 20, 2000]

**§ 2638.102 General policies.**

(a) The Office of Government Ethics (“the Office”) provides overall direction and leadership concerning execu-

tive branch policies related to preventing conflicts of interest. The head of each agency has primary responsibility for the administration of the “ethics in government” program within his or her agency. The Office carries out its leadership role by:

(1) Providing information on and promoting ethical standards in executive agencies;

(2) Consulting with agencies regarding their agency ethics programs and assisting them in interpreting ethics rules and regulations;

(3) Developing rules and regulations pertaining to conflicts of interests and standards of conduct;

(4) Monitoring compliance with the public and confidential financial disclosure requirements;

(5) Establishing a formal advisory opinion service; and

(6) Evaluating the effectiveness of programs designed to prevent conflicts of interests.

**§ 2638.103 Agency regulations.**

Each agency may, subject to the prior approval of the Office of Government Ethics, issue regulations not inconsistent with this part.

**§ 2638.104 Definitions.**

For the purposes of this part:

*Act* means the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–521, as amended).

*Agency* means any executive department, military department, Government corporation, independent establishment or agency, including the United States Postal Service and Postal Rate Commission.

*Designated agency ethics official* means an officer or employee who is designated by the head of the agency to coordinate and manage the agency’s ethics program in accordance with the provisions of § 2638.203 of this part.

*Director* means the Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

*Executive branch* includes each executive agency as defined in 5 U.S.C. 105 and any other entity or administrative unit in the executive branch. However, it does not include any agency, entity, office or commission that is defined by or referred to in 5 U.S.C. app. 109(8)–(11) of the Act as within the judicial or legislative branch.