

[Discussions List](#) > [View Topic](#)[Settings](#)[Help](#)

W5: Ethical Standards of Contract Management

[★ Subscribe](#)

Review the following information on ethics:

- Link 1
- Link 2: (Some Browsers may have trouble with this link. The Airforce GAO Paper is also attached to the forum if you have trouble.)
- Access this link for the NCMA code of ethics
- Here is a link to the PMI code of ethics (PMI certifies program managers)
- Here is a link to Government Fraud, Waste, Mismanagement, Misconduct regarding SBA Programs

After reviewing, discuss what you learned about ethics and how it impacts contracts and contract management.

Also, consider any other recent news that you have heard about in this area as this continues to be a hot current topic with possible abuses such as government officials using private jets or using government planes rather than using commercial airlines.

Discussion Guidelines

Rubrics

 [DEFM Forum Grading Rubric](#)

[Start a New Thread](#)

Filter by: [All Threads](#) ▼

Sort by:

Most Recent Activity

W5: EVAN BONEBRAKE

EVAN BONEBRAKE posted Mar 3, 2023 11:36 AM  [Subscribe](#)

I hope you're well today, Professor and classmates.

Reading about Boeing's scandal has strengthened my understanding of ethics and the importance of earning annual ethics certifications and passing exams for professionals in this field to facilitate acquisitions. During my tenure, I was responsible for conducting annual ethics training. I often felt the training could be a better use of time. However, my morals align with the ethics training. If something appeared wrong to you, would you do it? As a result of the National Contract Management Association's (NMCA) code of ethics, professionals can increase trust in their contracts and increase the ROI of their contracts. Darleen Druyun demonstrates that only a few individuals can produce such a massive mess of unethical practices. An organization may lose many other contracts once a conflict of interest is discovered in one contract. The Air Force's acquisition team lost the public's trust and employment due to Darleen's confinement.

When news about government officials using government funds or equipment for personal purposes is reported, I cannot overcome confirmation bias. The difficulty in finding reliable news sources that continuously report on a politician's use of government resources allows politicians to get away with saying one thing and doing another. When it comes to fraud, waste, abuse, or using government-provided aircraft for vacations, does the President or a member of Congress have too much power to follow ethical principles? Regarding fraud, waste, and abuse, I have lost trust in the government. During the contract process, more projects are being funded abroad than within our country. If a code of ethics violation occurs at any point during the contract process, it will be reported to others.

[^ less](#)

0

Unread

0

Replies

0

Views

W5: Ethical Standards of Contract Management

Jennipher Armstead posted Feb 27, 2023 5:05 PM

[★ Subscribe](#)

Ethics is a crucial aspect of contract management as it helps ensure transparency, fairness, and accountability in the procurement process. The National Contract Management Association's (NCMA) Code of Ethics emphasizes the importance of ethical behavior in contract management by setting standards for integrity, confidentiality, and fairness (NCMA, n.d.). Similarly, the Project Management Institute's (PMI) Code of Ethics emphasizes the importance of ethical behavior in project management by setting standards for responsibility, respect, and fairness (PMI, n.d.). On the other hand, government fraud, waste, mismanagement, and misconduct are significant ethical concerns that impact contract management, especially in the context of Small Business Administration (SBA) programs (SBA, n.d.). For instance, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has highlighted instances of fraudulent activities in government contracting, such as the mismanagement of contract performance and the misuse of funds (GAO, 2005).

Intuit, the parent company of TurboTax, has recently poured more money into lobbying, raising concerns about ethical violations. According to OpenSecrets.org, Intuit has significantly increased its lobbying efforts amid a push for free government-run tax filing (OpenSecrets.org, 2023). Pouring more money into lobbying can be seen as a violation of ethical standards as it raises questions about the company's motive and transparency.

In conclusion, ethics plays a critical role in contract management, and stakeholders must adhere to ethical standards to ensure transparency and accountability in the procurement process. The NCMA and PMI Codes of Ethics provide a comprehensive framework for ethical behavior in contract and project management, while government regulations and oversight agencies like the SBA and GAO play a crucial role in preventing fraud and misconduct. Additionally, companies must also ensure that their lobbying activities comply with ethical standards to maintain transparency and avoid potential conflicts of interest.

References:

Government Accountability Office. (2005). Government contracting: Mismanagement of contract performance information by the Department of Defense.

<https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-05-436t.pdf>

National Contract Management Association. (n.d.). Code of ethics.

<https://www.ncmahq.org/about/leadership/code-of-ethics>

OpenSecrets.org. (2023, February 16). TurboTax parent company Intuit is pouring more money than ever into lobbying amid push for free government-run tax filing.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/news/2023/02/turbotax-parent-company-intuit-is-pouring-more-money-than-ever-into-lobbying-amid-push-for-free-government-run-tax-filing/>

Project Management Institute. (n.d.). PMI code of ethics and professional conduct.

<https://www.pmi.org/about/ethics/resources/articles>

Small Business Administration. (n.d.). Report fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement.

<https://www.sba.gov/partners/contracting-officials/contract-administration/report-fraud-waste-abuse>

[^ less](#)

0 0 1
Unread Replies Views

W5 Ethical Standards of Contract Management

Josh Hon posted Feb 17, 2023 3:24 PM [★ Subscribe](#)

Ethics is a fitting subject for me this week since I just took a class on this for work as well for one of my additional responsibilities, contract oversight and reviewing. I have a contract that is getting ready to be renewed but questions need to be asked about whether the contract should be renewed. I have in one ear people telling me to just get the contract renewed because it the best option for the facility. On the other hand, I have to do my due diligence by ensuring the original contract, renewal rates, and additions to the contract will not change the contract so much that a different vendor will not be better suited for it. Since the contract I am working with is a cell phone contract there are many different variables that I must take into account to make sure it is both ethical and a good fit for the customer's needs. Think of it this way, have you ever been in an area where you had great reception and then just could not get any. That is my moral dilemma with this contract in order to satisfy my customer base.

When it comes to the ethics of those government officials, contractors, agencies, and individuals they can vary widely. However, when I think of a ethics and the lack there of I of the Fat Leonard scandal that rocked the Navy. Leonard Glenn Francis is a Malaysian national who became known as Fat Leonard due to his weight. He ran a contracting firm called Glenn Defense Marine Asia that offered many of the complex services needed for ship support. Services such as waste disposal, food transportation and delivery, potable water delivery, fuel, tugboats to pull a ship into port, and much more. The problem was not with the services that Fat Leonard provided, but the cost of them and how the contracts were procured to conduct those services. By using a network of moles, Navy personnel on his side, and information Fat Leonard was able to ensure contracts were steered in his business's direction without too many questions from whistle blowers. By using these unethical methods Fat Leonard was able to make and loss more than an estimated \$35 million in contract overcharges

[^ less](#)

0 0 1
Unread Replies Views

