

**§ 10.735-209 Indebtedness.**

An employee shall pay each just financial obligation in a proper and timely manner, especially one imposed by law such as Federal, State, or local taxes. For the purpose of this section, a “just financial obligation” means one acknowledged by the employee or reduced to judgement by a court or one imposed by law such as Federal, State, or local taxes, and “in a proper and timely manner” means in a manner which the agency determines does not, under the circumstances, reflect adversely on the Government as the employer. In the event of dispute between an employee and an alleged creditor, this section does not require an agency to determine the validity or amount of the disputed debt.

**§ 10.735-210 Gambling, betting, and lotteries.**

An employee shall not participate, while on Government-owned or leased property or while on duty for the Government, in any gambling activity including the operation of a gambling device, in conducting a lottery or pool, in a game for money or property, or in selling or purchasing a numbers slip or ticket. However, this section does not preclude activities:

- (a) Necessitated by an employee’s law enforcement duties; or
- (b) Under section 3 of Executive Order 10927 and similar agency-approved activities.

**§ 10.735-211 Activities relating to private organizations and politics.**

(a) *Definition.* For the purpose of this section, the term *private organization* denotes any group of persons or associations organized for any purpose whatever, except an organization established by the Government of the United States, or officially participated in by State, AID, or ICA.

(b) *Participation in activities of employee organizations.* An employee may join or refrain from joining employee organizations or associations without interference, coercion, restraint, or fear of discrimination or reprisal.

(c) *Participation in activities of private organizations.* In participating in the program and activities of any private organization, an employee shall make

clear that the employee’s agency has no official connection with such organization and does not necessarily sponsor or sanction the viewpoints which it may express.

(d) *Legal restrictions on membership in certain organizations.* An employee shall not have membership in any organization that advocates the overthrow of our constitutional form of Government in the United States, knowing that such organization so advocates (5 U.S.C. 7311, 18 U.S.C. 1918).

(e) *Private organizations concerned with foreign policy or other matters of concern to agencies.* (1) *Limitation on participation.* When a private organization is concerned primarily with foreign policy or international relations or other matters of concern to an employee’s agency, an employee shall limit connection therewith as follows: Unless specifically permitted to do so, the employee may not serve as advisor, officer, director, teacher, sponsor, committee chairman, or in any other official capacity or permit the employee’s name to be used on a letterhead, in a publication, in an announcement or news story, or at a public meeting, regardless of whether the employee’s official title or connection is mentioned. The provisions of this section are not intended to prohibit the normal and active participation of an employee in professional organizations such as the American Political Science Association, the American Economic Association, the American Foreign Service Association, and similar organizations, since such participation is in the interest of both the employee and the Government. Employees are expected, however, to exercise discretion in such activities and are held personally accountable for any improper use of their relationship with State, AID, and ICA.

(2) *Request for special permission.* Special permission to assume or continue a connection prohibited by paragraph (e)(1) of this section may be granted in cases where the public interest will not be adversely affected. To request such permission, or to determine whether the provisions are applicable to a particular case, the employee shall address a memorandum setting forth all of the circumstances