CORRUPTION: OVERVIEW OF CRITICAL PARTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT ADDRESS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PUBLIC CORRUPTION

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GENERAL CONCEPTS

- INHERENT DISTRUST IN GOVERNMENT AT THE VERY HEART OF THINKING OF FOUNDING FATHERS AND DEVELOPMENT OF U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM

- CONCEPT OF CHECKS AND BALANCES GOVERNS ALL ASPECTS OF U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM
EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
  - Criminal Division - Public Integrity Section
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation

- INSPECTOR GENERALs

- OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Public Integrity Section
- Highly Independent – All Career Prosecutors
- Manages Investigations
- Makes Prosecutorial Decisions
- Tries Public Corruption Cases
  - Recent Stevens Case
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI)
  - Principal Investigative Agency
    - Postal Inspectors
    - Other federal agencies
    - State Agencies
  - Not Limited to Federal Officials
    - State Officials – (Illinois Governor)
    - Local Officials
INSPECTOR GENERALS

- INSTALLED IN ALL FEDERAL EXECUTIVE AGENCIES

- INDEPENDENT FROM MANAGEMENT OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES

- REPORT TO CONGRESS

- ADDRESS BOTH ISSUES OF CORRUPTION AS WELL AS ISSUES RELATED TO EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF AGENCY
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

- SEEKS TO PREVENT CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- SEEKS TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

EXAMPLES:

- Gifts from Outside Sources
- Gifts Between Employees
- Conflicting Financial Interests
- Remedies for Financial Conflicts of Interests
- Seeking Other Employment
- Outside Activities
- Post-Employment
- Contractors in the Work Place
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES

- GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE (GAO)
JUDICIAL BRANCH

- PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS
- REQUIREMENT OF WRITTEN RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
- APPELLATE REVIEW
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
  - PRIVACY ACT
- WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS
  - OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL
- NEWS MEDIA
- CIVIL SOCIETY